

MINUTES OF THE POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 28, 2016
(Approved October 26, 2016)

The Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee held their monthly meeting on September 28, 2016. Attending the meeting were Ed Reitz, Douglass Township; Ryan Procsal (Treasurer) and Dan Weand, Pottstown Borough; Dominic Gentile, West Pottsgrove Township; Jim Marks and Bill Soumis, North Coventry Township; Tom Troutman, Lower Pottsgrove Township; Kurt Zebrowski (Vice Chair), New Hanover Township; Michael Moyer (Chair) and Walter Woessner, East Coventry Township; Gregory Churach and Elwood Taylor, Upper Pottsgrove Township.

John Cover – Montgomery County Planning Commission
Donna Fabry – Montgomery County Planning Commission

Bonnie L. Frisco – Recording Secretary

1. Meeting Called to Order

Mr. Moyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Mr. Moyer did a roll call and all communities were represented.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

4. Review of May Meeting Minutes

Mr. Troutman moved to approve the May 25, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Reitz moved to approve the June, July, August and September Treasurer's Reports. Mr. Marks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Gigabit Revolution Initiative Update

Mr. Taylor noted that Upper Pottsgrove Township requested a quote for the gigabit service at the township building and the initial cost was \$120,000 over 3 years and ongoing costs were very expensive.

7. Development of Regional Significance – Zern Tract, Douglass Township

Ms. Fabry provided an overview of the Zern Tract project in Douglass Township. The project is on 28.5 gross acres and proposes 240 townhomes and 7.4 acres of open space. Mr. Reitz noted concerns of access issues and emergency access issues. There was discussion of the PMRPC sending a letter of support to Douglass Township regarding concerns of this project.

Mr. Weand moved to send a letter of support to Douglass Township from the Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee citing concerns regarding the Zern Tract Project which include regional traffic issues, access to Route 100, lack of emergency access, more amenities on southern half of tract and lack of street trees. Mr. Troutman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Cover noted the concern of traffic control at the intersection of Philadelphia Avenue and Jackson Road.

8. Development of Regional Significance – Sanatoga Green, Lower Pottsgrove Township

Ms. Fabry provided an overview of the Sanatoga Green project in Lower Pottsgrove Township. The project is on 51.75 gross acres and proposes 159 townhomes, 341 multi-family dwellings, clubhouse, medical office, 100-room hotel totaling 17 buildings. There was discussion of the PMRPC sending a letter of support regarding concerns of this project. It was noted that a fee in lieu of has been provided for open space.

Mr. Woessner moved to send a letter of support to Lower Pottsgrove Township from the Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee citing concerns regarding the Sanatoga Green Project which include traffic issues, access issues and need for additional open space. Mr. Gentile seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Greenway Study Update

Mr. Cover noted that the project team is identifying ways to create green infrastructure and they will provide a presentation at next month's meeting.

10. Circuit Rider Update

Ms. Fabry noted that the former Circuit Rider, Justin Keller, has taken the position of Assistant Borough Manager for Pottstown Borough. The committee is conducting a candidate search and had offered the job to one individual but the candidate had found another job so the committee is considering offering the job to the second candidate.

11. Mini Grant Update

No update.

12. Municipal Updates

Douglass Township

Mr. Reitz noted the Zern Tract is the only item to report for Douglass Township.

East Coventry Township

Mr. Woessner noted that the new elementary school got their building bids but noted that the plans have not been recorded.

Lower Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Troutman noted the Spring Valley development (178 homes) and the Sanatoga Green project. Mr. Troutman noted Coventry Christian is proposing land development and also noted that the attendance has increased since the improvements to the band shell.

New Hanover Township

Mr. Zebrowski noted new plans were received for the airport property and noted offsite improvement at Bermont Motors.

North Coventry Township

Mr. Marks noted there is nothing new to report for North Coventry.

Pottstown Borough

Mr. Procsal noted the Borough received \$100,000 from the County DA for security cameras.

Upper Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Taylor noted that the Farmington Avenue development is coming to a close.

West Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Gentile provided a 1097 State Street project update.

13. School District Updates

Boyertown Area

No one was present.

Owen J. Roberts

No one was present.

Pottsgrove

No one was present.

Pottstown

No one was present.

14. MCPC Update

Mr. Cover noted that the Montgomery County Planning Commission is completing a guide book for best practices for older institutional buildings, i.e. church and hospitals. There will be a meeting in Ambler on October 26 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

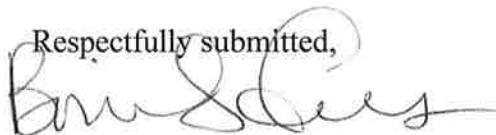
15. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

16. Adjournment

Mr. Reitz moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Mr. Gentile seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Bonnie L. Frisco
Recording Secretary

