

East 40 Advisory Committee

31 January 2025

Zoom Link: <https://northampton-edu.zoom.us/j/91361085534>

December Minutes

Participants: Kelly Allen, Katelynn Frey, Carol Burns, Alex Zuniga, Madison Pagats, Abigail Michelini, Robin Cunconan-Lahr, Catarina Di Maria, Kate Scuffle, Rodney Weems, Kegan Hilaire, Cathie Given, Christine Pense, Josh..., Rachael Gorchov, Anita Erdoes Forrester, Cindy Vojnovic, Gina Turner, Holly O 'Connor, Nathanael Ramos

Agenda:

- Classroom Update (Kelly and Bill)
 - Public Hearing with Township
 - ♣ We have a public hearing set for Monday February 17th at 7pm.
 - ♣ We are looking to get as much support as we can for this meeting.
 - ♣ They will be deciding if we will be granting us an institutional overlay for our permitting. We are currently zoned Rural/residential.
 - 21st Century Longhouse
 - ♣ We are looking to reimage the classroom space from our original classroom blueprints.
 - ♣ We have met with the architects and the Lenape Nation of Pennsylvania, who are both in support of the project.
 - ♣ Our next steps, the Mega Meeting.
 - The Mega Meeting
 - ♣ Kelly Allen plans to meet with the executive members of the college to share the idea of the new classroom design with them and gain feedback on this project. This meeting will include Dr. Dave Ruth,

- ♣ The tentative meeting date is February 21st at 2pm. We will follow up with feedback.
- Environmental Statement
 - ♣ We are working to put together an environmental statement to share during the public hearing that states the college's goal of keeping the East 40 as a preserved section of the college.
- Public Support
 - ♣ Carol Burns has put together a flyer that we will post around the East 40 to make goers of the East 40 aware of the public hearing and to try to get more community support.
- Lenape Conference (Kelly)
 - The conference planning committee visited the Pocono campus to meet with their team and see if this site was a good option for this year's conference.
 - We plan to move forward with hosting the conference at Pocono campus and this will be a 2-day event.
 - Our next meeting is set for February 21st, 2025
- [East 40 Map](#) (Alex and Katelynn)
 - Alex has been working on creating an east 40 map to allow us to have printed copies around the east 40. They will feature our key landmarks and attractions to aid visitors as they explore the space.
 - We plan to print these as a brochure that will feature our key programs with the map in the center.
 - We will also have an interactive map on our website that will highlight key points that would otherwise not fit on the paper copy.
- Kiln Update (Kelly)
 - Our last kiln firing on December 18th, 2024 was our best firing to date! There were even temperatures throughout the process and the wood ash glazed the pieces beautifully

- Sadly, one of our arch bricks fell out during the cool down process causing the kiln to be unsafe to use.
 - Kelly Allen is working with Cindy on reimagining the kiln while using materials we currently have available. We are working to make this redesign a community education opportunity so folks can join us and learn how kilns like ours are made
- Residency Report (Rachael)
 - Amanda show
 - Rachael is working on the residency form
 - We are looking to take on 2 –3 people for summer 2025 residency which will span 2-6 weeks depending on the project.
 - Summer 2024 art Exhibition is set for spring 2026
- [Marketing and PR Update](#) (Carol)
 - Our social engagement has died down since the summer which is to be expected
 - We are seeing engagement on other social page groups we cross post to.
 - Lower engagement all around, we are hoping to see those numbers go up once the weather changes.
- Volunteers and student workers (Katelynn)
 - For spring 2025, we anticipate starting up volunteer opportunities again end of March/Beginning of April (weather depending)
 - Nick is no longer working with us through work study as he has moved back home with family.
 - Willow Lane is our only work-study student at this time with minimal hours due to the weather. We hope to bring on more work-study students come springtime when projects start to ramp up!
- Community Ed and Credit Classes (Katelynn)
 - Katelynn has been working very closely with Denise Holub at the Community Ed office to be trained in entering classes in Life Learn.

- Next steps are to work with community ed instructors on how to file the paperwork to then be entered into life learn.
- Carol Burns has been working on a 2 page insert for the community ed summer catalog to highlight our mission and the types of classes we plan to offer with a QR code that will bring them to our website to register.
- Credit Classes- Last semester we hosted 11 credit classes out at the East 40! For this semester, we are working closely with Robin Cunconan-Lahr and Kate Curry as they are planning out their curriculum and projects that tie into the East 40. We are aiding them in knowledge of our local bird species as they plan a birdhouse building project for their students.
- We are always looking to connect more credit classes to our space. If you or any facility you know are interested in hosting classes with us, we would love to connect and work with you!
- East 40 Strategic Plan Update (Katelynn and Kelly)
 - [NCC East 40 Strategic Plan Objectives FINAL.docx](#)
 - ♣ This document highlights our four pillars and objectives.
 - [East 40 Strategic Plan Deliverables, Activities & Assessment.docx](#)
 - ♣ After our last strategic plan meeting, Kelly and Katelynn are going through notes to aid in the creation of Deliverables, activities, and assessment. These are highlighted in the document above.
- Capital Campaign (Kelly)
 - We are hoping to work with the grants office to find more reliable funding from the college to help support our initiatives.
 - Before this connection is made, we will work to figure out what those funding needs are, and the public hearing will aid us in these decisions.
- Pasa Conference (Kelly)
 - Kelly, Katelynn and Kegan of Blackbird Farm will be attending the PASA conference February 5-7 in Lancaster, PA. Carol Burns will be joining us on Friday.
 - We will follow up on the things we learned!

Questions:

Take aways:

Decisions made: