

**Kutztown Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC)  
November 9, 2011 Meeting**

Present:

- Commission Members – Jeri Colicchio, Jeffrey Henninger, Karen Feridun, Todd Underwood, Dave Rustay – Student Liaison
- Borough Representatives – Karen Feridun - Borough Planning Commission Liaison,

Absent:

- Kevin Snyder – Borough Council Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Jeri Colicchio.

Karen Feridun made a motion, seconded by Todd Underwood, to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2011 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment**

None

**Old Business**

Waiting for feedback if anyone is interested in the open EAC positions.

**New Business**

- A. Proposed Amendments to Pennsylvania Oil & Gas Act that Impact Local Zoning (“Municipal Powers”)

Pending State legislation would significantly limit the ability of local municipalities to regulate oil and gas development under their local zoning laws.

Todd Underwood made a motion, which was seconded by Karen Feridun to recommend to Borough Council that Council sign on (i.e. be a signatory) to the attached “Municipal Powers” letter which would be sent to Pennsylvania General Assembly representatives voicing concern about efforts to curtail the ability of local municipalities to regulate oil and gas development activities. The motion passed unanimously.

Todd Underwood made a motion that if Borough Council approved being a signatory to the attached letter then the EAC would also become a signatory. Karen Feridun seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. MetroTek Solar Proposal

The proposal by MetroTek to build, own and operate a solar panel farm on Borough property near the well heads was discussed.

Todd Underwood made a motion, which was seconded by Karen Feridun that the EAC believes there is insufficient information and time available to properly evaluate the environmental impact of a solar farm in such an environmentally sensitive area near the well heads, and, therefore, recommends that Borough Council not proceed with the Metrotek proposal at this time. The motion passed unanimously.

Dave Rustay made a motion to recommend to Borough Council that it form a cross-functional exploratory committee to investigate alternative energy opportunities, such as a solar project, and energy conservation solutions within the Borough. Karen Feridun seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### C. Subcommittee Reports

#### 1. KU Environmental Committee – Todd Underwood (chair)

Dave Rustay reported that KU continues to look for environmental improvement opportunities through establishment of a Green Fund.

#### 2. Communication, Education, Community Workshops – Karen Feridun (chair)

A free community event on food composting and recycling in Berks was presented by Jane Meeks, Executive Director of the Berks County Solid Waste Authority and hosted by Kutztown's Environmental Advisory Commission on October 25th at 7 p.m.

#### 3. Annual Report – Todd Underwood (chair)

No report

#### 4. Climate Protection Agreement – Jeffrey Henninger (chair)

No report

#### 5. Air and Water Quality – Jeri Colicchio (chair)

No report

#### 7. Recycling Program – Chair vacant

No report

#### 8. Environmental Stewardship Award – (chair and subcommittee members vacant)

The Award nomination process has been advertised, but no responses yet.

#### 9. Sacony Marsh and Trail – Todd Underwood (chair)

No report

10. Pesticides and Herbicides – Jeffrey Henninger (chair)

No report

**Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made by Karen Feridun and seconded by Todd Underwood. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30 pm. Next meeting is on December 7, 2011 at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeffrey Henninger