



POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

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

PARRC Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2017

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

@PAHWF

In attendance:

Bill Keohane, Lower Pottsgrove Township
Charlie Valentine, West Pottsgrove Township
Craig Colistra, PAHWF
Dominic Gentile, West Pottsgrove Township
Herb Miller, Upper Pottsgrove Township
Jay Erb, North Coventry Township
Katie Smith, Lower Pottsgrove Township
Michael Lane, Pottstown Area Regional Recreation Coordinator
Michael Lenhart, Pottstown Borough
Pete Hiryak, Douglass Township
Tom Palladino, West Pottsgrove Township

Meeting notes:

1. Meeting minutes from 4/26/17 were unanimously approved.
2. The Committee discussed the invitation to elected officials to come to a PARRC meeting to discuss who we are and what we do. M. Lane handed out an outline for the meeting for discussion. Possible dates discussed are June 28th or July 26th. So far, July 26th seems to be the most available date because of budget negotiations happening in Harrisburg in June. It was suggested that we invite the media – someone from the Mercury and the Reading Eagle. It was also suggested to add a summary or goals at the end. M. Lane will make revisions to the invitation and continue to contact elected officials. M. Lane informed the committee that Congressman Ryan Costello was contacted but will not be able to make it. M. Lane suggested that the PMRPC website be modified and a PARRC tab be added in case any of the elected officials wanted to get more information about the committee. Also, the Regional Recreation Events tab is obsolete and it was suggested that a link to pottstownfamilies.org be established. It was suggested I send an email to D. Fabry to see if the changes to the website could be made.
3. Next steps for Tri-County Trails Study. M. Lane reported that he is coordinating comments with DVRPC for the final report. Mr. Lane will schedule a public meeting within the next few months when the report is completed. RFP for further detailed study of the four trails segments was submitted to DCNR and PARRC for their review. There have been no comments concerning the RFP. T. Palladino reported that they are trying to set up a meeting with Waste Management representatives and the two landowners along the proposed trail alignment in West Pottsgrove sometime within the first two weeks of June. It was reported that Senator John Rafferty is head of the Transportation Committee. It was suggested we discuss the Rt. 663 crossing with him if he attends the meeting for the elected officials. Discussion continued about the crossing of and the speed limit on Rt. 663. Lower Pottsgrove reported that they are having a traffic study done on Rt. 663 within the next two weeks. It was suggested that we ask for a red light be installed at the intersection of Rt. 663 and School Lane, which is a private road owned by the school district.

It was also suggested that we submit letters of support from the school district and the townships to PADOT. It was reported from West Pottsgrove that the light at Grosstown Road will be installed when the Rt. 422 Bypass is constructed.

4. M. Lane reported that he toured the playgrounds in the Borough, West Pottsgrove and North Coventry Townships to assess their conditions. He stated that he will try to see all the playgrounds in the area. He asked the Committee members if they have any concerns with any of their playgrounds. If they need immediate attention, he will look at grants to fund the improvements.
5. It was reported by West Pottsgrove that they should have answers concerning the drawings that the engineer submitted to DEP for a permit to install the bridges over the Manatawny Creek by the end of the summer.
6. Updates from the PARRC members:
 - a. PAHWF: C. Colistra reported that a survey went out to all those invited to the Regional Recreation Social rescheduled for April 18th. Most people who did not attend had scheduling conflicts with the new date. Some were not interested or could not come because of the time frame. Most people were satisfied with the venue and the speakers. When asked for other venues, suggestions included local attractions. When asked how often they would like to see the event occur, suggestions included from every three months to once a year.
 - b. North Coventry: J. Erb reported that they had a very successful Coventry Woods Festival.
 - c. Pottstown Borough: M. Lenhart asked if the members were using the Pottstown Families.org website to post events. The Volleyball Rumble is June 23rd to 25th. The Schuylkill River Sojourn will be stopping at Riverfront Park on June 6th and there will be a free concert by the band de Tierra Caliente. The film fest opened up live last week for submissions. A new organization is taking over the coordination of the Fourth of July festivities. The Rotary is coordinating the Fourth of July parade. The Borough had a thank you dinner at the Carousel for investors who have been contributing to the success of Pottstown within the last 10 years.
 - d. Lower Pottsgrove: K. Smith reported that they are had their Fish Rodeo on May 6th at Sunnybrook Creek. It had to be moved further upstream as a crane truck fell through the bridge over Sprogels Run and spilled diesel and oil in it. They are also having six Sunday Summer Concerts starting on June 25th.
 - e. Douglass Township: P. Hiryak announced that they had their Spring Fish Rodeo on May 13th. They had children fish in the morning and then veterans' fished in the afternoon. They will also be having the Fall Bike Night in Gilbertsville sometime late August with the Rolling Thunder, a motorcycle club composed of veterans.
 - f. West Pottsgrove Township: C. Valentine reported that they had their Fish Rodeo Contest last weekend in Murgia Park.
 - g. Upper Pottsgrove Township: H. Miller reported they are having their Fish Rodeo on June 17th.

Adjournment: 7:00 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, June 28, 2017, 5:00 pm @PAHWF