

MINUTES OF THE POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 6, 2018
(Approved January 23, 2019)

The Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee held a meeting on December 6, 2018 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 – Not represented
Pottstown Borough – Ryan Procsal
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 New Hanover Township. Mr. Procsal, representing Pottstown Borough, arrived immediately following roll call at 7:02 p.m.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

4. Review of the October 2018 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Woessner moved to approve the October 24, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Troutman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Review of 2019 Meeting Dates

Mr. Troutman moved to approve the PMRPC 2019 meeting dates as presented, the fourth Wednesday of each month except for November and December where a combined meeting will be held December 5, 2019. All meetings will be held at Pottstown Borough Hall at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Moyer moved to approve the November Treasurers Report. Mr. Churach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Presentation: Pottstown Region Traffic Analysis Initial Results (Part 1)

Karen Whitaker, Transportation Planner for Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) provided a presentation of the Pottstown Regional Traffic Analysis Initial Results. 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.

1. **Manatawny Street and Grosstown Road:** Install raised pavement markers, install ADA ramps, pedestrian crossing sign, and marked crosswalk to Manatawny Trail, add stop bar, add sharrows as part of proposed Manatawny Trail, install 'share the road' signs to accompany sharrows and non-vehicular warning signs, construct sidewalk connection from Colebrookdale Road to Manatawny Trail.
2. **Manatawny Street and Sell Road:** Add pedestrian warning signs, add street light on Sell Road in advance of intersection, maintain stop bar marking, install raised pavement markers, install pedestrian crossing signs, install marked crosswalk and ADA ramps.
3. **Manatawny Street and Glasgow Street:** Add street light, add formal parking to Glasgow Street, new location for Wendell Rd advance warning sign, remove on-street parking on Manatawny Street, add bump-outs by on-street parking, add pavement marking for bus stop, upgrade curb ramps to be ADA compliant, add pedestrian warning signs, extend curb on SB side, add marked crosswalks and in-street pedestrian sign, add 'yield to pedestrian' signs and stop bars on Glasgow Street.
4. **High Street and Moser Road:** Do not allow left-turns into driveways on High Street, remove grass strip to make bus shelter assessable, allow 3S LPI for N-S crosswalk, realign and upgrade crosswalks and ADA ramps, move stop bar forward, force EBL turning vehicles to enter gas station from the back, right-out only from west driveway.
5. **High Street and Armand Hammer Blvd:** New left turn signal (PADOT project), add bus stop loading pad, channelized right-turn eliminated, move stop bar back, align new marked crosswalks, consolidate PART/SEPTA bus stops, widen shoulder to create bus bay, add 4-second NB, SB and WB protected left-turns, reduce EB through green time by 11 seconds.
6. **Armand Hammer Blvd and Medical Drive:** Install marked crosswalks and ADA ramps for pedestrians and PART riders, add NB right-turn lane on Armand Hammer Blvd, widen sidewalk SB on Armand Hammer Blvd, create sidewalk connection, install street light at intersection, extend center line and lane line markings to denote slight shift in alignment.
7. **Armand Hammer Blvd and Industrial Hwy:** Update lane control signage, install 2nd yield sign for WB off ramp, add overhead lane control, remove signal head for SB left-turn, install ADA ramps and marked crosswalks, add pavement markings for lane control, widen cart way and add receiving lane, install stop sign at property exist, add continental crosswalk and ADA ramps, remove right turn only to allow through movement.
8. **Vaughn Road and PA 724:** Widen gap between double yellow lines to emphasize intersection, add advance warning signs in EB and WB directions, enlarge street signage, add gap in shoulder at intersection and driveways, add street light on EB approach.
9. **Hoffecker Road and PA 100:** Add street light on NE corner, add a traffic signal and allow through and left-turn movements from Hoffecker Road, add stop bars on all 4 approaches, and maintain left-turn pavement marking in NB and SB direction.

Projected costs for such improvements was discussed.

Ms. Whitaker stated that the next step is to present the next set of nine (9) selected intersections to the PMRPC and a draft of the report will be provided to the MCPC in April and to the PMRPC in May.

8. Discussion – DVRPC FY2020 Work Program

Mr. Cover noted that there is \$60,000 earmarked for projects, such as the traffic study that is being developed by DVRPC for the PMRPC. DVRPC is looking for project suggestions, which may be discussed at next month's meeting. The following suggestions were mentioned:

- High Street corridor study – traffic model of downtown Pottstown
- School transportation study – prioritize safe routes to school
- PA 663, Mauger's Mill Road to PA 73 study due to new development
- Identify 10-15 new location for traffic analysis
- Restoration of the regional rail line
- Access management of cul-de-sac traffic circulation

9. Discussion – New Hanover Township Draft Land Use Assumptions Report

The Committee was provided with a draft copy of the updated New Hanover Township Land Use Assumptions Report and noted that the new document addresses future growth and development for pending and approved subdivision and land development. The large majority of the development is residential. Comment may be made to the report and the hearing is scheduled for December 12. Mr. Taylor inquired about the classification of East Moyer Road as a local road where it should be classified as a collector road.

Mr. Moyer moved to have the Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee make a recommendation that New Hanover Township consider changing the classification of East Moyer Road from "all other roads" to a major collector highway (in the New Hanover Land Use Assumptions Report) to be consistent with the *Montco2040* Comprehensive Plan and reflect the fact that East Moyer Road connects two arterial highways within the Pottstown Region. Mr. Churach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Discussion: Chester County Draft Comprehensive Plan

Version 3 (Landscape 3) of the Chester County Comprehensive Plan is in the draft stage. Two (2) inconsistencies have been found affecting North Coventry Township and East Coventry Township. One inconsistency is showing Bellewood Golf Club as a Suburban Center where North Coventry Township has it zoned as Conservation, with Mr. Marks noting the goal with golf club property is to have it remain as open space and there is property along the river that is zoned Conservation and is listed in the draft Chester County Comprehensive Plan as Suburban Center. The discrepancy in East Coventry Township is at Route 724 and Creamery Road where it should be listed as Rural not Suburban as there is a mixture of farmland and homes at that location.

Mr. Cover recommended a representative from Chester County attend the February meeting to discuss the issues.

11. Municipal Updates

Douglass Township

Mr. Reitz noted a mixed-use proposal at the Colebrookdale and Douglass Township line. The project would require a zoning overlay.

East Coventry Township

Mr. Lane noted that East Coventry Township will be on board in 2019 with the circuit rider program.

Lower Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Troutman noted that Sanatoga Green received final approval for Phase 1. Spring Valley is starting Phase 2. Ringing Hill Storage has resubmitted plans to the Planning Commission.

New Hanover Township

There was nobody present to provide an update for New Hanover Township.

North Coventry Township

Mr. Marks wished everyone happy holidays.

Pottstown Borough

Mr. Procsal noted that the new donut shop on S. Hanover street has opened.

Upper Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Taylor wished everyone happy holidays.

West Pottsgrove Township

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

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

Ms. Bice noted that directory updates will need to be done at the first of the year.

Ms. Bice noted the third round of mini grants (\$200,000) has opened up and five (5) applications have been received totaling \$125,000.

Ms. Bice noted the various correspondence letters in the packet for everyone's information.

14. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

15. Adjournment

Mr. Moyer moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m. Mr. Troutman 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