

**Borough of Kutztown  
Planning Commission  
Minutes of January 9, 2017**

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission was held on Monday, January 9, 2017, at the Kutztown Municipal Building, 45 Railroad Street.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Ms. Lisa Ladd-Kidder, Chairperson. Members present were: Ms. Lisa Ladd-Kidder, Mr. Tim Haring, Mr. Frederick Engelhardt, Ms. Karen Feridun, Mrs. Pat Snyder and Dr. Chris Habeck. Mr. Allan Oberholtzer was absent. Also present: Mr. Dan Eslinger, Director of Community Development, and Ms. Jill Remick, Recording Secretary.

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

There were no comments.

**Comments from Planning Commission Members**

There were no comments.

**Approval of Minutes**

The December 12, 2016 Planning Commission minutes were reviewed by members. Motion by Mr. Haring and seconded by Ms. Feridun to approve the December 12, 2016 minutes as written. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

**New Business/Action Items**

● **Annual Review of Planning Commission Organization**

Planning Commission members discussed the current Planning Commission organization and recommended retaining the current officers. Motion by Mrs. Snyder and seconded by Ms. Feridun to retain the current officers of: Ms. Ladd-Kidder, Chair; Dr. Chris Habeck as Vice Chair; and Mr. Tim Haring as Secretary. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

● **Discuss Zoning Item**

Ms. Ladd-Kidder moved this item to Old Business.

**Old Business/Updates**

Mr. Eslinger and Commission members discussed various articles, which were shared between members, regarding the placement of cell towers and antennas within the Borough of Kutztown and on public right-of-ways. Members discussed at length an article which explained

four wireless companies that have drafted a bill for introduction to the PA General Assembly that would: 1) strip municipalities of their right to control the construction and location of wireless facilities in the public rights-of-way; and 2) eliminate the right of municipalities to assess fees for such facilities.

Mr. Eslinger stated the Borough has been working with Mr. Keith Mooney to draft the appropriate documents to tighten up the Borough's current zoning codes. A meeting is planned for Thursday, January 12, 2017, which will include Mr. Keith Mooney, Mr. Dan Eslinger, Mr. Steve Diehl and Mr. Gabriel Khalife, to discuss an ordinance to amend the current zoning code.

Members inquired if protection on state highways within the Borough, such as Nobel Street, would be considered in the ordinance, since a state highway would be viewed differently than a public right-of-way on a Borough owned street. Members noted they would like the issues of public health and safety, cost, aesthetics, and who will dismantle the tower once it is deemed obsolete, to be considered when preparing the ordinance.

Mr. Eslinger stated he will forward any information he receives at the meeting to Commission members.

#### **Off Agenda**

Mr. Eslinger noted that Mr. Robert Hauck sent a brief response regarding the upgrade to the athletic field to Mr. Eslinger. Mr. Eslinger has forwarded that response to the Kutztown Area School District and Borough engineer.

#### **Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss a motion was made by Dr. Habeck and seconded by Mrs. Snyder to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Jill Remick  
Recording Secretary