

Kutztown Environmental Advisory Commission Minutes

Wednesday September 6, 2023

In-person meeting at Kutztown Borough Hall: EAC Members: Todd Underwood (Chair), Cheyenne Friscia (KU student rep) Kathy Kelly (Secretary), Lisa Ladd-Kidder (Borough Council Liaison), Randy Wert

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

1. Cheyenne moved to approve the minutes from August 2023 meeting and 2nd by Randy.
2. Announcements
 - a. On October 27 at 2 pm – 4:30 pm, a Professor in the Business Department will be leading a Sustainability in Business Panel Discussion and would like someone from our group to participate. Kathy and Cheyenne will represent the team and speak briefly about what the KEAC has done in Kutztown in support of sustainability activities. Our time slot will be 10 – 30 minutes including Q&A. A representative from Macungie Township will also be participating and the Keynote speaker is from Waste Management.
3. Public Comment
4. New Business
 - The Council approved Constantine Penzone (CJ) to join the EAC. We look forward to working with him.
5. Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Community Education
 - Kathy and Lisa to write up a short Memorial post about Keith Leinbach's contributions to the community. To be posted on KEAC website/Facebook page.
 - Possibility of developing a Junior Ranger/Environmentalist type program. Will discuss in October meeting.
 - b. Water and Air Quality
 - New data on the six-month PCE testing of Monitoring Well 6a at the NESL quarry is past due. Lisa has been in contact with NESL requesting the data which will be available in October including the September testing. Lisa to send it out as soon as it is available.
 - The spreadsheet project for the data collection process for greenhouse gas data and inventory by the Borough is currently on hold.
 - Lisa reported that PFAS testing of the Borough's water has commenced and we now have a good baseline going forward. The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) is 14 parts/trillion for PFOA and 18 parts/trillion for PFOS. The Kutztown results are: PFOS \leq 1.7 PPT and PFOA \leq 1.7 PPT.

- Lisa submitted the letter regarding the East Penn Manufacturing (EPM) air permit renewal request and has not yet received any response. Note: This facility is the wire and cable division.
- c. Recycling and Trash
 - KK supplied contact information to Lisa for Mascaro Recycling.
- d. Parks and Trails -Todd Underwood (chair)
 - Todd unveiled the new Saucony Creek signage explaining the restoration project as per the grant. The signs look great, however there appears to be an issue with the QR codes. Todd to investigate. May need to get stickers made with the corrected QR code. He is also going to check the QR codes on the North Park signs.
 - Trash clean up scheduled for Saturday October 7 along the creek across from CVS.
 - Todd is still trying to find out the status of the Berks County Grant Proposal submitted in February. The cost is \$2400 for new trees and tubes. The Borough will cover the costs if the grant falls through. Planting takes place 14-15 October.
 - Spring 2024 planting (April) along the creek at North Park, \$1400 plus delivery for 50 trees. Todd to ask Giant for the money. Planting to be done by KU students.
 - White Oak garden was kept clean this summer by the KU intern. Mulch has arrived and Todd started to do some cleanup and spread the mulch. Cheyenne to assist.

Motion to adjourn by Todd at 7:35 pm, 2nd by Kathy.