



## PARRC MEETING MINUTES

### June 22, 2022-A hybrid meeting

#### In attendance:

Michael Lenhart, Borough of Pottstown  
Charlie Valentine, West Pottsgrove Township  
Cathy Paretto, Upper Pottsgrove Township  
Jay Erb, North Coventry Township  
Karen Nocella, East Coventry Township  
McKenna Powanda, Douglass Township

Bill Keohane, Lower Pottsgrove Township  
Tim Konetchy, Montgomery County Planning Commission  
Annique Ruiz Brown, Upper Pottsgrove Township resident  
David Yeck, Wm. & Dorothy Yeck Family Foundation  
Tricia McCloskey, PARRC Regional Parks Planner

#### Meeting Notes:

1. Call to Order- 4:31pm and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Meeting minutes from May 25, 2022, were motioned for approval by M. Powanda and seconded by J. Erb, all approved. No abstentions or corrections.
4. Executive and Subcommittee Reports.
  - a. Treasurer's Report. C. Paretto previously provided the Treasurer's Report and it was accepted by the Committee. C. Paretto indicated that municipalities have paid the invoices on the first installment and a \$166.00 refund check was sent to West Pottsgrove Township. C. Paretto indicated she needs to order checks, and a motion permitting the Treasurer to purchase checks was made by B. Keohane and seconded by M. Powanda.
  - b. Events Subcommittee. J. Erb indicated that the Events Committee has not met.
  - c. Financial Sustainability Subcommittee. T. McCloskey indicated that signed resolutions have been received by Upper Pottsgrove and East Coventry Townships. M. Lenhart indicated that when the other resolutions are received PARRC can begin to move ahead with forming the 501(c)(3). B. Keohane indicated that Limerick Township is adding an open space referendum to the fall 2022 ballot and it will be interesting to see what the results are and how it is received by the voters.
  - d. DEI Subcommittee. T. McCloskey provided a presentation for the Park Equity Assessment and reviewed each municipalities parks' ADA access, ADA facilities, ADA play equipment, walkability, bus routes and 10 minute walk data. T. McCloskey indicated that she will send each spreadsheet to the individual municipalities and asked PARRC members to review them for errors and/or additions. A. Ruiz Brown asked if the public has been surveyed regarding its needs. B. Keohane indicated this is a good idea and it will be explored.
5. County Planner Updates

R. Griffith-not present

T. Konetchy indicated that all six PMRPC Minigrant contracts have been executed and the 90% funding checks have been sent out.
6. Planner's Report.

T. McCloskey provided the Planner's Report for the last month which included work on the draft Park Equity Assessment, drafting the summer calendar and the summer newsletter, preparation of the trail counter recommendations report, coordination with all municipalities on PMRPC and PAHWF grants awards, and submission of the DCED GTRP grant with Pottstown Borough. The contract with Appalachian Mountain Club should be prepared as a letter. B. Keohane indicated we will need Standard Terms and Conditions. A motion to give the Financial Sustainability Committee / PARRC officers the authority to approve the letter agreement as prepared by T. McCloskey was made by C. Paretto and seconded by M. Powanda.



## 7. Old Business

- a. PARRC Non-profit designation update. See discussion above.
- b. Judo Club funds. M. Lenhart indicated that he spoke to the Judo Club and they are not in favor of a CD, because they will need funds for tournaments, etc. He indicated that a money market account is an option but there is less interest but will help the Parks and Recreation Foundation clear its books. M. Lenhart indicated that the future of the Judo Club is uncertain and the Memorandum of Understanding would state that if the Judo Club's funds are not expended, the funds revert to PARRC for a similar use. M. Powanda indicated that it may be best to just put it in a savings account for now. M. Lenhart indicated that he thinks the amount is roughly \$4,000.
- c. PARRC intern. T. McCloskey indicated that a new intern was hired for the 11 week summer season. Her name is Haley Brooks and she will assist the Regional Parks Planner with development of the volunteer events program and Facebook marketing and blog posts.

## 8. New Business

- a. K. Nocella discussed the GoPA100 initiative which is proposed legislation to transition Pennsylvania to 100% renewable energy by 2050. K. Nocella indicated that small changes can help this initiative and other communities are doing it, including using electric vehicles, solar panels, providing charging stations and forming environmental advisory committees to oversee projects and policies. At East Coventry Township, the Board has tabled the EAC discussion/GoPA100 initiative. K. Nocella asked the committee if anyone has any familiarity with this initiative and the Committee did not.
- b. T. McCloskey reviewed the Trail Counter Recommendations report and indicated she needs to discuss the recommendations individually with each municipality. M. Powanda stated he would like to budget for some new counters.
- c. PARRC contract with Appalachian Mountain Club for GIS Services. See above discussion.

## 9. Grant Announcements.

- a. MontCo 2040 Implementation Grant Awards and Chester County Preservation Program Awards. M. Montco 2040-M. Lenhart indicated that Pottstown Borough received \$200,000 to replace the bridge in Riverfront Park. T. McCloskey stated that West Pottsgrove received \$38,900 for field Improvements to Old Timers Field and Douglass Township received \$80,889 for the Douglass Park tennis court/pickleball court project. Chester County PP-T. McCloskey stated that East Coventry Township received \$203,609 for redevelopment of Tow Path Park. T. McCloskey asked if any PARRC member has experience using Costars for construction. M. Lenhart indicated that it can be done if it is under the same contract. M. Powanda indicated that you may have issues with contractor liability.

## 10. Partner Updates:

- Douglass: M. Powanda set up a meeting with Sports Builders to go over the work in Douglass Park. A discussion of other surfacing contractors ensued.
- North Coventry: J. Erb shared that the Coventry Woods Race was last weekend. He stated that it was well attended and that the three hour race was the most popular of the series.
- West Pottsgrove: The township is currently seeking a new Township manager in light of Scott Hutt's upcoming departure.
- East Coventry: K. Nocella indicated all her news and updates were covered in agenda items.
- Pottstown: M. Lenhart stated that the Pottstown Rumble is this weekend and it is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the event. He also stated the County will be replacing the old playground at the Bright Hope Community which will be great for the neighborhood and the community in general. M. Lenhart also stated that PAHWF is chipping in on the project as well.



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- Upper Pottsgrove: C. Paretto shared that the Township is moving forward with purchasing the land adjacent to Hollenbach Park to expand the park area, and they are also working with Althouse Arboretum to purchase adjacent land as well. The township is in the process of hiring a new Public Works Director, and the listing is on the township website.
- Lower Pottsgrove: B. Keohane has to leave the meeting proper to updates.
- M. Powanda added that he has double shredded mulch if anyone needs it.
- PAHWF: C. Colistra not present.

10. Public Comment. None.

11. Action Items. Review Parks Equity Assessment and Summer Calendar.

12. Next PARRC meeting is July 27<sup>th</sup>.

13. Adjournment- A Motion to Adjourn was made by M. Powanda and seconded by J. Erb, meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.