Kutztown Environmental Advisory Commission Minutes

Monday November 7, 2022

In-person meeting at Kutztown Borough Hall: EAC Members: Todd Underwood (Chair), Kathy Kelly, Keith Leinbach Lisa Ladd-Kidder (Borough Council Liaison).

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

Minutes from October 2022 meeting were approved.

New Business

1. Subcommittee Reports
   a. Community Education
      • The team reviewed and approved the white paper on PFAS that Kathy put together. Todd will submit to be posted on the Borough website and Facebook page to bring awareness to our citizens of the potential dangers of these substances.
   b. Water and Air Quality
      • Lisa sent out an update PCE testing report with data on well 6a and the discharge pipe through September 2022. The data continues to show high levels of PCE contamination. KK to update the trending graphs. The report noted that all discharge water into the Saucony Creek is being aerated which does aid in the removal of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC’s). In a review of the literature, the processes of aeration and air-stripping have been used interchangeably. Air-stripping is a more efficient and effective process, but aeration is an improvement over no treatment at all.
      • Lisa reported that no testing for PFAS is currently being performed by the Boro. It is to be tested in 2025. Todd will check with KU to see if they are currently testing.
      • Keith plans to get an easy-to-use spreadsheet set up for Boro or the December/January timeframe. This spreadsheet will help facilitate the data collection process for greenhouse gas data and inventory.
      • During October 2022, Lisa supplied us with a list of the farms spreading biosolid waste (sludge) on their farms as well as a map.
      • Foundry: no updates.
   c. Recycling and Trash
      • The Boro has sent notices to residents as well as posting the revised 2023 schedule on the Boro website.
   d. Parks and Trails -Todd Underwood (chair)
There was a fall cleanup and planting on 10/22-23/2022 supported by the Kutztown Community Outreach Group. There is one planned for November 19-20/2022 supported by the Marine Science Club. The Outdoor Club may also do another cleanup as well. The spring cleanup and planting will involve KU volunteer students.

Update on North Park Bridge: Replacement is on schedule and is targeted to be completed by the end of 2022. The old bridge has been totally removed.

120 native trees and shrubs were planted along Saucony Creek. 15 more to be planted November 12-13, 2022

There is still about $1300 left to purchase plants and a new bench for the Welcome sign garden as well as some tools to help with planting.

Meeting ended at 7:55 pm