

MINUTES OF THE POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN  
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2011  
(Approved October 26, 2011)

The Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee held their monthly meeting on September 28, 2011. Attending the meeting were Andy Paravis, North Coventry Township; Timothy Roland and N. Lance Parson, East Coventry Township; Steve Toroney, Pottstown Borough; Ed Reitz, Douglass Township; Peter Dolan, Upper Pottsgrove Township; and Gordon Whitlock, West Pottsgrove Township and Alyson Elliott, Lower Pottsgrove Township and Ralph Fluharty, New Hanover Township.

John Cover – Montgomery County Planning Commission

Bonnie L. Frisco – Recording Secretary

**1. Welcome and Meeting Called to order.**

Mr. Toroney called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Mr. Toroney did a roll call. At the time New Hanover Township and West Pottsgrove were not represented but representatives arrived shortly after.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**4. Review of August 24, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Reitz moved to approve the August 24, 2011 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Paravis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**5. September Treasurer's Reports**

Mr. Reitz moved to approve the Treasurer's Report for September with a balance of \$80,401.78. Mr. Roland seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**6. Regional Recreational Coordinator Discussion**

Mark Palerino and Fran Rubert from the DCNR (Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) were present. Mr. Palerino provided a presentation regarding the Regional Recreational Coordinator

Mr. Palerino covered a number of inquiries the PMRPC had regarding the Regional Recreational Coordinator.

Mr. Roland asked what the salary amount would be and Mr. Palerino noted that probably between \$40,000 and \$45,000 depending on the skill set.

Mr. Parson asked how this person will interface with city and state parks and Mr. Palerino noted that they will see them as partners.

It was agreed that a committee will be formed to investigate the Regional Recreational Coordinator issue further.

**7. Contract Renewal**

There was discussion regarding the 2012-2014 Contract with the Montgomery County Planning Commission.

Mr. Dolan moved to approve the 2012-2014 Contract with the Montgomery County Planning Commission as presented, to make contribution to the Legal Aid line item in the budget and moved to maintain the \$3,000.00 annual contribution from member municipalities. Mr. Reitz seconded the motion.

A roll call was taken:	Douglass Township	-	Yes
	East Coventry Township	-	Yes
	Lower Pottsgrove Township	-	Yes
	New Hanover Township	-	Yes
	North Coventry Township	-	Yes
	Pottstown Borough	-	Yes
	Upper Pottsgrove Township	-	Yes
	West Pottsgrove Township	-	Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

**8. DVRPC 2012 Work Program**

Mr. Cover noted that DVRPC allocates monies for transportation studies and noted there is \$60,000 this year for a study related to transportation and asked the committee if they had any suggestions. Mr. Dolan suggested connectivity of trails and Mr. Cover stated that he was not sure if that would be considered transportation and be eligible for the grant funding. Mr. Toroney noted the possibility of a study regarding extension of Keystone Boulevard and Mr. Cover noted that item is already being studied but he is not sure to what extent.

Mr. Dolan noted the issue of the inability to maintain the roads with the funds provided. Mr. Paravis raised the issue of a rail study for urban areas and how it affects property values and economic development.

The funds allocated for transportation study need further discussion.

**9. Market Assessment and Fiscal Impact Study Update**

Mr. Cover noted the September 8, 2011 public meeting regarding the Market Assessment and Fiscal Impact Study and distributed a schedule prepared by the consultant for review.

**10. Colebrookedale Spur**

Mr. Toroney noted a meeting to be held October 12 at 6:30 pm at the Carousel Building regarding the Colebrookedale Spur and Nathaniel Guest will be the speaker.

**11. Municipal Updates**

Douglass Township

Mr. Reitz noted that Douglass Township is working on the Route 100 overlay.

East Coventry Township

Mr. Roland noted that all is quiet in East Coventry.

Lower Pottsgrove Township

Ms. Elliott noted that all is quiet in Lower Pottsgrove.

New Hanover Township

Mr. Fluharty noted New Hanover's 63-acre tract purchase behind the township building.

North Coventry Township

Mr. Paravis noted the Caribou development on Route 100 and stated that the North Coventry Mall want to reassess and North Coventry is fighting it. Mr. Paravis noted North Coventry's purchase of 20 acres next to Kenilworth Park which will be expanded.

Pottstown Borough

Mr. Toroney noted that the Autozone is open and Pottstown is anticipating Walmart's expansion.

Upper Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Dolan noted that Upper Pottsgrove is coming along with two new acquisitions. Mr. Dolan also noted concern regarding the State no longer regulating state stores and felt that the region should be concerned about this issue. Mr. Cover suggested the item be placed on a future agenda.

West Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Whitlock noted that the movie theatre is to open around Halloween and a deal is in the making for a Bob Evans Restaurant.

**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**

There were no additional updates from MCPC.

**11. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**12. Adjournment**

Mr. Whitlock moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Mr. Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Frisco  
Recording Secretary