

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
December 15, 2014

The Economic and Community Development Committee (ECDC) met for its scheduled meeting on December 15, 2014, in the Board Room in the Upper Merion Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m., followed by a pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

The following members of the ECDC were present: Scott Sibley, Chairperson; Terrence Barclift; Jenn Lyons; Dan Yarnall; Evelyn Ankers; Scott Greenly, Staff Liaison; and Carole Kenney, Board of Supervisors Liaison.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made to approve the minutes of 10/20/14. All were in favor.

CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS:

Mr. Sibley commented that a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the trail connecting Heuser Park and Valley Forge Park. He also announced that 2016 is the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service and the 40th anniversary of Valley Forge being a national park. The park service is looking for volunteers to plan events such as a gala etc.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Business Improvement District / Business Tax Subcommittee:

Mr. Sibley announced that the Business Improvement District quarterly networking event was held on Thursday December 11th.

Moore - Irwin House Subcommittee:

Mr. Sibley stated that the Moore – Irwin Property is being included in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Study. He also explained that a survey will be distributed to users of Township parks and facilities to discover current their current deficits.

First Friday / Restaurant Week Celebration:

Mr. Sibley commented that the Business Improvement District launched a website for their own restaurant week celebration, and has secured a large amount of sponsors. The ECDC will contact Eric Goldstein to see if there is still a role they can play in advertising the event.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS:

Township Development Update:

Mr. Greenly announced that the planning department has received a submission for the property located at 600 River Road for a 315,000 square foot Fed Ex Ground facility. A submission was also received for a Verizon retail store to be constructed in

the area of 700 and 715 West DeKalb Pike. Mr. Greenly also mentioned that more residential submissions are expected for the Village at Valley Forge but it is unknown at this time as to what type of housing will be developed.


Board of Supervisors Update:

Ms. Kenney reported that the 2015 budget including the construction of the Community Center, its associated trails, sidewalks, and traffic lights was approved by the Board of Supervisors without a tax increase. She explained that the Zoning Code changes are still in progress, and that the Upper Merion Skate Park ground opening was held with construction planned for spring of 2015.

Ms. Kenney mentioned that the owners of the greenhouse at Nor View Farm discussed the possibility of having community supported agriculture at the farm. She also explained that an Upper Merion Township High School Senior has inquired about a portion of funds from the revenue received at the Nor View Farm Spring for water be donated to a third world country to improve their water infrastructure. This was also brought up to the Environmental Advisory Council.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47pm.



SCOTT SIBLEY, SECRETARY

Sms

Minutes Approved:

Minutes Entered: