

## Kutztown Environmental Advisory Commission Minutes

Thursday September 5, 2024

In-person meeting at Kutztown Borough Hall: EAC Members: Todd Underwood (Chair), Kathy Kelly (Secretary) by Zoom, Lisa Ladd-Kidder (Borough Council Liaison), Randy Wert by Zoom, Lisa Foreback (potential new member, application submitted) as guest.

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

- Randy moved to approve the minutes from the August 2024 meeting and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Todd.
- Announcements:
  - KU Sustainability Panel Discussion September 25, 2024, 5 – 8:30 pm at de Francesco building. Focus is on Energy for our Future and Sustainability Education.
  - There will be a KU UV light Entomology (insects) class Friday 9/6/2024 evening at North Park.
- Public Comment: None
- Subcommittee Reports
  - A. Community Education
    - The EAC webpage is current.
    - Todd supplied a link detailing information on the danger of PFAS and biosolids sludge being used as fertilizer on farmlands across the country. So far, our Kutztown water wells are testing at less than detectable limit.
    - Native Plant of the month is current through July. Cheyenne to catch up in September.
  - B. Water and Air Quality
    - May/June 2024 PCE data from NESL has been received. KK to updated chart and graph for MW6a and discharge pipe. Updated pumping quantities were also received, and data updated. Lisa reported that the permit with NESL has been under review for the last 4 years. The permit as it currently stands only specifies the PCE testing for the discharge pipe. MW6a must be included in the permit along with no increase in pumping allowed and adhesion to the specified Maximum Contamination Level (MCL).
    - Response received from East Penn Manufacturing (EPM) in regard to their Kutztown Wire and Cable (KWC) Manufacturing Facility State Only Operating Permit #06-03063 renewal request. Kutztown Borough responded to the original request in July 2023. The team reviewed the comments and approved. Kathy drafted a letter to DEP stating that East Penn's comments have been reviewed and accepted. This letter was approved by Borough Council at the July meeting.
    - Lisa reported that the contract for the Aquifer Study of the Saucony Creek Watershed, to be performed by Spotts, Stevens, and McCoy (SSM) has been signed. The goal is to identify which areas are high recharge and which are not. This information will go a long way in helping to evaluate quantity and quality issues for the quarry and other developments.
    - Lisa reported that the Villas@Maxatawny, project reference BKK-MAX-01, will be presenting to Kutztown Water and Waste Water Committee on September 11, 2024.

The proposed location is in a field roughly bounded by College Boulevard, Fairview Drive, Greenwich Street, and the 222 Kutztown Bypass.

C. Recycling and Trash

- No updates.

D. Parks and Trails -Todd Underwood (chair)

- Saucony Trail is open and unfortunately, vandalism has occurred. Todd reported the first post (closest to the elementary school) was vandalized already and destroyed. This post cost about \$25. Some plants and trees were destroyed as well as an unauthorized trail cut to the creek. Todd is going to put up a trail camera. Todd will buy 10 more posts (\$250 plus shipping). The police have been notified and will spot check the trail. Permanent signs are in the process of being made.
- Todd reported that the fall tree planting will take place the 1<sup>st</sup> week of November. Trees are ordered and payment is not due until December. Grant money should be in by then.
- Todd reported that Public Works is pursuing a contractor to cut down designated trees along the Saucony and North Park.

Motion to adjourn by Todd Underwood at 07:42 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kathy.