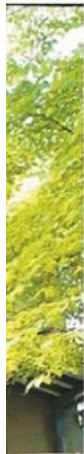


The Bethlehem Gadfly Airbnb, Short term lodging January 18, 2020

The Bethlehem Gadfly Airbnb, Short term lodging January 18, 2020

A “Town Square” in today’s *Morning Call*. A thorny issue as you can see if you browse [past posts](#) in this thread. There’s a short-term lodging ordinance on the agenda for Tuesday’s City Council meeting. So it’s time to pay attention. Gadfly will post again on this issue in the near future, before the meeting.





rent via

ows us
ie. And
rbnb in-
addi-
through

Related Stories

Renters hit with lakeside rules

The News-Times 18 Jan 2020

Mel's World

Computer Shopper 1 Feb 2020

Airbnb pays all required taxes including the hotel occupancy tax for Lehigh County. This is how Airbnb generates more tax income for our area.

We rent out the guest room of our house and we never host guests when we are not home. Many of our guests are young people who come to Bethlehem for job interviews, to attend concerts and festivals, for weddings, to see family or to explore the area. These people go out for meals, drinks, go shopping, pay Uber drivers, and spend money in our area on all kinds of other things.

We follow Bethlehem's ordinance on short-term rentals: we do not rent out more than two rooms (in

fact, we only have one guest room) and no guest can stay longer than 30 days at a time (we have never had longterm guests). We have a business license and we have our house inspected every year as Article 1741 requires, resulting in additional repairs and costs.

What we offer falls in a very different price range than most of the hotels in our area. I doubt that most of our guests would have stayed at one of the hotels if the Airbnb option did not exist. The Bethlehem hotels are not our competition.

Airbnb is generating income that is beneficial for our neighborhoods and for our city. It makes our city more attractive to visitors and by

investing in our properties, our neighborhoods become better places.

Paul Peucker works as an archivist and is a resident of West Bethlehem.



Write a comment...



Page View



Share



Comment



Save



More



The Morning Call
18 Jan 2020 (13) & Personalized

What

