

MINUTES OF THE POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 26, 2020

The Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee held a meeting on February 26, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Attending were: Douglass Township- Pete Hiryak
East Coventry Township- Walter Woessner, Michael Moyer
Lower Pottsgrove Township – Tom Troutman
North Coventry Township – Jim Marks, Bill Soumis
New Hanover Township – Kurt Zebrowski, D.W. Boone Flint
Pottstown Borough – Ryan Procsal
Upper Pottsgrove Township –Greg Churach, David Waldt
West Pottsgrove Township – Not represented
Montgomery County Planning Commission – John Cover, Marley Bice
Recording Secretary – Bonnie L. Frisco

1. Meeting Called to Order

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

2. Roll Call

Mr. Soumis did a roll call and all municipalities were represented except for West Pottsgrove Township, Mr Hiryak arrived at 7:08 p.m.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

4. Review of the January Meeting Minutes

Mr. Woessner moved to approve the January 22, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Moyer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Troutman moved to approve the February Treasurer's Report. Mr. Zebrowski seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Procsal noted he will check into the municipal dues and look into getting a better interest rate.

6. Discussion: Review Pottstown Region Traffic Analysis and Discuss Potential Projects for County Transportation Grant Program

There was discussion regarding various intersections included in the Pottstown Regional Traffic Analysis. The information in the Analysis included targeted intersections, cost estimates and daily trip traffic counts. High Street and Armand Hammer Boulevard was cited as exceptionally dangerous.

Mr. Cover suggested the Committee work on getting a traffic project done. Mr. Moyer moved to invite the transportation representatives from the County to discuss the traffic project options. Mr. Zebrowski seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Discussion: Recreation Mini-Grant Program – Round 2 Projects

Ms. Bice provided an overview of the mini-grant program projects.

- Douglass Township – Douglass Park – \$14,205 – ADA pathway connected to the playground and additional benches, shade trees and safety surface material around the playground
- East Coventry Township – Ellis Woods Park and Maack Tract - \$7,750 – trail improvements and benches
- New Hanover Township – Hickory Park - \$10,755 – resurface the baby pool
- North Coventry Township – Riverbend Park - \$11,415 – add playground equipment for ages 12+
- Pottstown Borough - \$18,000 – 5-year strategic plan for the Pottstown Area Regional Recreation Committee
- Upper Pottsgrove – Fox Hill Trail - \$20,000 – trail renovations
- West Pottsgrove Township - \$17,846 – improve pedestrian connections to Vine Street Park and Howard Street Park and provide ADA accessible picnic tables at each park

8. Update- High Street Corridor

Ms. Bice noted the Stakeholders Steering Committee is to schedule a meeting for May. Preliminary crash diagrams and level of service and delay results to be available at the next PMRPC meeting.

9. Discussion: North Coventry Township DCNR C2P2 Grant Application for “Riverside Park Boat Dock Renovations”

Mr. Troutman moved to authorize the preparation of a grant support letter for North Coventry Township for the DCNR C2P2 grant application for the Riverside Park Boat Dock Renovations. Mr. Waldt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Municipal Updates

Douglass Township

Mr. Hiryak noted the Douglass Township Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission has scheduled a meeting to discuss a proposed medical campus at Grosser Road and Route 100. Also noted was plans to demolish the Fire Company building and build a Fire/EMS station.

East Coventry Township

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

Lower Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Troutman noted there are permit issues with the Sanatoga Green project. Hilltop Restaurant and Bradley Tires is closing. Route 422 is being worked on.

New Hanover Township

Mr. Zebrowski noted the New Hanover Square Road Bridge (State bridge) will be worked on starting in January 2021 for an estimated 12-14 months. The Routes 663 and 73 traffic modification are delayed due to permitting issues.

North Coventry Township

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

Pottstown Borough

Mr. Procsal noted the railroad station is progressing nicely and High Street is getting readied for Spring.

Upper Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Churach noted the Ocean Conservancy sponsored International Coastal Cleanup on September 19, 2020 and asked if there was any interest in having the trash pickup program part of a regional initiative. Facts noted:

- PA Litter Research Study was completed January 2020
- 500 million pieces of litter are on PA roads, 37% cigarette butts, 30% are plastic, mostly wrappers
- Highways have 2,500 pieces per mile and local road have 1,600 pieces per mile

Mr. Soumis noted it sounds like a good idea and asked Mr. Churach to forward the information to Ms. Bice for distribution to the Committee.

West Pottsgrove Township.

Nobody present for West Pottsgrove Township.

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

Nothing additional to report.

13. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

14. Adjournment

Mr. Zebrowski moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. Mr. Troutman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco
Recording Secretary