

**Bethlehem Environmental Advisory Council**  
**General Meeting Agenda**  
October 1, 2020

**Attendees:** EAC Members: Lynn Rothman (Chair), Mike Topping (Vice Chair). Elisabeth Cichonski (Secretary), Beth Behrend, Brian Nicas, Ben Guthrie, Ben Felzer. Brian Hillard (Sustainable Energy Fund), Jane Cook (Monocacy Creek Watershed Association), Kathy Fox, Mike Albanese, Barry Schook.

**Call to Order @ 7:04 PM**

1. **Approval of minutes (September):** Motion made by Brian to approve the September EAC meeting minutes, seconded by Beth. The September minutes were approved unanimously.
2. **Place citizens' comments on agenda:** The Monocacy Creek Watershed Association is going to be planting tree seedlings on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> between Illick's Mill from 9-11 AM.
3. **Chair's comments & amendments to agenda:** Northampton County Conservation District is presenting MS4 Roundtable meetings on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> via Zoom.
4. **Board comments and announcements:** No report.
5. **Committee reports:**
  - a. **Bethlehem Backyards for Wildlife (BBFW):** The Hoover Mason Trestle was replanted/refurbished by a professional landscape designer over the past two weeks and has been completely transformed.
  - b. **Green Committee:** Monocacy Creek Garbage Clean up on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> from 9-11 AM starting at Old York Road. The group will meet at Old York Road and Union Blvd. Brian will follow-up with the City about bag pick up. Jane will publicize the clean-up on the MCWC Facebook page and Lynn will post on the Lehigh Valley Bird Town Coalition Meetup page.  
Brian spoke with David Shaffer, City Forester, who shared that the tree inventory started this past week. Currently, just one person is working on this. The tree inventory will take place through December.  
All the weeds have been pulled from the Rose Garden. Mary Toulouse is looking to get additional funding to improve the Rose Garden by renovating some of the black top areas, and adding walkways, amongst other planting improvements, such as including more native plants.  
David Schaffer is willing to have a meeting to discuss City wide tree ordinance to review species and consider making revisions.
6. **External Committee Reports:**
  - a. **City Council:** Beth spoke at the Sep. 15<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting regarding the EAC's comments on 2105 Creek Road.
  - b. **Planning & Zoning:** 2105 Creek Road: The Zoning meeting has been delayed until December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM. This will be a Special Meeting to discuss only the Creek Road property.

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**7. Unfinished business:**

- a. **Climate Action Plan:** On Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> at 12 PM and 5:30 PM there will be a second public engagement meeting.  
Brian Hillard and Elisabeth have had some discussions with personnel from Penn State and the Department of Energy's Technical Assistance Program for Combined Heat and Power (CHP) and are working to contact large entities in Bethlehem to perform a feasibility study to determine if Bethlehem is a viable candidate for some of these projects.
  - b. **Table at Rose Garden Farmers Market:** We tabled at the Rose Garden on Saturday to promote the Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> CAP public engagement meeting and our EAC. The day was overcast with chance of showers so attendance at the Rose Garden Farmer's Market was lower than usual.
  - c. **Touchstone Theatre:** The next step with this project is to begin sharing the essays to the EAC's Facebook page.
8. **New business:** Before the Clean up on Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>, Seven Sirens Brewing Company is doing a City-wide clean up. Those who participate in the clean-up will receive discounts at all the Bethlehem breweries.
9. **Agenda for next meeting (Nov. 5)**
- a. **Bethlehem Food Co-Op (BFC):** The annual BFC meeting will be held on Monday (10/5). Kathy will provide more updates in November.

**10. Meeting adjourned @ 7:51 PM.**