

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

SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

(Approved December 1, 2022)

The Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee (PMRPC) held a meeting via teleconference and in-person at Pottstown Borough Hall on September 28, 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, Jim Marks
New Hanover Township – Kurt Zebrowski
Pottstown Borough – Ryan Procsal
Upper Pottsgrove Township – Not represented
West Pottsgrove Township – Howard Shawell
Montgomery County Planning Commission – Marley Bice

Recording Secretary – Bonnie L. Frisco

Visitor(s): Joshua Stouch and Andrew Duncan (Douglass Township), Joseph Shanley (Chester County Planning Commission)

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, except for Upper Pottsgrove Township.

3. Review of the June 2022 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Soumis moved to approve the June 22, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Procsal seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Treasurer’s Report

Mr. Marks moved to approve the July, August and September Treasurer’s Reports. Mr. Zebrowski seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Public Comment

Chester County Planning Commission Community Planner, Joseph Shanley, was present to discuss the Chester County Transportation Forum held September 22, the Urban Home Center Decoding Forum (addressing housing performas), to be held October 25 and November 15 and the Fall Planner’s Forum to be held October 18. All of the events will be held hybrid, in person and zoom. Further information may be found at www.chescoplanning.org.

6. Update: Regional Ambulance Authority

Joshua Stouch and Andrew Duncan were present to discuss Regional Ambulance Authorities. Noted was a shortfall in funding for ambulance service and regional ambulance authorities may be instrumental in helping with the financing shortfalls. New Hanover Township has expressed

an interest in exploring a regional ambulance authority. The county has awarded \$300,000 for a System Strategic Planning Study for EMS Regional Ambulance Authorities. Mr. Soumis noted that the SR6 report done by the state may be a good resource for regional support and outlining the issues. Mr. Tietjen moved to have the regional representatives take the subject of regional ambulance to their respective municipality for discussion. Mr. Shawell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Review: Draft 2023 Budget

Mr. Shawell moved to approve the Draft 2023 Budget with the municipal dues to remain at \$3,000/year. Mr. Zebrowski seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Development of Regional Impact

Madison Walk – Douglass Township – proposed development of 136 residential units (47 townhomes, 73 single-family detached homes, 16 twins) as part of a larger development with 68 additional residential units in Colebrookdale Township.

There was review and discussion of the plan and streets trees, traffic and stormwater were noted. Mr. Zebrowski moved to send a letter to Douglass Township regarding support and discussion of the Madison Walk project, letter to include comments noted. Mr. Marks seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Discussion: DVRPC FY 2024 Work Program Project

There was discussion of the DVRPC FY 2024 Work Program Project. The Safe Routes to School/10-Minute Walk project was suggested in the Montgomery County Planning Commission Memo dated September 21, 2022.

Mr. Zebrowski moved to have Ms. Bice prepare a letter regarding the Safe Routes to School/10-Minute Walk project and include comments regarding the request to have trails linked to the schools particularly the Schuylkill River Trail. Mr. Procsal seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Update: DCNR Partnerships Grant Received

Mr. Hiryak moved to send an acknowledgement letter to the DCNR Secretary regarding receipt of the DCNR Partnership Grant. Mr. Soumis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

11. 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 there is nothing additional to report for Lower Pottsgrove Township.

New Hanover Township

Mr. Zebrowski noted that the bridges are open except for the one at Swamp Pike. Also noted was the Police Department moved into the new building on Hoffmansville Road and the township building is being cleaned out and renovated.

North Coventry Township

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

Pottstown Borough

Mr. Procsal noted a zoning hearing for a homeless shelter that would accommodate 50+ overnight stays.

Upper Pottsgrove Township

Not represented.

West Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Shawell noted there is nothing additional to report for West Pottsgrove Township.

12. School District Updates: No representatives present

13. MCPC Update

Ms. Bice noted there is nothing additional to report for the MCPC.

14. Adjournment

Mr. Soumis moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. Mr. Shawell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Bonnie L. Frisco
Recording Secretary