

## **Kutztown Environmental Advisory Commission Minutes**

Monday October 2, 2023

In-person meeting at Kutztown Borough Hall: EAC Members: Todd Underwood (Chair), Lisa Ladd-Kidder (Borough Council Liaison), Randy Wert.

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

1. The minutes were not approved because we lacked a quorum, so we will wait until next month to approve. Cheyenne Friscia has a KU class conflict on Monday evenings so will not be able to attend again until the January meeting.
2. Public Comment - None.
3. Subcommittee Reports
  - a. Community Education
    - The EAC memorial to Keith Leinbach was posted on the EAC's page on the borough's website and on Facebook. Lisa proposed sending a copy to Keith's mother and all agreed. Todd will get a card for all to sign at the next meeting.
    - The Sustainability in Business Panel Discussion will be held on October 27 from 2 pm – 4:30 pm in DeFrancesco Bldg at KU. Kathy Kelly and Cheyenne Friscia will represent the EAC.
    - Native plant of the month postings will continue.
  - b. Water and Air Quality
    - We are awaiting the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter PCE testing data from the quarry. Results will be examined and reported on when they arrive.
    - Todd reported that a KU student research project will be investigating the potential impact of PCE contamination on insect larvae in the Sacony Creek.
  - c. Recycling and Trash
    - Todd reported that the Berks County Recycling Center in Leesport no longer is accepting glass at their drop off containers. Lisa reported that Mascaro is now picking up the borough's glass recycling. Not sure if borough pays for this service or not but will find out.
  - d. Parks and Trails -Todd Underwood (chair)
    - Todd reported that the sign company will produce stickers made with the corrected QR code for the Sacony Trail funding signs.
    - Trash clean up scheduled for Saturday October 7 along the creek across from CVS.
    - Todd reported that the EAC was awarded a \$3,000 grant from Berks County for new trees and tubes to complete the major habitat restoration along the Sacony Trail.

- Tree planting is planned for the weekend of 14-15 October.
- Todd reported that the borough public works installed the trash can we purchased at the north end of the Sacony Trail.
- White Oak garden final weeding and mulching was completed by Todd and Robyn Underwood.
- Five high school students contacted Todd and Brian Bailey about volunteering as interns to do environmental work in town for a school project. Todd will get them involved in a few projects like trash cleanups and the tree planting but might not be able to work with them for the full number of hours they are required.

Motion to adjourn by Todd at 7:40 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Randy.