

MINUTES OF THE POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN  
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF DECEMBER 4, 2014  
(Approved January 28, 2015)

The Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee held their monthly meeting on December 4, 2014. Attending the meeting were Walter Woessner, East Coventry Township; Ryan Procsal and Steve Toroney, Pottstown Borough; Charlie Valentine, West Pottsgrove Township; Elwood Taylor and Renee Spaide, Upper Pottsgrove Township; Jim Marks, North Coventry Township; Kurt Zebrowski, New Hanover Township; Peter Hiryak, Douglass Township; and Tom Troutman, Lower Pottsgrove 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. Zebrowski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Mr. Zebrowski did a roll call and all were represented.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**4. Review of the October 22, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Troutman moved to approve the October 22, 2014 meeting minutes as presented. Ms. Spaide seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**5. Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Troutman moved to approve the November Treasurer's Report with a balance of \$147,478.10. Ms. Spaide seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

There was discussion regarding the bank accounts and it was agreed that separate accounts should be opened for the different projects and it was suggested the treasurer look into another bank. There was also discussion regarding multiple signatures on the account.

Mr. Toroney moved to have Ryan Procsal, Jim Marks, and Renee Spaide as signers on the bank accounts. Mr. Woessner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**6. Zoning Change of Regional Significance: Lower Pottsgrove**

A new Preservation Overlay District (PSD) is proposed for Lower Pottsgrove. The proposed change would only affect a couple properties.

Mr. Toroney moved that that the Preservation Overlay District (PSD) in Lower Pottsgrove Township is generally consistent with the Regional Comprehensive Plan and the Committee agrees that Lower Pottsgrove follow through with adoption. Ms. Spaide seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**7. Regional Comprehensive Plan**

Comments/Feedback

There were no new comments or feedback at this time.

Vote to Solicit Official Comments (begin 45-day comment period)

Mr. Toroney moved to start the comment period and authorize the distribution of the proposed Regional Comprehensive Plans for review and to have the review period start December 12. Ms. Spaide seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**8. Mini-Grants Close-Out Procedures**

Ms. Curran noted that DCNR is required to hold a percentage of the of the grants (\$10,000) until all the Round 1 grant monies are distributed and requested that the group make a motion to use \$10,000 from the PMRPC funds until DCNR releases the remaining \$10,000.

Mr. Toroney moved to utilize the \$10,000 from the PMRPC funds for the grant distributions. Ms. Spaide seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**9. DVRPC Tri-County Transportation Projects Ideas**

The group discussed potential project ideas to be funded by DVRPC grants. There is an annual grant amount of \$60,000 for PMRPC projects. Ideas noted were trail connection study, reuse of empty properties, traffic calming study, and walking/bike trail improvements. The group may send their ideas to Ms. Curran.

**10. Municipal Updates**

Douglass Township

Mr. Hyriak noted that Wawa is moving forward with their project and the stormwater facilities and road improvement will be done in early Spring and also noted that Turkey Hill is pursuing an overlay district. Also noted was Bermont Motors property potential development of a convenience store, dealership and repair shop. Douglass Township adopted a new sign ordinance.

East Coventry Township

Mr. Woessner noted that East Coventry is reviewing a preliminary plan for 80 townhomes.

Lower Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Troutman noted that Lower Pottsgrove did not have an increase in taxes, sewer or trash.

New Hanover Township

Mr. Zebrowski noted that there is nothing new to report for New Hanover Township.

North Coventry Township

Mr. Marks noted that North Coventry is looking at a tax increase due to the reassessment of the mall. CVS is in final approval and they will tear down the Lone Star building a start construction in March.

Pottstown Borough

Mr. Toroney stated that the contract was awarded for the Borough garage and bids came in for trash collections and the contract will probably be awarded with a decrease. Fecera's is reapplying for housing tax credits. There was a meeting with the Senator and there was discussion regarding grant monies for new LED lighting in town for a possible saving of \$1M.

The Keystone Boulevard was noted and requests for interest have been sent to developers and the end product – specific plan will take a lot of expense off the developer. A meeting is being held between Pottstown Borough, West Pottsgrove Township and PAID to discuss \$264,000 grant.

Upper Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Taylor and Ms. Spaide attended the grand opening of Citadel Bank.

West Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Valentine noted that a comic book store and Men's Warehouse is moving to Upland.

**11. 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.

**12. MCPC Update**

Mr. Cover noted that a \$100,000 grant was received from DCNR for the Greenway Study Stewardship Plan.

The Committee set the 2015 meetings for the Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee to be held every fourth Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. (January through October) and a meeting will be held the first Thursday in December at 7:00 p.m. The meetings will be held at Pottstown Borough Hall.

**13. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**14. Adjournment**

Mr. Troutman moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Mr. Toroney seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bonnie L. Frisco".

Bonnie L. Frisco  
Recording Secretary