

# **Bethlehem Environmental Advisory Council News: funding for the Climate Action Plan and a position available**

The Bethlehem Gadfly | Climate Action Plan, Environment, Environmental Advisory Council, Serious  
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 *The latest in a series of posts relating to the environment,  
Bethlehem's Climate*

*Action Plan, and Bethlehem's Environmental Advisory Council* 

*Lynn Rothman is an Environmental Scientist, having previously worked for the Environmental Protection Agency. She currently chairs the Bethlehem Environmental Advisory Council and serves on the board of the Sustainable Energy Fund, among other volunteer activities with non-profit organizations.*

## **November 21st Budget Meeting**

*At the November 21st budget meeting, it was announced that the City budgeted \$80,000 for a consultant to complete a Climate Action Plan in 2020 (General Fund p. 166). The EAC commends the City for moving ahead with this important initiative and its commitment to climate action. We appreciate the time and effort spent by the Dept. of Public Works to bring us to this point in the process. The EAC is proud of our City and will continue to assist in the climate action planning process in every way possible.*

*We also support Councilman Reynolds' remarks during the budget meeting stating that the City could focus more on sustainability. He emphasized that this is especially important given the uncertainty of the recycling market and because the priority of actions to most effectively manage waste and protect the environment is to Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. As Councilman Reynolds stated, "We talk about the idea of building a sustainable city, and we do not have a director of*

sustainability.” He continued to say that while many departments are doing a fantastic job of individually contributing to this effort, as we move forward with the Climate Action Plan, there may be an opportunity to have a point person on sustainability, possibly as part of the Dept. of Recycling.

(For Councilman Reynolds’ comments, go to the [City video](#) of the November 21 budget meeting, min. 45:30.)

### **EAC Members**

Bethlehem EAC member Kathy Fox has resigned from the council in order to devote more time to her new position as board member of the Bethlehem Food Co-Op. Kathy will be sorely missed on the EAC, where she has been a strong and vocal advocate for sustainability, green infrastructure, and climate action. Kathy chairs our Solar Energy Committee, and we are fortunate that she will continue her connection with the EAC, albeit in a different capacity.

Residents of Bethlehem City who would like to apply for a position on the EAC may email a letter of interest, along with a resume to Adam Waldron, Council President, at [awaldron@bethlehem-pa.gov](mailto:awaldron@bethlehem-pa.gov). Please copy “Members of City Council” on the letter of interest. When sending, copy the email to [Clerks@bethlehem-pa.gov](mailto:Clerks@bethlehem-pa.gov), enabling the City Clerk to distribute your application to Members of Council. Alternatively, a hard copy may be mailed to 10 East Church Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018.

Lynn

*It’s Saturday, November 23, do you know where your local Climate Action Plan is?*