

**KUTZTOWN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**  
**STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2009**

**Mtg Date:** Thursday, January 8, 2009

**Time:** 8:00 – 8:50am

**Attendees:** Amy Bray, Kevin Snyder, Sandy Green, Niki Miller, Kim Davis, Gina Wiand, Rachael Birckbichler, Meghan Godorov, Caecilia Holt, Gabriel Khalife.

**Public Comment**

- None.

**Minutes from the 12/4/08 meeting**

**Action** → On a motion by Kim with a second by Amy, the Committee unanimously approved the December minutes.

**Manager Report**

- Sandy reviewed the upcoming meetings pertaining to the Main Street grant as listed on the agenda. The Tuesday, January 13 Five-Year Strategic Plan meeting will be rescheduled from 7pm to 6pm to accommodate those that must attend the Community Development Committee meeting at 7:30 that same night.

**Borough Report**

- None.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Niki reported the checking account balance is \$7,403.89.
- There is a \$5000+ CD at National Penn Bank and a \$10,000+ CD at Citizens Bank.
- The 2008 year end report will be available at the February meeting.

**Kutztown University Report**

- The OCAC CommUnity Yard Sale will be held March 24-27 in the Kutztown Park.

**Promotion Team**

- The Spring/Summer newsletter has been drafted and is under review. Gina will confirm printing quantity and costs.
- The Committee asked Rachael to research the purchase of more pocket ashtrays.

**Historic Preservation**

- Rachael will set-up a meeting with the Borough's solicitor and Carol Lee from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to discuss next steps in establishing a historic preservation area in Kutztown.
- The old farmhouse at the Borough's water treatment plant is slated for demolition due to its increasingly poor condition. Amy and Rachael will make contact with organizations interested in preserving materials from historic buildings to gauge interest.

**Design Team**

- Sandy would like to contact the KU art department about painting a mural on the cinder block building to the rear of the swimming pool property, near the Sacony Trail. This building is routinely hit with graffiti and adding artwork may curb that activity.

**Economic Development**

- A lease has been signed for 9 E. Main Street and is intended to become a carry-out steak shop. Plans have been submitted and are under review by the Community Development Office.
- According to the owner, a new lease has been signed for the former Foxy's Billiards to re-establish a billiards hall. Plans have not yet been submitted to the Community Development Office.

- Two Zoning Hearing Board appeals will be heard on Thursday, January 29 at 7pm – (1) 70 E. Normal Avenue, construct a 4 unit low-rise apartment house and (2) 245 E. Walnut Street add 2 units to an existing 5 unit low-rise apartment house.
- Applications have been submitted for a subdivision and land development at 235 Grimley Street (aka the Post Office property) to include the creation of 2 lots and the construction of a 24-unit low-rise apartment house. The Planning Commission has expressed their opposition to the project. Numerous variances are necessary and a Zoning Hearing Board Appeal is being scheduled.
- There are many available commercial spaces on Main Street at present but the most recent is the former home of Statement Apparel, 228-230 W. Main Street.

### **Fundraising/Event Planning**

- Please see the agenda for a current listing of events scheduled for 2009.

### **Old Business**

- Donations have been received to off-set the cost of the streetlight decorations purchased by KCP. The Lioness Club has stated they would like to donate toward the purchase of additional decorations, rather than the ones already purchased.

### **New Business**

- Action** →
- The Fool's Run has requested donations for this year's event. KCP has donated \$125 in the past. On a motion by Niki with a second by Amy, the Committee unanimously agreed to donate \$125 to the Fool's Run event.
  - Sandy discussed an idea she is pursuing to close the 200 block of West Main Street on a routine basis throughout the summer to encourage more pedestrian traffic and regular community events. This will be brought up for initial discussion at the Community Development Committee on January 13.

### **Miscellaneous/Off-Agenda**

- The election of officers for 2009 will occur at the February meeting. All members are asked to encourage KCP members to attend.
- Amy reported that the local businesses performed a zip code survey during the holiday shopping season to document where shoppers are coming from. The information will be used for marketing as well as creating demographics for future business development.
- Caecilia Holt discussed the Kutztown School District's proposal to restructure the elementary schools into "grade centers", effectively eliminating grade levels from specific locations. If passed, the proposal lists Kutztown Elementary as exclusively 2<sup>nd</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> graders. She asks KCP to write a letter to the School District expressing its opposition to this proposal in the interest of preserving a truly walkable community. After discussion, the Committee asked Ms. Holt to prepare a draft letter to be sent to the Committee, via Gina, for review.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Amy with a second by Niki, and the meeting adjourned at 8:50am.