

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**  
**December 19, 2011**

The Economic and Community Development Committee (ECDC) met for its scheduled meeting on December 19, 2011, in the Valley Forge Room in the Upper Merion Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by a pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**ROLL CALL:**

The following members of the ECDC were present: Lydia Dan-Sardinas, Chairperson; Scott Sibley, Vice-Chairperson; Russ Swisher; Carole Kenney; Greg Waks, Board of Supervisors Liaison; and Scott Greenly, Staff Liaison.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of 11/21/11. All were in favor.

**CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION:**

Chairperson Dan-Sardinas wished everyone a happy holiday season. She also reminded all ECDC members that come the beginning of 2012 there will be two vacant seats on the committee, and until they are filled, only one person at a time can miss a meeting to keep quorum. They committee discussed moving February's meeting due to the presidents day holiday, and the potential to move May's as well due to the joint meeting with the Board of Supervisors.

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Community Center Subcommittee:**

Mr. Waks and Ms. Dan-Sardinas reported that the township purchased the old Gold's Gym property and an environmental assessment of the site is currently being conducted. The building will be hosting some Park and Recreation offices, and possibly the senior center and community center. Plans will be drawn up for the site after closing.

**Environmental Subcommittee:**

Ms. Kenney and Ms. Dan-Sardinas met with Eric Goldstein from the Business Improvement District, who is willing to help publicize presentations the ECDC plans to hold in 2012. The committee would also like to change the environmental presentation date from January to February, and will be working on media contacts as well as a press release.

**Business Improvement District/Business Privilege Tax Subcommittee:**

Mr. Sibley reported that EConsult has drafted their report, in which they looked at the tax rates of ten different areas. Upper Merion Township was in the middle of the

ranks, meaning that the burden on businesses in the township is not tremendous. The BID has also received a grant to develop road diet plans.

**Moore-Irwyn House Subcommittee:**

Mr. Sibley commented that the King of Prussia Players are working with surveyors and engineers to do site layouts and are also working on raising funds.

**Tricentennial Subcommittee:**

Ms. Dan-Sardinas mentioned that forty monopoly spaces have been sold, and there are still other cards etc. that can be purchased.

**ADDITIONAL BUSINESS:**

**Communications:**

Mr. Swisher reported that he had attended the last Media and Communications Advisory Board meeting and created a list of suggestions including home page links on the township website for things such as the township's tricentennial and the Business Improvement District. The committee also discussed putting board vacancies on the website's homepage.

**Township Development Update:**

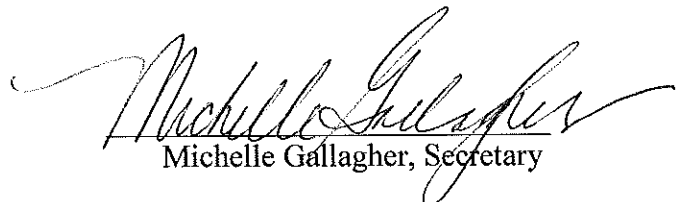
Mr. Greenly reported that the township is still meeting with Wawa and Target, and the new residential zoning code has been finished, with updates to make it easier for residents to understand.

**Board of Supervisors Update:**

Mr. Waks commented on issues with frequent committee member turnovers, and showed his appreciation to the current ECDC members. Mr. Waks also wished everyone a happy holiday season, and announced that this would be his last meeting as the ECDC Liaison.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before this Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Michelle Gallagher, Secretary

Smb

Minutes Approved:

Minutes Entered: