

**Mt. Lebanon Environmental Sustainability Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**December 12, 2019 - Room C**

- **Call Meeting to Order**

Roll Call:

**Attendees:**

Abby Lawler Morycz  
Bethany Foster-Wilhelm  
Nora Alwine  
Timothy Reidy  
Sarah Levinthal  
Andrew Flynn, Commissioner-Elect  
Keith McGill, Municipal Manager  
Hugh Beal, School Board Liaison  
Bonnie Cross, Staff Liaison

**Absent:**

Heather Wechter  
Kelly Fraasch, Commission Liaison

- **Public Comment.** None

- **Approval of November, 2019 Minutes.** Nora motioned to approve the November, 2019 minutes. Bethany seconded and all members in attendance approved.

- **Commission Business**

- **Composting Discussion – The Compost People, LLC.** Netty Bordeaux and Rich Salvante, owners of the Compost People, spoke to the Board about their subscription composting service. Since they are residents of Mt. Lebanon, they felt that this would be a good community to pilot their program. They already have some large clients (PNC Bank, University of Pittsburgh, and Mt. Lebanon High School Cafeteria). The business has two DEP-approved farms that they partner with where the compost is taken. They explained that:
  - The cost is \$18/month
  - Weekly curbside pick-ups
  - Subscription includes a five-gallon container and some bags, plus the option to receive composted material (?) back if requested.

The Compost People are hoping that the ESB will endorse them and they have plans to advertise at Earth Day. Payment will be by credit card or bank only. Their tentative start date is February 1, 2020, but they were uncertain regarding the municipality's ordinance regarding the service.

Keith McGill, Municipal Manager, explained that the service is required to have a closed container. He also stated that the municipality could assist them in reaching out to the trash hauler, Waste Management, to coordinate when necessary.

Hugh Beal, the new School Board Liaison, asked about the participation in the schools. It was explained that the kitchen staff is great, but having the high school students' cooperation is more of a challenge.

- **ESB Business**

- **Public Space Improvement/Vibrant Uptown Project.** Keith McGill advised the Board that the project had slowed somewhat. Since this is a major effort by the municipality and its stakeholders that won't be repeated for decades, every effort was being made to ensure that the project was done correctly. There are several phases, beginning with the sidewalks, lighting and conduits. Other components include accessibility, place-making (public art), and overall design. Specialists in some of these areas have been retained, and a Leadership Committee has been established, which includes future ESB Commission Liaison, Andrew Flynn.

Keith also explained that in the near future, meetings will be taped and made accessible for committee members to review, and a newsletter will be done to advise the community regarding the progress of the project.

- **School Board Liaison.** Hugh Beal, Mt. Lebanon School Board Member, introduced himself and explained that he would be the district's liaison to the ESB. He stated that his mission was to reduce the school's carbon footprint. He would like to get all of the district's students on-board. Andrew commented that the best way to do this in his opinion was to begin with the elementary students. Hugh also advised that he was trying to get the school district to purchase renewable energy and noted that the cost was only marginally higher than conventional electricity. When asked about the municipality, Keith said that it was currently in a three-year contract.

In regard to renewable energy, ESB members were excited that money had been budgeted to look into solar panels for the Library roof. Keith explained that the important detail regarding this was that the roof was being reconstructed. Since the engineering had not been done, this could be explored.

Andrew asked the ESB where they saw the Board going – what were their goals. He explained that he thought that in order for the Board to effect more sustainable practices in the municipality, it was important to develop policies that the Commission could approve to drive sustainability efforts, especially in capital projects.

- **New Business.** Keith advised the Board that a cooperative agreement among Mt. Lebanon, Dormont, Upper St. Clair, and Bethel Park was being developed with the PRC to have a permanent glass drop off in Bethel Park near the state store.
- **Adjournment.** Sarah motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Tim, and unanimously approved by the members present.