

East Kensington Neighbors Association
Monthly Meeting Agenda
Monday, June 20th, 2022
Via Zoom Webinar and in person at PBC
Andy Ortega, President
Contact: president@ekna.org
www.ekna.org



Meeting Minutes

- June 2022 meeting held as hybrid both virtually and in person
- Budget Report
 - Expenses:
 - Zoom - \$59.39
 - Squarespace - \$243.80
 - \$10.38 – Paypal fees
 - Printing - \$616.79
 - Insurance - \$1,840
 - Misc. - \$20.80
 - Income
 - interest – \$3.88
 - Derby Drink sales - \$9,613.93
 - Raffle - \$25
 - Balance
 - Checking - \$17,403.83
 - Paypal: \$5,778.16
 - Money Market - \$15,507.39
 - Savings - \$5.00
 - Derby Income/Expenses
 - Total income- \$13,138.93
 - Total Expenses - \$5,384.84
 - Net - \$7,754.09
 - In line with avg. net from 2018-2019
 - All beer sales kept by EKNA
 - First year where NKCDC and EKNA did not share Derby responsibilities
 - Instead – EKNA works with BID to plan event
 - Digital sales made up majority of sales
- Zoning -

- 2621 Frankford: 15 support, 1 oppose, 3 abstain
 - Woods Brothers Lot
 - Applicants wanted to expand to include commercial uses
 - Originally project was by-right due to industrial/artisan uses
 - Committee, BID, and NKCDC met with developers about commercial use
 - Proviso included that a group will be formed to vet and approve commercial spaces
 - No realistic process to give RCO control over what goes into space
 - Consensus in neighborhood was to avoid stopping project, but to keep conversation with neighborhood open
- 2628-44 Martha: 14 support, 1 oppose, 2 abstain
 - Light industrial warehouse on Martha
 - Bodyart studio – looking to expand to second space
- 2111 E Dauphin: 13 support, 0 oppose, 0 abstain
 - Single family house on lot zoned as light industrial use
- Next meeting 2nd Wednesday of July
- No meeting in August
- Email info@ekna.org if interested in getting involved with Zoning Committee
- Troy Musto – owns Fishtown Signs
 - Makes fish signs hanging in Fishtown
 - Now coming up with milk bottle sign for East Kensington
 - Got feedback at Derby about what people would like
 - Studio at American and Berks
 - Hoping to have final design in 6-8 weeks
 - Trying to keep in \$100 range
 - Will share photos and designs once available
- Education
 - Summer programming
 - Schedule to be posted on EKNA's website for Julius to host drum circle
 - Starting this week and will go for 6 weeks
 - Tuesday, - Harrowgate park
 - Wednesday - McPherson Park
 - Thursday - Hagart playground

- Preservation
 - Michael Morrison - Vice President in charge of preservation committee
 - contact if interested in preserving buildings in neighborhood
- Cleaning and Community Affairs
 - Continued work at Pop's Park
 - Mural Arts funding local artist who is covering rec building with mural
 - 5th Pocket Skate Parks – built Pop's skate park originally
 - Has gone on to work on projects nationwide
 - Came back to refurbish the skate park
 - Sprayground delayed by permitting with PWD
 - Hoping it will be up and running within next few weeks
 - Circular free sticker program - can apply for sticker online - <https://www.phila.gov/services/property-lots-housing/request-a-no-circulars-sticker/>
- Greening
 - Letterly Green
 - Meeting held by EKNA and Councilmember Squilla to improve space
 - Shared stories about what life was like when first starting work on nearby Hagart St. playground and garden
 - Councilmember shared that 2-3 people who are passionate are not enough to preserve space – requires as many partners as possible
 - Was difficult to come to consensus on space
 - Shared stories on meeting with difficult neighbors to create sense of community and what behaviors were acceptable and unacceptable in space
 - One neighbor collected phone numbers and email addresses to keep everyone informed about any updates on space
 - Letterly Green group beginning to re-organize
 - EKNA Board will host community cleanup at space once a month from 6-6:30 PM
 - First cleanup on Wednesday 6/22/22
 - Recap on green space and grant funds
 - A lot of money in EKNA accounts is grant funding for green spaces
 - Money Market fund has green space grant funding in it
 - Remaining balance for green space dedicated funding is about \$12,600
 - Sergeant and Emerald space, garden on Lehigh, and about \$5-\$6k available for other spaces
 - Huntingdon site waiting for new PWD drainage before moving forward with any other improvement

- Emerald St. Farm doing fundraising for new sidewalks – asked EKNA to help close \$2,000 funding gap
 - Now gap down to \$1,228 – which EKNA will cover toward sidewalk
 - Original cost was about \$7k
 - Some funds provided by NGT and PHS
- Local business
 - No Updates
- April/May 2022 minutes approved
 - Bernie requested that motion to approve April minutes at May meeting was made by EKNA President, but then withdrawn after recognition that there was not a quorum present at the time of the motion.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM