

**Bethlehem Environmental Advisory Council
General Meeting
December 3, 2020**

Attendees: EAC Members: Lynn Rothman (Chair), Elisabeth Cichonski (Secretary), Beth Behrend, Ben Guthrie, Ben Felzer, Brian Nicas, Jane Cook (Bethlehem Backyards for Wildlife), Katharine Targett Gross (Lehigh University), Mike Albanese.

Call To Order @ 7:02 PM

1. **Approval of minutes (November):** Motion to approve the minutes made by Ben F., seconded by Brian, approved unanimously.
2. **Place citizens' comments on agenda:** None.
3. **Chair's comments & amendments to agenda:** Doug Roysdon thanked the EAC for our letter in support of the Pedestrian Bridge.
The Bethlehem Food Co-Op is up to 745 members.
4. **Board comments and announcements:** None.
5. **Committee reports:**
 - a. **Bethlehem Backyards for Wildlife (BBFW):** Jane will be giving a year-end report for BBFW at the next City Council meeting.
 - b. **Green Committee:** A meeting regarding work at the Rose Garden was held yesterday. Park refurbishment will occur this winter. The Rose Garden will be expanded to include native and pollinator-friendly plants. Plantings need to be ordered by the end of this month. Mites and disease have been killing the roses over the past 5 years. Discussion was held about renaming the Rose Garden to encompass entire park.
One of the Green Committee's goal's is to revise the City's tree ordinances in the new year.
Ben G. suggested reviewing green stormwater infrastructure.
6. **External committee reports:**
 - a. **City Council:** Ben F. was reappointed to the EAC at the last City Council meeting.
 - b. **Planning & Zoning:** The Dec. 9th Zoning Hearing Board meeting was cancelled because the applicant withdrew the request for a Use Variance at 2105 Creek Road.
7. **Unfinished business:**
 - a. **Climate Action Plan:** The final public meeting next Wednesday Dec. 9th. Some of the EAC members will be presenting proposed strategies.
Ben F. will be presenting on education, Beth on food waste, Elisabeth on electricity sourcing, and Lynn on land use and green space.

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8. New business

- a. **Partner with Lehigh Students:** Beth/Elisabeth will get in touch with Katharine about creating internship opportunities with the EAC for Lehigh students.
Analytics: The website and Facebook page are both receiving a good amount of traffic.
 - b. Meeting dates for 2021 first Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm.
9. Agenda for next meeting (January 7): Projects looking forward for 2021 and potential speakers.

10. Adjourn @ 7:49 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Elisabeth Cichonski, Secretary