Kutztown Environmental Advisory Commission

October Meeting

October 7, 2019


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

1. Approved the minutes for the September meeting.

2. Public Comment:

Phila Back – discussed recent residential water problems in the news for other communities in southeastern Pennsylvania. These communities are spending millions of dollars cleaning up water contaminated from fire retardant chemicals. Phila noted the borough should take care of our water supply to prevent such high costs of remediation. EAC members agreed with her about the need to protect our water supply. Phila also noted that ~150 people attended Senator Judy Schwank’s Climate on Tap event.

3. Old Business: None

4. New Business:

5. Subcommittee Reports

- KU Environmental Committee - Todd Underwood (chair)
  - No report

- Community Education – (Chair open)
  - No report

- Air & Water Quality - Jeri Carroll-Sievert (chair)
  - Water quality issues discussed with Phila Back (see above).
  - EAC members may help get volunteers to install no dumping pucks at storm drains in town.

- Recycling Program
  - Members discussed issue of trash on Main Street and the need for more trash bins. Not sure if the new task force will be dealing with this or if this is something the EAC can provide input on in the future.

- Parks & Trail - Todd Underwood (chair)-
  - White Oak garden update - EAC members and 8 other community members planted the garden on North White Oak Street on September 28 and 29. The plants are in the ground and mulch is in place. We are just waiting on 3 shrubs that have been ordered – hopefully they will be put in this week. There are some leftover plants that members will plant at North Park. Brian Bailey notified the EAC that the new bench purchase has been put off until 2020.
Sacony Creek. Todd Underwood noted that the Japanese knotweed on Hartman Rd was barely impacted from the contractor’s treatment from a couple weeks ago. He reported this to Brian Bailey and asked them to redo the treatment on the entire patch of plants not just on the plants 1 foot from the guard rail.

6. Meeting ended at 7:30PM