Kutztown Environmental Advisory Commission Minutes

Monday January 3, 2022

In-person meeting at Kutztown Borough Hall: EAC Members: Todd Underwood, Kathy Kelly, and Keith Leinbach

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

Minutes from December 2021 were approved.

New Business

1. Budget
   a. Todd is going to ask Giant if they will once again donate money for trees and plants to the tune of $1500 for approximately 75 native trees for North Park. This includes delivery. KU students will plant in spring as part of their lab work. If Giant cannot give all the money, Todd will ask Public Works to split the costs. A fall tree planting is also planned which will use community volunteers to perform the planting.

2. Election of Officers for 2022: All three active members are willing to stay in their current positions. Also, Todd will clarify if the KEAC student representative must actually live in Kutztown proper or can just be a student.

3. Annual Report 2021: Todd will prepare a draft for review and go forward with it in February.

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.
   b. Parks and Trail
      • Todd will attend the January 2022 Public Works meeting and request trail resurfacing along the Saucony. Also, concerning the trail, one of the tasks of the summer intern is to trim back vegetation along path.
      • Tree tags are in place to identify trees in the Main Street Park. KU students will develop the information for the trees’ QR codes and tie to a web page. There are similar programs for the North and South Campus at KU.
      • The bench and trash can for the Pollinator Garden have been ordered. This spring, we need to establish a maintenance schedule for both pollinator gardens.
      • There is a butterfly identification board at North Park and KU students will perform the tie-in between the web page information and QR codes.
      • There will be a night entomology event at North Park. This is tentatively scheduled for July 2022.
   c. Water and Air Quality
      • Keith Leinbach reported that he still has not been successful in obtaining greenhouse data from the Boro. Todd to attend 1/4/2022 Public Works Meeting to see if he can obtain the data.
• In January 2022, Todd will attend the Public Works meeting to find out how to obtain the greenhouse data.
• No update concerning the Foundry’s reactivation plan.
• Dust Ordinance review: Final review/comments at January 2022 Council meeting. Todd is going to draft a short statement on the KEAC support of this Ordinance.

d. Recycling and Trash
• We are still awaiting feedback on the letter Warren drafted to the Kutztown Borough Council, Public Safety and Community Development Committees concerning trash and renters.
• Todd reported on 11/3/2021 that the Public Works Department voted to keep the recycling the same for 2022 and to collect more data to better understand how well the schedule is working. They will also work with KU to get the system working more efficiently. Borough Council still must give final official approval.

Meeting ended at 7:55 pm