

**MINUTES OF THE POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 23, 2022
(Approved March 23, 2022)**

The Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee (PMRPC) held a meeting via teleconference and in-person at Pottstown Borough Hall on February 23, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Attendees: Douglass Township- Peter Hiryak
East Coventry Township- Larry Tietjen
Lower Pottsgrove Township – Tom Troutman
North Coventry Township –Bill Soumis
New Hanover Township – Kurt Zebrowski
Pottstown Borough – Ryan Procsal
Upper Pottsgrove Township – Bill Hewitt, David Waldt
West Pottsgrove Township – Not represented
Montgomery County Planning Commission – Marley Bice

Recording Secretary – Bonnie L. Frisco

Visitor(s): None

1. Meeting Called to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Troutman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited led by Mr. Zebrowski.

2. Roll Call

Mr. Troutman did a roll call and all municipalities were represented except for West Pottsgrove Township. Douglass Township was not represented at the time of roll call but Mr. Hiryak arrived at 7:15 p.m.

3. Review of the January 2022 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Zebrowski moved to approve the January 26, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Procsal seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Treasurer’s Reports

Mr. Zebrowski moved to approve the February Treasurer Report. Mr. Waldt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Presentation: Montgomery County Climate Change Vulnerability Analysis

Guest Presenters: Jon Leshner, LEED GA, MCPC Environmental Planning Assistant Manager
Ellis Foley, AICP, LEED GA, MCPC Environmental Planner II

Montgomery County’s Action Plan is called Greenprint. Climate change in Pennsylvania will create more flooding, more heat and respiratory deaths, increased disease and pests, and disruptions to agricultural systems. The weather in our region is forecasted to become warmer with more precipitation than in prior history. Climate change will affect areas with people with above average heat risk and other issues, with the addition of more flooding. MCPC has created an online tool (Climate Change Potential Vulnerability Analysis) that allows users to learn more about climate change and explore the potential impacts of increased heat and storm events in different parts of Montgomery County. Montgomery County is in communication with Chester County to help them replicate the analysis for their region. Also, the PMRPC may consider integrating the Climate Change Vulnerability Study into their routine reviews.

6. Review: Draft 2021 PMRPC Annual Report

Mr. Procsal moved to authorize distribution of the 2021 MCPC Annual Report to those listed on the mailing list. Mr. Soumis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Discussion: Pottstown Regional Partnership for Park Improvements Mini-Grant Program

There was discussion regarding the recommended use for upcoming DCNR grant monies opportunities. Recommended was focus on local school districts to create shared use agreements for school recreational facilities and/or implement green schoolyard infrastructures or trail connection project. This concept would build off of PAHWF's recent work with local municipalities and school districts on shared use agreements as well as State-wide support for this concept.

Mr. Soumis noted concerns regarding the recommended use of the grant funds for shared use agreements with school districts as it may cause limitations and there may be more hoops to hurdle, for example the need for shared engineers, etc. Mr. Zebrowski suggested before the Committee limits itself, contact the school boards to solicit comment. Mr. Soumis suggested the respective Parks and Recreation groups approach their school district. Recommended was to include the Recreation Planner in the discussions and find out what is occurring in other communities relating to grant monies. Mr. Troutman suggested more work be done for event communications as there are several activities being held in the different communities that many are not aware of. A website or newsletter was suggested.

8. Municipal Updates

Douglass Township

Mr. Hiryak noted the EMS building exterior is almost complete and exterior of the Police Department building has been started.

East Coventry Township

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

Lower Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Troutman noted there are a few lots remaining at the Spring Valley development and Sanatoga Green is under construction. The scheduling of the concerts is almost complete.

New Hanover Township

Mr. Zebrowski noted the Planning Commission has met about the Town Center plan and a lot of issues were discussed. A conditional denial is being considered and a plan review extension letter has been submitted by the applicant.

North Coventry Township

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

Pottstown Borough

Mr. Procsal noted that a non-profit developer has been awarded a project for a blighted property.

Upper Pottsgrove Township

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

West Pottsgrove Township

Not represented.

9. School District Updates: No representatives present

10. MCPC Update

Ms. Bice noted there is no new update for MCPC.

Mr. Troutman inquired about the bus stop inventory and it was noted that the next step is to provide a design guide, prioritize locations for new and improved bus shelters, and identify funding. Ms. Bice noted that municipalities may write bus stop requirements into their land development ordinances.

11. Public Comment: There was no public comment

12. Adjournment

Mr. Zebrowski moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. Mr. Procsal seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bonnie L. Frisco". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Bonnie L. Frisco
Recording Secretary