

**MINUTES OF THE POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**

JANUARY 25, 2023

(Approved March 22, 2023)

The Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee (PMRPC) held a meeting via teleconference on January 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Attendees: Douglass Township- Peter Hiryak, Don Bergstresser
East Coventry Township- Larry Tietjen
Lower Pottsgrove Township – Tom Troutman
North Coventry Township –Bill Soumis, Jim Marks
New Hanover Township – Kurt Zebrowski, Keith Youse
Pottstown Borough – Ryan Procsal, Dan Weand
Upper Pottsgrove Township – David Waldt
West Pottsgrove Township – Howard Shawell
Montgomery County Planning Commission – Marley Bice

Recording Secretary – Bonnie L. Frisco

Visitor(s): Peggy Lee-Clark

1. Meeting Called to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Troutman called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Roll Call

Mr. Troutman did a roll call and all municipalities were represented.

3. Reorganization

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

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

Mr. Marks then proceeded with the meeting.

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

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

Mr. Soumis moved to reappoint Ms. Frisco to be the *Recording Secretary*. Mr. Troutman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously

4. Review of the December 2022 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Waldt moved to approve the December 1, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Shawell seconded the motion. The motion carried with abstention by Mr. Zebrowski and Mr. Youse as they were not present at the December 1, 2022 meeting.

5. Treasurer’s Reports

Mr. Zebrowski moved to approve the December, 2022 and January, 2023 Treasurer’s Reports. Mr. Weand seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Public Comment: No public comment

7. Review: Memorandum of Understanding with Pottstown Area Health & Wellness Foundation (PAHWF) to Co-Administer the Pottstown Regional Partnership for Park Improvements Mini-Grant Program

Mr. Hiryak moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with PAHWF to Co-Administer the Mini-Grant Program. Mr. Weand seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Grant Support Letter Request: Keystone Boulevard Extension Project (Pottstown Borough and West Pottsgrove Township) – Rebuilding American Infrastructure Sustainably and Equitably (RAISE) Grant Program, U.S. Department of Transportation

Mr. Troutman moved to authorize sending the grant support letter for the Keystone Boulevard Extension Project (Pottstown Borough and West Pottsgrove Township) – Rebuilding American Infrastructure Sustainably and Equitably (RAISE) Grant Program, U.S. Department of Transportation. Mr. Procsal seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Municipal Updates

Douglass Township

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

East Coventry Township

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

Lower Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Troutman noted that Sanatoga Green is in progress.

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

Mr. Weand noted issues with a homeless shelter in a district in the Borough where it is not zoned for that use and asked the PMRPC for support in regards to a zoning variance hearing to be held January 30 which may be subject to continuance. The PMRPC noted that the matter appears to be a local (not regional) zoning matter and Pottstown Borough has the authority to grant or deny the variance request as they choose.

Upper Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Waldt noted that a new Upper Pottsgrove Township building is being built on open space.

West Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Shawell noted plans for a Wawa at Grosser Road and Old Reading Pike.

10. School District Updates: No representatives present

11. MCPC Update

Ms. Bice reminded everyone to send in updates for the PMRPC Directory. Ms. Bice noted that the KEEP Oversight Committee will meet tomorrow. Ms. Bice shared a schedule potential PMRPC work items, including a 10-year update to the demographics to be completed by September. DCNR grants noted: \$239,000 for rehabilitation of Chestnut Street Park in Pottstown Borough, \$440,000 for planting of trees in Pottstown Borough, and another grant source has earmarked \$3M for the Keystone Boulevard Extension.

12. Adjournment

Mr. Tietjen moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Mr. Procsal seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Bonnie L. Frisco
Recording Secretary