

Kutztown Environmental Advisory Commission Minutes

Monday October 7, 2024

In-person meeting at Kutztown Borough Hall: EAC Members: Todd Underwood (Chair), Kathy Kelly (Secretary) by Zoom, Lisa Ladd-Kidder (L-K) (Borough Council Liaison), Randy Wert by Zoom, Lisa Foreback.

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

- Lisa L-K moved to approve the minutes from the September 2024 meeting and 2nd by Randy.
- Announcements:

- Official welcome to Lisa Foreback, our newest member!

- Public Comment: None

- Subcommittee Reports

A. Community Education

- The EAC webpage is current.
- Todd supplied a link detailing the new United States Geological Survey (USGS) monitoring station to be installed along the Saucony creek trail, approximately 100 feet upstream of the Normal Avenue Bridge. This is on Kutztown Area School District property. USGS will collect and publish continuous (15-minute interval, telemetered once per hour) stream stage, streamflow, water temperature, specific conductance, pH, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, and nitrate plus nitrite (NOx). The site will be visited routinely to check calibration of the continuous instrumentation and/or to collect discrete samples.
- Native Plant of the month is current through July. Cheyenne to catch up in October.

B. Water and Air Quality

- Lisa L-K reported that the Borough has received confirmation from NESL Quarry Permit Renewal DEP comment letter. No period given for a response from NESL.
- Lisa L-K is in the process of reviewing the report from the Villas@Maxatawny, project reference BKK-MAX-01, provided to the Kutztown Water and Waste Water Committee. The proposed location is in a field roughly bounded by College Boulevard, Fairview Drive, Greenwich Street, and the Route 222 Kutztown Bypass.

C. Recycling and Trash

- No updates. KK to resend information regarding municipality population size and recycling requirement.

D. Parks and Trails -Todd Underwood (chair)

- The new posts to replace the trail markers damaged by vandalism have been ordered.
- The new signage for the Saucony Creek Trail has been received but not yet installed. Todd to follow up with Public Works.
- A Proposal for an 18-hole Disc Golf Course was received at the September 2024 Public Works Committee meeting. Details are unsure as no location was included. The team as a whole commented that these courses can be very destructive. Todd to write a letter suggesting the Borough park.

- Todd reported that the fall tree planting will take place the 1st week of November. Trees are ordered and payment is not due until December. Grant money should be in by then.
- Additional Bluebird Nest boxes are needed along the Saucony Trail. Cost is estimated to be \$100-\$200 and will be built and installed by KU students in Spring of 2025.
- Lisa L-K suggested that we ask for an increase in the KEAC budget for that we have money to pay outside consultants as needed.
- KEAC approved an expenditure of \$200 to cover costs associated with planting and cleanup.
- Lisa L-K to check on the location for the KEAC stewardship Award Plaque.
- Todd reported that Public Works is pursuing a contractor to cut down designated trees along the Saucony and North Park. Estimated cost is around \$10K. Timing is uncertain.

Motion to adjourn by Todd Underwood at 08:04 pm, 2nd by Kathy.