



## **POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**

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

### **PARRC Meeting Minutes**

September 26, 2018

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

@PAHWF

#### **In Attendance:**

Michael Lenhart, Borough of Pottstown  
Charlie Valentine, West Pottsgrove  
Jay Erb, North Coventry  
Kevin Hennessey, North Coventry

John Werth, North Coventry  
Bill Koehane, Lower Pottsgrove  
Marley Bice, MCPC  
Craig Colistra, PAHWF

#### **Meeting notes:**

1. Meeting minutes from August 22, 2018 were approved.
2. Michael Panuschka & Kayla Kehres, Foresters from PA Dept. of Ag, presented the status of the treatment of the Spotted Lanternfly (SLF). They stated that Penn State Extension has taken over the responsibilities for outreach and permitting. They are only treating Ailanthus trees on high-risk areas which include public lands (parks, open spaces, etc), road ROW's and, industrial and trucking companies that leave the quarantine zone. They will only treat residential properties if they are next to a high risk area or have a high number of Ailanthus trees. They will treat the tree where it stands in two ways if it is not a hazard (a hazard is defined as a tree that will do damage to a structure, car or person if it falls, so anything near a building, parking lot or trail will be taken down). If it is a hazard, the tree will be taken down and left on the property as it can't leave the Township it is in. The stump will be treated with an herbicide to kill it and the resulting sprouts. If it is not a hazard, the first method of treatment is "hack & squirt". The bark will be removed in a ring around the trunk and then sprayed with an herbicide to kill the tree. The tree will be left standing to die and the owner will need to remove. The second method involves leaving a male "beacon" tree in a group of Ailanthus trees. It is treated with an insecticide so feeding SLF's will die after they feed on the sap. It only takes one feeding to kill them. Some permits may be required depending on what type of high risk area it is and where it is and they can be acquired through the PA Dept. of Ag. One note of interest. There are 3 people doing the treatment work; Michael, Kayla and a part time assistant. That is it for the whole region. If you want to get on their list, contact them soon. The season is running out and during the winter, they will be doing more outreach to other municipalities. DCNR and Forestry are treating trees on state lands. The Penn State Extension website also has further information.  
We also discussed the status of treatment of the Emerald Ash Borer and they stated that the PA Dept. of Ag is not treating any more as the whole US eastern seaboard is infested. It is the quantity of beetles that tunnels into and girdles the tree that kill them. Unlike an oak, they have more brittle wood and will fall over easier.
3. Grant Applications – PMRPC mini-grant grant round has opened and is administered by PAHWF. It is open to the 8 PMRPC municipalities and the max amount is \$25,000 and has an 18 month grant term. Applications are due November 1<sup>st</sup>. C. Colistra also stated that DCNR is looking for a discussion of mitigation of climate change in their grant applications.
4. The Hill School has a "Meet with the Headmaster" event the first Wednesday of every month where community leaders meet for breakfast. C. Colistra will send M. Lane information on the meeting.
5. It was requested for the DCNR close out of the Circuit Rider position that evaluations be submitted by each PARRC member to C. Colistra.



## POTTSTOWN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

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

6. Announcements – Upper Pottsgrove Township has received a Planning Advocate award from MCPC for their consistent efforts to protect open space. The award ceremony is November 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM at MCPC in Norristown. The PARRC committee will be receiving an award for the outstanding collaborative work in promoting recreation resources from the Schuylkill Highlands Conservation Landscape at their annual meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup> at Connections on High in Pottstown.
7. Updates from the PARRC members:
  - a. PAHWF: C. Colistra announced that the PMRPC grant round is open. He also addressed the issues at Maple Street Park and the funds granted to the USTA to combine education and court renovations so far. The modular building has some problems as it is located on a sewage line and flooding of the line could lead to back-up issues in the building.
  - b. North Coventry: J. Erb announced that the pawpaw seedlings that M. Lane provided were planted in Coventry Woods, Kenilworth Park and Warwick Park. The 10<sup>th</sup> annual Bonfire in the Fernbrook area of Coventry Woods is planned for November 3<sup>rd</sup>. A local marionette artist is putting on a show about the Free Love Valley with handmade puppets at the bonfire.
  - c. Pottstown Borough: The Halloween Party is October 23<sup>rd</sup> with a rain date of October 25<sup>th</sup>. “Trunk or treat”, cars open up their trunks that are filled with candy for kids.
  - d. Lower Pottsgrove: B. Keohane announced that Ed Wagner will be meeting with Eric Jarrell from MCPC to discuss an update to their Open Space Plan.
  - e. West Pottsgrove Township: C. Valentine announced that Community Day is October 13<sup>th</sup> from 12-4 PM, with the 14<sup>th</sup> as a rain date. Mike Narcowich, planner from MCPC is going to develop a Master Plan for Vine Street Park. The Township was given a lot on Monroe Avenue and they are considering developing it as a playground.
  - f. Upper Pottsgrove Township: No updates.
  - g. Douglass Township: No updates.
  - h. MCPC: M. Bice announced that this Friday, they are having an event in Royersford that their Farmland Preservation Coordinator organized for farmers and brewers to connect to see if local brewers could use local crops for their beer.

Adjournment: 6:45 PM

Recorder: M. Lane

### ***2018 Meeting Schedule***

(All meetings to be held at 5:00 PM in the Pottstown Area Health and Wellness Foundation Conference Room, 152 East High Street, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Pottstown, PA 19464):

January 24	February 28	March 28	April 25	May 23	June 27
July 25	August 22	September 26	October 24	December 5	

**Next meeting: Wednesday, December 5th, 2018, 5:00 pm @PAHWF**