Borough of Kutztown
Planning Commission
Minutes of March 14, 2022

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission was held on Monday, March 14, 2022, in the Kutztown Borough Municipal Building Multi-Purpose Room.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Mr. Fred Engelhardt, Chairperson. Members present were: Mr. Frederick Engelhardt, Mrs. Pat Snyder Mr. Robert Weller, Mr. Randy Marsteller, Mr. Steve Fenstermacher and Mr. Joel Seidel. Also present: Ms. Michelle Lopez, Community Development Office and Gabriel Khalife, Borough Manager.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items
None

Approval of Minutes
Planning Commission members reviewed the February 14, 2022 Planning Commission meeting minutes. Motion to approve with minor corrections by Mr. Seidel, seconded by Mr. Weller. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Planning Commission members reviewed the February 28, 2022 Planning Commission Workshop meeting agenda. Motion to approve by Mr. Seidel, seconded by Mr. Marsteller. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Reports
Ms. Lopez updated Planning Commission members on the Community Development Office activities:

- Ms. Lopez discussed the Keith Haring Fitness Court project. This will not come to the Planning Commission, and will go to the Zoning Hearing Board

Action Items
None

Old Business/Updates
- Discuss update of 2012 Kutztown Borough Comprehensive Plan
  Mr Engelhardt will be on the agenda for the Kutztown Borough Council meeting on March 15, 2022 at 7:30 PM to discuss with Council if they would support the Commission’s pursuit of a joint comprehensive plan with other municipalities.

  Mr Engelhardt asked Ms Lopez if she could get the Commission a list of businesses in the Borough that have requested a change of use and if denied, what was the reason.
New Business

- **Discussion of Tobacco/Vaping Retailers**
  Ms Lopez talked to Keith Mooney, Borough Solicitor, and was told that there is not a way to limit these types of retailers in the borough. She also relayed that she is not seeing any additional requests for opening that type business, and feels that we may not be saturated. Tobacco is regulated by the state and a municipality cannot be more restrictive than the state.

- **Set agenda for March 28, 2022 Planning Commission Workshop Meeting**
  Comprehensive Plan update, taking into account the Hailstone Plan and the Berks County 2020 Comprehensive Plan.

Off Agenda

- **McConway & Torley**
  The foundry will be starting to produce submarine missile parts for the US Navy, beginning in May or June of 2022. Expectation is that they will hire about 40 employees. Also, the related truck traffic will not come through downtown Kutztown.

- Mr Mooney sent the email regarding the Dining Ordinance. Plan is for it to be adopted at the April Borough Council Meeting

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Ms. Snyder and seconded by Mr. Deitrich to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia M. Snyder
Secretary