

MINUTES OF THE POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING OF May 28, 2008

The Pottstown Metropolitan Regional Planning Committee held their monthly meeting on May 28, 2008. Attending the meeting were N. Lance Parson and Tim Roland, East Coventry Township; Ralph Fluharty, New Hanover Township; John Gambino, West Pottsgrove Township; Nicholas Hiriak, Lower Pottsgrove Township; Megan DeLena, Upper Pottsgrove Township; Andy Paravis and Bud Jenschke, North Coventry Township; Barbara Hartford, Greg Lignelli and Ed Reitz, Douglass Township; Terri Lampe and Stephen Toroney, Pottstown Borough.

John Cover – Montgomery County Planning Commission
Jim Ennis – Montgomery County Planning Commission

1. Welcome and Meeting Called to order.

Ms. DeLena called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. DeLena did a roll call. All townships are represented.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

4. Review of April 23, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Some inaccuracies of the meeting minutes were identified on page 3. Mr. Paravis moved to approve the April 23, 2008 meeting minutes as amended. Mr. Reitz seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Treasurer's Report

A copy of the Treasurer's Report was submitted with an account balance of \$73,467.72. After review, it was noticed that public advertising costs of \$450.00 was not reflected in the balance. Mr. Paravis moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as amended. Mr. Toroney seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Status Update

Regional Recreation Plan

The Committee is waiting on a letter from Dave Kraybill addressed to all the participating municipalities detailing the goals and objectives of the Regional Recreation Plan. After this letter is distributed, representatives will be chosen from each of the municipalities to form a Regional Recreation Committee. The Committee stated their uncertainty as to the direction the Regional Recreation Plan is taking. Mr. Paravis informed that the Committee should have more information on the status of the Recreation Plan by next meeting.

7. Old Business

Comprehensive Plan Amendments – Public Advertising Notice of Plan Amendments

The public advertising has been submitted for all the municipalities. The municipalities now need to have their public hearing.

Inter-Regional Planning Cooperative Mission Statement

A new draft of the Inter-Regional Planning Cooperative Mission Statement was submitted to the Committee. After review, the Committee stated their satisfaction with the draft. Mr. Fluharty moved to approve the Inter-Regional Planning Cooperative Mission Statement. Mr. Gambino seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Intergovernmental Planning Agreement Amendment

Input from the Committee on the proposed amendments has been requested. Lower Pottsgrove has submitted some editorial changes. This topic will be further discussed during the June meeting.

8. New Business

House Bills 1329, 1330, 1281, and 1787

Mr. Paravis informed the Committee on the details of the House Bills. Mr. Lignelli moved to approve the formal letter from the Committee addressed to Senator Pileggi that expresses the Committee's support on all four of the House Bills. Mr. Hiriak seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Developments of Regional Significance, Zoning Map & Text Amendments

The proposed development of the Giant Supermarket in Douglass Township has been submitted to Montgomery County for review.

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Project

Information materials concerning Montgomery County's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Project will be sent out to the Committee in order to have discussion about the project during next month's meeting.

Route 100 Transportation Study

The Committee was given a status update on the Route 100 Corridor Study. McMahon and Associates, the study's consultant, are currently trying to figure out how to upgrade the corridor from F status.

R-6 Rail Extension Study

The Committee was informed that the R-6 Rail Extension Study should be finalized sometime in June. Details of the study's results will be sent out to the Committee sometime in July.

9. Municipal Updates

Douglass Township

Mr. Reitz stated that Douglass may be pursuing some open space purchases.

East Coventry Township

Mr. Roland stated that East Coventry is looking to purchase 33-acres of land that will be dedicated as open space.

Lower Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Hiriak had no new information to relay to the Committee on new developments occurring in Lower Pottsgrove.

New Hanover Township

Mr. Fluharty stated that things are currently slow moving in New Hanover.

North Coventry Township

Mr. Paravis stated that North Coventry will be applying for grants to purchase land for open space.

Pottstown Borough

Mr. Toroney stated that the elevation drawings for the Mrs. Smith development have been approved by Pottstown's Borough Council.

Upper Pottsgrove Township

Ms. DeLena stated that Upper Pottsgrove is settling on 20 acres of open space. Also, Upper Pottsgrove is trying to establish their village commercial district.

West Pottsgrove Township

Mr. Gambino gave a status update on the Upland Square development.

11. Public Comment

No public comment.

12. Adjournment

Mr. Toroney moved to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Mr. Gambino seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

James Ennis
Community Planner