

**Bethlehem Environmental Advisory Council
General Meeting
October 7, 2021**

Attendees: EAC Members: Lynn Rothman (Chair), Ben Guthrie (Secretary), Beth Behrend, Ben Felzer, Brian Nicas
Kathy Fox (Bethlehem Food Co-Op), Karen Berry, Peter Crownfield, Breena Holland, Ben Murphy-Schmehl, Isaac Weber, Hillary Kwiatek, Lisbeth A.

Call to Order – 7:03 PM

1. Welcome

- 2. Approval of minutes (September):** Motion to approve minutes made by Ben F., seconded by Brian. Approved unanimously.

3. Chair’s comments & amendments to agenda

- The Lehigh Valley EAC Network Forum was held on Saturday, September 18th. Lynn, Beth, and Ben F. represented the Bethlehem EAC.
- The Bethlehem Parking Authority recently purchased three Chevy Bolts to replace three Jeeps and will be used daily for operations.

4. Place citizens’ comments on agenda

- None

5. Board comments and announcements

- None

6. Alliance for Sustainable Communities: “Implementing Bethlehem’s Climate Action Plan” presentation by Isaac Weber.

Isaac is a student at Dartmouth College who worked as a summer intern with the LV Alliance for Sustainable Communities. The presentation focused on sections of Bethlehem’s zoning code that could be amended to support the goals and strategies in the Climate Action Plan. His powerpoint presentation and reports and publications by the summer interns can be found at <https://www.sustainlv.org/>

7. Committee reports

- Bethlehem Backyards for Wildlife (Jane Cook via Written Report)** – BBFW had our final weeding session at the Hoover Mason Trestle on September 11, and the next event will be after the hard frost for a clean up to prepare the beds for winter. Probably in early November.
- Energy Committee (Elisabeth)** – No update.
- Waste Reduction Committee (Beth)** – Lynn forwarded proposal for plastic bag ban to City Council. Beth presented an overview of our proposal at the September 18th LV EAC Forum. A copy of the proposal will be shared with all EACs with that meeting’s minutes.
- Green Committee (Brian)** – No update.

8. External committee reports

- a. **Monocacy Creek Watershed Association (MCWA)** – Monocacy Creek Watershed Association had a really successful creek cleanup event that resulted in six pickup loads full of bagged and miscellaneous debris from the area south of Burnside down to Union Blvd. We planted about 30 native trees and shrubs at the Gertrude Fox Conservation Area near Center Street and route 22 this week, and we will be planting over 200 native grasses along the trail that leads to the floodplain area upstream of Gertrude Fox. This will be on Saturday, October 16.
- b. **Planning and Zoning** – No report.

9. Unfinished business

- a. **Purple Air Monitor** – Breena Holland met with Charter School representatives and the school expressed interest in hosting a Purple Air Monitor on their building. They are interested in collecting the data and incorporating into their curriculum. The school's board will need to formally approve the installation once the details are sorted out. Breena and Ben F. will meet to discuss the possibility of installing a monitor at the New Street Parking Deck. The EAC will reach out to the Bethlehem Parking Authority to inquire about installing the monitor.

10. New business

11. November 4th Meeting

- a. Possible Lehigh Student Presentation – Dog Waste Digester
- b. Presentation on Broad Street Active Transportation Plan

12. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Guthrie, Secretary