

**KENDALL COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT  
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**AUGUST 16, 2016**

**I. Call to Order**

President Wehrli called the meeting to order at 9:00 am in the Kendall County Board Room.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Invocation**

Commissioner Prochaska offered an invocation for the meeting.

**IV. Roll Call**

Commissioners Cullick, Davidson, Gilmour, Gryder, Koukol, Prochaska, Purcell, Shaw, and Wehrli all were present.

**V. Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Shaw. Aye, all. Opposed, none.

**VI. Citizens to Be Heard**

Jerry Bannister expressed his opposition to item ten on the agenda, an ordinance proposing that a referendum question be added to the November 2016 ballot to consider an increase to the operating levy of the District. Mr. Bannister cited that Kendall County has one of the highest tax rates of any county in Illinois.

Jim Birch of Yorkville, Illinois expressed his concerns with the recent ethics hearing, stating that the process for filing a complaint should be reformed.

**VII. Approval of Claims in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$10,484.76.**

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to approve claims in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,484.76. Seconded by Commissioner Koukol.

Roll call: Commissioners Cullick, Davidson, Gilmour, Gryder, Koukol, Prochaska, Purcell, Shaw, and Wehrli, aye. Opposed, none.

## **VIII. Approval of Minutes**

- a. Kendall County Forest Preserve Commission Meeting – August 2, 2016
- b. Kendall County Forest Preserve Programming and Events Committee Meeting – August 3, 2016
- c. Kendall County Forest Preserve Finance Committee Meeting – August 10, 2016
- d. Kendall County Forest Preserve District Committee of the Whole Meeting – August 10, 2016

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for the Forest Preserve Commission meeting held on August 2, 2016; the Programming and Events Committee meeting held on August 3, 2016; the Finance Committee meeting held on August 10, 2016, and the Committee of the Whole meeting held on August 10, 2016. Seconded by Commissioner Gilmour.

All, aye. Opposed, none. Motion unanimously approved.

## **IX. 2017 Refunding Bonds – Recommendations, Projected Savings, and Closing Timeframe (Anthony Miceli, Senior Vice President, Speer Financial, Inc.)**

Anthony Miceli of Speer Financial, Inc. presented refunding scenarios for the 2017 refunding bonds, recommending that the District pursue a non-bank qualified refunding of the remaining 2007 referendum bonds in the amount of \$20,205,000 resulting in a gross savings of \$1,816,742 resulting in a savings to taxpayers of \$23.95 per \$100,000 home market value.

The authorizing ordinance will be presented to Commission for approval once the new Board is seated after the November elections with closing in late January or early February 2017.

Anthony Miceli reported that this will be the third and final refunding of the 2007 referendum bonds, with a potential and final opportunity towards the end of the debt service schedule for refunding the 2015 refunding bonds.

Commissioner Davidson stated that he was in favor of the recommended non-bank qualified scenario, stating that the difference in savings between the bank-qualified and non-bank qualified scenarios is similar, with uncertainty in the market that could result in savings reductions over the two years it would take to pursue the bank-qualified option.

## **X. Ordinance #08-16-001 An Ordinance Authorizing Placement of a Binding Referendum Question on the November 8, 2016 General Election Ballot to Increase the PTELL Limiting Rate of the Kendall County Forest Preserve District's General Operating Fund to 0.0235% and Resulting Calculated Tax Levy Extension to \$670,301.00 to Support District Capital Projects**

President Wehrli recommended approval of the proposed ordinance citing that the proposed increase would need to be approved by the voters, with the increase fully offset by the savings generated by the 2017 refunding bond savings.

Commissioner Davidson stated he was not in favor of the binding referendum question, stating that the Board needs to first explore other directions for raising revenues to support District operations and capital project needs.

Commissioner Gryder stated that he was not in favor of increasing the rate, citing concerns that the District does not have a solid track record at this point for responsible fiscal management, but did state that the District is heading in the right direction.

Commissioner Gilmour expressed concerns about the timing, stating she was not made aware of the ordinance and question prior to the meeting.

Director Guritz stated that the additional funding is needed in order to properly maintain the District's buildings and infrastructure, and to fulfill the referendum obligations for restoring preserve lands. The District has 750 acres in crop production. As these acres come out of production, the District's operating revenues will be reduced, and the 600 acres of remaining cropland cannot be converted without additional capital resources.

Director Guritz thanked the Commission for their consideration of the measure.

Roll call: Commissioners Shaw and Wehrli, aye. Opposed, Commissioners Cullick, Davidson, Gilmour, Gryder, Koukol, Prochaska, and Purcell. Motion failed by a vote of 2 to 7.

#### **XI. Motion to Approve Proposed Fall 2016 Public Program Offerings, Fees, and Charges**

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to approve the proposed Fall 2016 program offerings, fees, and charges as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Gryder.

Roll call: Commissioner Cullick, Davidson, Gilmour, Gryder, Koukol, Prochaska, Purcell, Shaw, and Wehrli, aye. Opposed, none. Motion unanimously approved.

#### **XII. Motion to Approve Proposed Fees and Charges for the Ellis Equestrian Center Pony Club**

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to approve the proposed fees and charges for the Ellis Equestrian Center Pony Club. Seconded by Commissioner Prochaska.

Director Guritz reported that the program curriculum will be presented to the Programming and Events Committee in September.

Roll call: Commissioner Cullick, Davidson, Gilmour, Gryder, Koukol, Prochaska, Purcell, Shaw, and Wehrli, aye. Opposed, none. Motion unanimously approved.

**XIII. Motion to Approve the Purchase of the Lesson Horse “Candyman” Following a 10-Day Trial Period from Kathy Weiss of Homer Glen, Illinois for an amount Not-to-Exceed \$500.00**

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to approve the purchase of the lesson horse “Candyman” following a 10-day trial period from Kathy Weiss of Homer Glen, Illinois for an amount not-to-exceed \$500.00. Seconded by Commissioner Prochaska.

Director Guritz reported that the Forest Foundation of Kendall County has approved the extension of a \$500.00 grant to the District from the Ellis House and Equestrian Center restricted fund to offset the costs for purchase of the new lesson horse.

The Board discussed the need for the additional lesson horse. Director Guritz reported that with Shadow in extended recovery from her illness, the additional lesson horse is needed to support the lessons program.

Commissioner Gilmour asked about the health condition of the proposed lesson horse. Director Guritz reported that the horse is 16 years of age with an arthritic condition that will require twice annual pastern joint injections for a total cost of approximately \$500.

Roll call: Commissioner Cullick, Prochaska, Purcell, Shaw, and Wehrli, aye. Opposed, Commissioners Davidson, Gilmour, Gryder and Koukol. Motion carried by a vote of 5:4.

**XIV. Motion to Approve a Proposed Revision to Chapter 4 – Section IX (Field and Team Sports) of the District’s General Use Ordinance**

Commissioner Prochaska made a motion to approve a revision to the Chapter 4 – Section IX of the District’s General Use Ordinance as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Purcell.

Roll call: Commissioner Cullick, Davidson, Gilmour, Gryder, Koukol, Prochaska, Purcell, Shaw, and Wehrli, aye. Opposed, none. Motion unanimously approved.

**XV. Executive Session**

None.

**XVI. Other Items of Business**

The Forest Foundation Fall Fest will take place on Saturday, October 8, 2016 from 11 am to 5 pm at Hoover Forest Preserve. The 5K and Family Fun Day fundraising program will take place on Saturday, October 29, 2016 at Ellis House and Equestrian Center. The 5K run will take place in the morning, with the Family Fund Day running from noon to 3 pm.

## **XVII. Citizens to Be Heard**

No public comments were offered by those in attendance.

## **XVIII. Adjournment**

Commissioner Gryder made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Cullick. Aye, all. Opposed, none. Meeting adjourned at 9:32 am.

Respectfully submitted,

David Guritz  
Director, Kendall County Forest Preserve District