

Bethlehem Environmental Advisory Council
General Meeting
April 1, 2021

Attendees: EAC Members: Lynn Rothman (Chair), Ben Guthrie (Secretary), Beth Behrend, Ben Felzer, Brian Nicas
Jane Cook (Bethlehem Backyards for Wildlife), Katharine Targett Gross (Lehigh University), Ben Murphy-Schmehl (Lehigh University), Ed Gallagher, Caleb Fuller, Bud H, Ann Foley, Albert Wurth, Breena Holland, Michele, John Blake, Deborah DeBilly dit Courville, Kathy Fox, Bud H., Al Wurth, Michelle Downing.

Candidates: Councilman Bryan Callahan, Councilwoman Grace Crampsie Smith, Ms. Hillary Kwiatek, Ms. Kiera Wilhelm, Ms. Rachel Leon, Mr. Dana Grubb, and Councilman William Reynolds.

Call to Order – 7:00 PM

- 1. Approval of minutes (March):** Approved unanimously.
- 2. Candidates Forum**
- 3. Place citizens' comments on agenda:**
 - a. Katharine Targett Gross - Bethlehem Farmers Market will be back this year at New & Morton Street – April 29 is opening day.
- 4. Chair's comments & amendments to agenda**
 - On April 22nd the Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton EACs and the Alliance for Sustainable Communities are sponsoring a Sustainable Opportunities Forum
- 5. Board comments and announcements**
 - a. Beth Behrend – The EAC's June 3 meeting will include a presentation by two Lehigh students regarding social justice in the Climate Action Plan
 - b. Ben F – Ben has two students studying relevant topics: a grad student vulnerable communities and climate sequestration and an undergraduate student working at the state of the wetlands at Camels Hump Farm.
 - c. Ben F – On April 10 Ben will be serving on panel at EAC Network Conference presenting on some initiatives that the Bethlehem EAC has been working on.
- 6. Committee reports**
 - **Green Committee (Brian)** – Brian spoke with City Forester recently. He received 800 saplings from PPL grant that will be arriving soon. He needs help identifying locations that are safe from deer and people to help plant the trees. The Rose Garden project is underway. Will be a massive undertaking. Additionally, the Lehigh Valley Rose Association needs help every weekend this spring weeding, mulching, and planting. They will be working this Saturday from 10:00-2:00.

- **Bethlehem Backyards for Wildlife (Jane)** – On Saturday a group of volunteers cleaned up the Greenway Meadow. They are getting ready to start maintenance of Hoover-Mason Trestle.
- **Monocacy Creek Watershed Association** – On April 24th the EAC will join groups being organized by Monocacy Creek Watershed Association for Monocacy Creek Clean-Up Day at Sand Island Park. There will also be a group working in Illick’s Mill Park on April 24.
- **Waste Reduction Committee** – No updates

7. External committee reports

- a. **City Council** – No updates

8. Unfinished business

- a. **Climate Action Plan** – There will be an upcoming virtual event to publicly introduce the CAP (Monday, April 12).
- b. **EAC Logo Contest** – No submissions yet.
- c. **Pedestrian Bridge Working Group (Brian)** – Recently had first meeting. They are working on a public engagement strategy and branding.

9. New business

10. Agenda for next meeting (April 1)

- a. Tracy Samuelson, Assistant Director of Planning and Zoning, will be joining us to discuss the City’s zoning ordinance.

11. Adjourn - Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM