

MINUTES OF THE POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN  
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 23, 2019  
(Approved February 27, 2019)

The Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee held a meeting on January 23, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

**Attending were:** Douglass Township- Ed Reitz  
East Coventry Township- Walter Woessner, Michael Moyer  
Lower Pottsgrove Township – Tom Troutman  
North Coventry Township – Jim Marks, Bill Soumis  
New Hanover Township – Kurt Zebrowski  
Pottstown Borough – Not represented  
Upper Pottsgrove Township –Elwood Taylor, Greg Churach  
West Pottsgrove Township – Not represented  
Montgomery County Planning Commission – John Cover, Marley Bice  
Recording Secretary – Bonnie L. Frisco

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

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

**2. Roll Call**

Mr. Reitz did a roll call and all municipalities were represented with the exception of West Pottsgrove Township and Pottstown Borough.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**4. Reorganization**

Ms. Bice proceeded with the reorganization and asked for nominations for the position of Chair.

Mr. Zebrowski moved to nominate Mr. Reitz to be appointed the Chair, with there being no other nominations, Mr. Troutman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Reitz then proceeded with the meeting.

Mr. Reitz moved to nominate Mr. Soumis to be appointed the Vice Chair, with there being no other nominations, Mr. Moyer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Reitz moved to nominate Mr. Procsal be appointed the Treasurer, with there being no other nominations, Mr. Moyer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

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

**5. Review of the December 2018 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Woessner moved to approve the December 6, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Troutman seconded the motion. The motion carried with one abstention from Mr. Zebrowski as he was not present at the December 6, 2018 meeting.

**6. Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Soumis moved to approve the December and January Treasurers Reports. Mr. Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**7. Presentation: Pottstown Region Traffic Analysis Initial Results (Part 2)**

Camden Palvino, Transportation Planner for Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) provided a presentation of the Pottstown Regional Traffic Analysis Initial Results (Part 2). The project is a 2-year project and the final report is to be completed in June 2019. The following intersections and recommendations were discussed.

**10. Middle Creek and Congo Road:** Add stop signs on Congo Road, add stop bars, install street light, install intersection advance warning signs on Congo Road.

**11. PA 73 and Middle Creek Road:** Add dead end signage, install flexible delineator posts and signage to restrict turns between Short Road and PA 73, add stop bars, install street light, add centerline and edgeline, add sharrows on Middle Creek Road, install advance warning signs, widen roadway to add left-turn lanes on PA 73, install buffered bicycle lane within PA 73 shoulders to connect to proposed trail on Gilbertsville Road to the west, install traffic signal.

There was lengthy discussion regarding this intersection and Sandy Koza, McMahon and Associates, contributed several talking points, questions and suggestions.

**12. State Road and Farmington Avenue:** Install advance warning signs, install raised pavement markers, install street light, install signage to indicate roadway split, SBR traffic must yield, level grade of existing parking lot and create channelized NB lane to allow right and left turns.

**13. Bleim Road and PA 663:** Widen roadway to add SB left-turn lane, install raised pavement markers on PA 663, install street light, install advance warning signs, install traffic signal, add stop bars.

**14. Bleim Road and New Hanover Square Road:** Installed raised pavement markers on Bleim Road, install street light, add stop bar, maintain minimum clear zone by removing brush, add dotted extension of edgeline through intersection, install advance warning signs.

**15. Bleim Road and Pleasantview Road:** Add advance warning sign on WB approach, install traffic signal, add stop bars, install street lights, add NB and SB left-turn lanes, realign road geometry.

**16. High Street and Sanatoga Road:** Install temporary radar feedback trailer, add dotted extension of edgeline through intersection, install intersection advance warnings signs, add stop bar on NB approach, maintain left-turn markings, move stop bars closer to intersection.

17. **PA 724 and Wells Road:** Add marked crosswalk, warning signage, and wayfinding signage for trail crossing, add sharrows for cyclists to access trail, add stop bars, add SRT wayfinding signage on PA 724, reduce shoulder width to accommodate programmed left-turn auxiliary lanes, install street lights, install traffic signal, create sidewalk connection on Wells Road to SRT, add intersection warning signs, install marked crosswalks and ADA ramps at intersection, add trail crossing pavement markings.
18. **Bethel Church Road and PA 23:** Add stop sign to other side of road for both approaches, install street light, add advance warning sign for hidden driveway, add stop bars on Bethel Church Road, add dotted extension of edgeline through intersection, reduce radius of SB right-turn.

A draft of the report will be provided to the MCPC in April and to the PMRPC in May and final report by June 30, 2019.

Discussion continued. Sandy Koza, McMahon and Associates representative, presented several inquiries and Mr. Palvino responded. Noted was the ability to plan projects more efficiently and cost-effective utilizing communications with PennDot. Funding recommendations applicable to the projects will be provided.

Mr. Moyer, East Coventry Township, exited the meeting at this time of 8:21 p.m.

## 8. **Montgomery County Complete Streets Policy**

Crystal Gilchrist, Principal Transportation Planner for the Montgomery County Planning Commission, was presented and provided a brief overview of the Montgomery County Complete Streets Policy. Mrs. Gilchrist noted that Montgomery County Planning Commission received a grant from the University of Pittsburgh, for County roads and bridges. The grant can be used to make streets accessible to all walkers, bikes, cars, noting High Street as a good example of this use. Thirty percent of the population does not drive and the goal is to ensure that everyone has access to roads and land uses. The grant is for six months. Greater sustainability provides more options and the potential for less drivers.

## 9. **Municipal Updates**

### Douglass Township

Mr. Reitz noted there is nothing additional to report for Douglass Township.

### East Coventry Township

Mr. Woessner noted there is nothing additional to report for East Coventry Township.

### Lower Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Troutman noted that Spring Valley has brought back plans with changes to the Planning Commission. The plans for the storage units on N. Charlotte Street are back at the Planning Commission for review.

### New Hanover Township

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

### North Coventry Township

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

Pottstown Borough

There was nobody present to provide an update for Pottstown Borough.

Upper Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Taylor noted there is nothing additional to report for Upper Pottsgrove Township.

West Pottsgrove Township

There was nobody present to provide an update for West Pottsgrove Township.

**10. 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.

**11. MCPC Update**

Ms. Bice noted that renewable energy at the municipal level will be discussed at the February meeting.

Ms. Bice noted that a draft of the 2018 PMRPC Annual Report will be presented at the February meeting for the Committee's review.

Ms. Bice noted the Montco 2040 grant program applications are due March 1 and project categories include walkability, sustainability, and support of downtown areas.

**12. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**13. Adjournment**

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

Respectfully submitted,



Bonnie L. Frisco  
Recording Secretary