

**Bethlehem Environmental Advisory Council  
General Meeting  
January 7, 2016**

**Attendees:** Present were Council members Lynn Rothman (Chair), Jack Gambino and Mike Topping.

**Approval of December Minutes:** Since a quorum was not present, the minutes for December 2<sup>nd</sup> were tabled until the February Meeting. (Although mentioned in the December 2<sup>nd</sup> minutes, the proposed meeting on December 16 was cancelled)

**Citizens Comments:** None

**Chair's Comments:** Lynn advised City Hall of our revised schedule for day and place of EAC meetings (first Thursday of the month at the Illick's Mill at 6 PM) and will tell the Bethlehem Press as required for proper notice. She and Kalyna went to the "Summit for Smart Growth" in Allentown and found it interesting. She also met with Darlene Heller at a transportation meeting and asked that the EAC be advised of any developments, which might involve environmental concerns. The EAC had written a letter concerning changes to the Martin Tower property and she will send one to Darlene. Lynn noted that Ralph Carp will begin attending our meetings and that he will begin an educational program with the Wildlands Conservancy along the Monocacy.

**Board Comments:** Mike noted that "Lehigh Valley Sustainable Landscapes" bus tours used to be held where various sustainable projects were toured in the area. The Emmaus Park System, Green Pond, the Park adjacent to Saucon Valley School District property, the Lower Mt. Bethel Environmental Center and various housing developments where sustainable methods were used to deal with storm water were some of the projects visited. Jack noted that Muhlenberg has a number of native plant gardens, rooftop gardens, detention ponds and other sustainable facilities and thought that Kalyna, as Sustainability Coordinator for the College, might be able to provide a guided tour of the campus. Lynn recommended that we also identify places in Bethlehem where similar activities have been built. Jack said that once places or activities are found, they should be catalogued for future reference.

**Sub Committee Reports:**

**Energy:** No report.

**Green Committee:** No report.

**Lehigh Valley Bird Town Coalition:** No report, next meeting will be in March.

**Transportation:** Lynn reported that the City did not get the grant for the bike share program but is looking to develop a pedestrian safety program in the spring including informational flyers, better street markings and signage to help pedestrians & motorist to find their way around the City. A discussion followed concerning dangers posed by digital signs which distract the motorist and the need for street type signage to direct people, especially from out of town, to local institutions or points of interest.

**External Committee Reports:**

**Zoning:** No report.

**City Planning:** No report.

**City Council:** No report. Lynn will try to get the latest version of the EAC By-Laws from the City Clerk.

**Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45.**