

MINUTES OF THE POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 26, 2014

The Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee held their monthly meeting on February 26, 2014. Attending the meeting were Ed Reitz and Peter Hiryak, Douglass Township; Renee Spaide, Upper Pottsgrove Township; Michael Albert Moyer and Walter Woessner, East Coventry Township; Stephen Toroney and Ryan Procsal, Pottstown Borough; and Jim Marks, North Coventry Township; Charlie Valentine, West Pottsgrove Township; and Kurt Zebrowski, New Hanover Township.

John Cover – Montgomery County Planning Commission
Meredith Curran – Montgomery County Planning Commission

Bonnie L. Frisco – Recording Secretary

1. Welcome and Meeting Called to order.

Mr. Reitz called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Mr. Reitz did a roll call. Lower Pottsgrove Township was not represented.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

4. Introduction of New Members

The group introduced themselves.

5. Reorganization of Leadership

Mr. Toroney moved to have Mr. Zebrowski as Chair. Mr. Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Toroney moved to have Mr. Moyer as Vice Chair. Ms. Spaide seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Toroney moved to have Mr. Procsal as Treasurer. Mr. Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Reitz moved to have Ms. Frisco as Recording Secretary. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Review of the December 5, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Reitz moved to approve the December 5, 2013 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Toroney seconded the motion. The motion carried with Mr. Zebrowski abstaining.

7. Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation

Dave Kraybill of Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation was present and noted that the grant application was approved for the 5-year commitment for the Regional Recreation Coordinator.

8. Summary of Regional Planning Activities

Ms. Curran provided an overview of the items of the Regional Planning Committee's activities. These items included but not limited to Comprehensive Plan Update, Recently Completed Fiscal Impact and Economic Development Reports, Mini-Grants and Circuit Rider Programs and Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission Highway Capacity Analysis.

Mr. Cover provided an overview of a potential future study: the Multi-Regional Stewardship Plan (Natural Lands Trust). Mr. Cover noted that Multi-Regional Stewardship Plan would address natural plants and support wildlife and noted that Natural Lands Transfer is applying for a grant for the study. Mr. Cover noted that a steering committee will need to be formed with representatives from all four regions (totaling twenty-six municipalities).

9. Issue of Regional Significance – North Coventry Zoning Change

There was a discussion regarding a proposed North Coventry Zoning Change. A Zoning change is proposed along Route 100 to change the zoning from TND2 to TND3 creating an overlay. Ms. Curran provided an overview of permitted used for TND 1-3. It was noted that the underlying zoning would not change.

Mr. Toroney moved that the proposed North Coventry Zoning Change is consistent with the Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Comprehensive Plan – Land Use Chapter Update

Ms. Curran provided an update of the revised Future Land Use Categories and Maps.

11. Municipal Updates

Douglass Township

Mr. Reitz noted that there has not been much progress with the Wawa project and there is nothing new to report for Douglass Township.

East Coventry Township

Mr. Parson noted that East Coventry Township is reviewing a Zoning Ordinance amendment submitted by a developer to allow a townhouse community to clustering and 60% open space.

Lower Pottsgrove Township

No one was present from Lower Pottsgrove Township to provide an update.

New Hanover Township

Mr. Zebrowski stated that the township offices are moving and the police will use the existing building.

North Coventry Township

Mr. Marks noted that the Planning Commission is reviewing a plan from CVS to utilize the old Lone Star space and have a standalone store to be built by the end of the year. Mr. Marks noted that North Coventry has hired an architect to look at building new public works and administration facilities along Route 100 south of Lowe's.

Pottstown Borough

Mr. Toroney noted that Patient First on Route 100 has opened. The Borough's proposed Comprehensive Plan is available for review on the website. Mr. Toroney stated that a micro distillery will be moving to Progress Circle.

Upper Pottsgrove Township

Ms. Spaide noted that Upper Pottsgrove Township's open space program is growing.

West Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Valentine noted that there is nothing new to report for West Pottsgrove Township.

Treasurer's Reports

Ms. Spaide moved to approve the January and February Treasurer's reports with an ending balance of \$133,897.33. Mr. Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

12. 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.

13. MCPC Update

There was nothing new to report for the MCPC.

14. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

15. Adjournment

Mr. Toroney moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Mr. Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco
Recording Secretary