

Kutztown Environmental Advisory Commission Minutes

Monday August 4, 2026

In-person meeting at Kutztown Borough Hall: EAC Members: Todd Underwood (Meeting Chair), Lisa Ladd-Kidder (L-K) (Borough Council Liaison), Lisa Forebeck(F). By Zoom: Mike Downing; Tommy Lazorik (KU student rep), Randy Wert and Kathy Kelly (Secretary). Guests: Andrea Coaxum, Kutztown Borough Manager, Michele Lopez, Kutztown Director of Community Development.

- At 7:00 pm, Lisa F. moved to approve the minutes from the July 2026 meeting, 2nd by Randy.
- Announcements: None.
- Public Comment: None.
- New Business:
 - Todd requested that each team member write up a short summary of their background for the benefit of Amanda and Michele.
 - A brief discussion on how EAC operates and interacts with Borough Council.
- Old Business: None.
- Subcommittee Reports
 - A. Community Education: No update.
 - B. Water and Air Quality.
 - At the present time, the current Noise ordinance will be enforced. Under separate cover, Kathy to supply Amanda and Michele the reference to the current ordinance.
 - Kathy to supply Amanda and Michele the PA DEP reference for approved Dust Palliatives, which have been used on the Fairgrounds Race track by Action Track, USA.
 - A brief discussion on retention areas as well as riparian areas to help mitigate flooding, especially when the creek overflows.
 - A discussion on the Topton PCE plume. The maps provided by PA DEP were useful. DEP has determined their contractor Amentum, is warranted to fully answer questions raised by the Borough. The primary information required is twofold. First, is historical data related to size, location, direction of flow and PCE levels over time. Second, is the difference in testing levels by DEP and NESL (quarry) for MW-2 and MW-5 in 2025.
 - C. Recycling and Trash: No update.
 - D. Parks and Trails -Todd Underwood (chair)
 - In preparation for the 2027 tree planting, Berks Nature will help with removing invasive shrubs before the next tree planting at North Park.
 - More definition is needed to further define roles of both parties involved in the Saucony Trail extension. Todd will generate another draft of the Saucony Trail extension Easement letter. Keith, Borough Lawyer, (on retainers), will need to review.
 - A letter of recognition was written to recognize the challenging work put in by Owen Macfarlane. The letter was signed by all team members. Owen did a great job.
 - North Park tire ruts have been reported. Borough employees have been driving across the grass as they go about their daily tasks. This sets a bad precedence for the public.

Motion to adjourn by Todd at 0859 pm, 2nd by Mike.