

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**  
**August 20, 2012**

The Economic and Community Development Committee (ECDC) met for its scheduled meeting on August 20, 2012, in the Board 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; Sheryl Smith; Russ Swisher; Thomas Kohler; Carole Kenney, Board of Supervisors Liaison; and Scott Greenly, Staff Liaison.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of 7/16/12. All were in favor.

**CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION:**

Chairperson Dan-Sardinas would like to have speakers including Mr. Wagenmann, Mr. Kraynik, as well as someone from the mall and the chamber of commerce over the next year.

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Community Center Subcommittee:**

Ms. Dan-Sardinas reported that the subcommittee will be looking for two new members, who will need to go through the application process. She also mentioned that the Old Gold's Gym Property is being examined by architects, and discussions have been held with the Park and Recreation Department as well as the Senior Center and will be extended to other groups.

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

Mr. Sibley explained that there has not been a subcommittee meeting, however the Business Improvement District just finished their concert series.

**Tricentennial Subcommittee:**

Ms. Sardinas announced that the subcommittee has become an official citizens group and will have their agendas and minutes posted on the Upper Merion Township Website. A fundraising expert has been hired and the committee is now being overseen by Assistant Township Manager, Judy Vicchio.

**Moore-Irwin House Subcommittee:**

Mr. Sibley explained that fundraisers have been held, and discussions are being held with the township solicitor in reference to the lease agreement.

**ADDITIONAL BUSINESS:**

**New Resident Welcome Package:**

Mr. Kohler and Ms. Ross have come up with a template for a small package and will have a more formal handout at the next ECDC meeting. There will be some cost initially to mail the package.

**Communications Update:**

Mr. Swisher reported that the township is still waiting to hire a CIO to handle changes to the website. A list of “top searches” will be compiled in order to see which areas of the website are not easily found by users.

**Township Development Update:**

Mr. Greenly explained that Target has been approved corporately, and is going through the permit process. He also mentioned that Carmax resubmitted plans for their project on South Gulph Road.

**Board of Supervisors Update:**

Ms. Kenney spoke about commercial real estate values and their effect on business rental occupancies in Upper Merion, as well as Supreme Court zoning and liquor license stipulations pertaining to the Village at Valley Forge. She informed the committee that the township received grants from the Powell Foundation, and that ten thousand dollars will go to both the Tricentennial Committee and to the Farmers Market. She also mentioned traffic issues including red light cameras and the possibility of putting speed bumps on Ross Road.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

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Michelle Gallagher, Secretary

Smb

Minutes Approved:

Minutes Entered: