

MINUTES OF THE POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 24, 2016
(Approved March 23, 2016)

The Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee held their monthly meeting on February 24, 2016. Attending the meeting were Ed Reitz and Peter Hiyrak, Douglass Township; Dan Weand and Ryan Procsal (Treasurer), 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; and Walter Woessner, East Coventry Township.

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

Bonnie L. Frisco – Recording Secretary

1. Meeting Called to Order

Mr. Zebrowski called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Mr. Zebrowski did a roll call and Upper Pottsgrove Township was not represented.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

4. Review of January Meeting Minutes

Mr. Troutman moved to approve the January 27, 2016 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Zebrowski moved to approve the February Treasurer's Reports. Mr. Marks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Regional Events Calendar Survey

Evan Brandt presented an overview of the Pottstown Regional Events Website Survey Results. Mr. Brandt is looking into ways to fund the regional calendar and make it available to the public through various outlets.

7. Circuit Rider Update

Ms. Fabry noted that Justin Keller brought in \$300,000 from DCNR for regional projects.

8. Mini Grant Update

Ms. Fabry noted that a response was received from DCNR and all the projects that were submitted were approved.

9. Regional Traffic Impact Study – TCDI Grant Opportunity

Douglass Township is trying to get a TCDI Grant for a Traffic Impact Study. Mr. Cover suggested that possibly the region could apply for a TCDI grant. Mr. Cover noted that the grant application may carry more weight if it is presented as a regional project. Mr. Cover noted that this item could be placed on the March agenda and he can reach out to DVRPC to attend the March meeting. Mr. Hiryak noted that Douglass Township is updating its Act 209 Study and 23 new intersections will be added to their study.

10. Gigabit Initiative (Ultra High Speed Broadband System)

Mr. Cover asked the group if they would like someone to be present at the next meeting to discuss Gigabit Initiative. The group agreed to have the item placed on next month’s agenda. Mr. Brandt noted that there is a survey available about Gigabit Initiative and Ms. Fabry stated that she would forward the survey to the region’s representatives.

11. Greenway Study Update

Mr. Cover noted that the Greenway Study is progressing and the first steering committee meeting is planned to be held in March. Mr. Soumis and Mr. Troutman are serving on the committee.

12. Municipal Updates

Douglass Township

Mr. Reitz noted a new highway building at Municipal Drive and noted that the Quigley project is denied.

East Coventry Township

Mr. Woessner noted that updated plans for the new school have been received.

Lower Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Troutman noted that Lower Pottsgrove passed its floodplain ordinance and noted Sanatoga Green a 508-unit project on Evergreen Road. Also noted was Spring Valley a 178-unit project on Saylor Hill Road and Landis Store is to open March 1 at the old Thriftway location. Also noted is the grand opening of Sunnybrook on March 4, also noted is a pre-construction meeting scheduled to discuss improving the band shell at Sanatoga Park.

New Hanover Township

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

North Coventry Township

Mr. Marks noted that the meeting with the company who had showed interest in the mall site has not been rescheduled. Mr. Marks noted that North Coventry received a \$200,000 grant to go towards their new Public Works building.

Pottstown Borough

Mr. Procsal noted that the Fecera’s project is moving along. Mr. Procsal noted Habitat for Humanity projects to begin in April.

Upper Pottsgrove Township

No one was present.

West Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Gentile noted that Starbucks and Aspen Dental are moving to Upland Square. Mr. Gentile made note of an upcoming EMS Charity Event and the Fish Rodeo.

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

Ms. Fabry noted that new grant opportunities are opening up for implementation of comprehensive plans and there would be \$1M over 5 years.

15. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

16. Adjournment

Mr. Troutman moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Mr. Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Bonnie L. Frisco
Recording Secretary