



POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

140 College Drive, Pottstown, PA 19464 | PARRCoordinator@gmail.com | 484-945-0200

PARRC Meeting Minutes

September 27, 2017

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

@PAHWF

In attendance:

Katie Smith, Lower Pottsgrove Township
Charlie Valentine, West Pottsgrove Township
Dave Kraybill, PAHWF
Herb Miller, Upper Pottsgrove Township

Jay Erb, North Coventry Township
Michael Lane, Regional Recreation Coordinator
Michael Lenhart, Pottstown Borough
Craig Colistra, PAHWF

Meeting notes:

1. Meeting minutes from 8/23/17 were unanimously approved.
2. Tri-County Trails Study: M. Lane reported that he presented the plans to Waste Management representatives on August 30 at West Pottsgrove Township. The new real estate director, Max Dickman, gave us permission to survey the property for existing conditions. He stated that when we have engineering plans developed, forward them to him for review. He also stated that we need to fill out a form to access the property. Patty Barthel and Judy Archibald were also there from Waste Management. It was attended by Meghan Cagliola for Representative Tom Quigley; Marcy Toepel and her District Chief of Staff Bill Bushnell; Senator Bob Mensch and his Chief of Staff Lisa Walter. Three consulting firms were shortlisted for interviews on 9/6/17 to develop the design/engineering drawings. They were Navarro & Wright, Alta Planning and Bergman Associates. Navarro & Wright were chosen as the consultant to proceed with the plans.
3. Pigeon Creek Bridges, North Coventry: Mr. Lane attended a pre-bid meeting with contractors bidding on the revised plans for the footbridge and boardwalk. The initial bids came in well above the engineers estimate and the engineers redesigned certain portions and re-bid the project with a longer construction schedule. New bids came in lower.
4. Stublebine House, Coventry Woods: M. Lane reported that estimates to stabilize the historic structure are currently being gathered by the Township. Future use of the building is being discussed and grants to help with funding the stabilization is being explored with the County and State.
5. The Lodge, Coventry Woods: M. Lane reported that estimates to renovate the Lodge have been acquired. A \$22,500 PAHWF grant to renovate the restrooms was received several years ago. Electricity needs to be upgraded, at an estimate of \$10,000 and new sewage storage tanks need to be installed, at an estimate of \$15,000.
6. Riverbend Park, North Coventry: M. Lane reported that he has been coordinating a Master Plan for the park and will be presenting an Existing Conditions plan and Proposed Amenities plan to the Parks and Recreation Commission on October 4th for their review and comment.
7. Nature Based Play Space, Memorial Park: M. Lane reported that the coordination of the play space is continuing and that rocks have been located in Upper Pottsgrove Township; boulders in Langhorne; logs from the Pottstown Airport. Another workshop for families to help with the design of the play space is to be scheduled in October.
8. Updates from the PARRC members:
 - a. PAHWF: C. Colistra reported that Ashley Johnston resigned from the Foundation. She created the On Your Parks, Get Set, Go park contest. The program was started to heighten awareness and build capacity to each PMRPC member's park. Craig would like the Committee to think about the programs future and if they want to continue it.

- b. North Coventry: J. Erb reported that the North Coventry Elementary School has offered their playground equipment to the Township. He will meet with Jon McKee to review the equipment. The docks in Riverside Park are in disrepair. A tree has lodged under the Township dock and needs to be removed and the pivot hinge that allows the dock to rise with the water has come loose from its attachment. The OJR rowing club dock is lodged on rocks. Discussion within the Township has been to remove the docks and to build a larger communal dock or renovate the existing docks. Any repair work needs funding.
- c. Pottstown Borough: M. Lenhart reported that the Manatawny Bridge abutment project received an \$80,000 SRGA grant to armor 200' of bank to keep the bridge abutment intact. They will use the funds to add temporary pylons for the bridge to sit on a few feet further back into the bank. More funds are needed to do the entire armorment. ESM Productions is coordinating the concert by country singer Hunter Hayes in October in Memorial Park. The concert is sponsored by Citadel Credit and the proceeds go to CHOP. The pavilion in Riverfront Park is up and was installed in two weeks. Spotted Lanternfly has been spotted in Riverfront Park but no Emerald Ash Borers. The Greater Pottstown Tennis Club is installing an inflatable tent over the tennis court in Maple Street Park. The Borough will be meeting with Game Time Playground representatives to review the condition of the playground equipment at Spruce Street Park. The components on some elements are worn and the equipment may need to be replaced. Colebrookdale Railroad is continuing its pursuit to construct a new railroad station in Memorial Park before the end of next year.
- d. Lower Pottsgrove: K. Smith reported that they are having a coffee with the Police Chief on October 14th and on October 21, they are having the Ringing Hill Fire Company Community Day from 10 – 2 PM. Gerald Richard Park Green Parking Lot project still waiting approval from DEP.
- e. Douglass Township: No announcements.
- f. West Pottsgrove Township: C. Valentine reported that the DEP would like a bog turtle search for the Manatawny Bridge project. They are having a Community Day on October 14th from 12 – 4 PM, Sunday is the rain date.
- g. Upper Pottsgrove Township: H. Miller reported that the summer camps they had at the Arboretum this summer were so popular they had to turn some people away. An environmental conference at Messiah College had 300 participants and will be at Swarthmore College in February 2018. They will be planting an American Chestnut tree in one of their parks. They are having an archery hunt to thin the deer population from 9/1 to 1/30 on a 6 acre parcel near Pine Forge Road. They are having a Christmas program and a 5K run in December.
- h. MCPC: No announcements.

Adjournment: 6:45 PM

Recorder: M. Lane

2017 Meeting Schedule (All meetings to be held at 5:00 PM in the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Offices, 152 East High Street, 5th floor, Pottstown, PA 19464):

January 25	February 22	March 22	April 26
May 24	June 28	July 26	August 23
September 27	October 25	December 7	

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 25, 2017, 5:00 pm @PAHWF