Kutztown Environmental Advisory Commission Minutes

Monday February 7, 2022

In-person meeting at Kutztown Borough Hall: EAC Members: Todd Underwood, Kathy Kelly, Keith Leinbach, Lisa Ladd-Kidder and Guest Cheyenne Frisca

Meeting was called to order by Todd Underwood at 7:00 pm.

Minutes from January 2022 were approved.

New Business

1. Budget
   a. Todd submitted a Grant proposal to Giant through KCP for $1400 for the proposed tree planting. We will get a response in 4 – 8 weeks.
   b. Todd may also apply for a Grant for the Main Street Park for the Kiosk and QR codes for the tree identification. A current map of trees is to be developed.

2. Team Members
   a. Student Rep: Cheyenne Frisca, a KU Sophomore Biology student, has applied to become part of the KEAC team. She was present at the meeting as a guest. She will officially join us if approved by the Kutztown Borough Council.
   b. Lisa Ladd-Kidder is the official liaison between the Planning Commission and KEAC.

3. Annual Report 2021
   a. The report was reviewed with one minor revision to reference SB597. Lisa will represent KEAC at the February Council meeting for the annual report review.

4. Subcommittee Reports
   a. Community Education
      • KEAC will have a table at the April Kutztown block party. Items for focus thus far include recycling; native plants versus invasive species; North Park activities; water quality. The date is yet to be determined.
      • Todd announced that there is to be an Earth Day event at the Berks Ag Center April 22-23, 2022. Kathy to follow up and get more information.
   b. Parks and Trail
      • Estimates for the resurfacing of the Saucony trail have been received. There are a few sections where crushed gravel is the only viable option due to flooding. These are Turkey Hill to the 2nd foot bridge by the pool ($6,500); Kiosk to the end of the trail ($3,620); and Normal Ave bridge to Kiosk ($1,940) for a total of $12,060. By comparison, paving would cost ~$80,000.
   c. Water and Air Quality
      • Keith Leinbach summarized the Fuel and Electricity (greenhouse) data for 2020 and compared it to 2008. However, there were several line items missing from 2020 data and new items not included in 2008. He will continue to obtain the data.
      • No update concerning the Foundry’s reactivation plan.
      • Dust Ordinance review: Officially passed and adopted.
• Lisa reported that Public Works is using a scanning device to detect and fix leaks.
• Lisa will supply us with the link to the Borough’s Rates and info on Topton and Fleetwood for comparison.

d. Recycling and Trash
• The Math Department at KU is going to assist in network analysis to improve overall efficiency. This is a class project for the Spring semester. Lisa to follow up.

Meeting ended at 7:58 pm