

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**  
**JANUARY 21, 2013**

The Economic and Community Development Committee (ECDC) met for its regularly scheduled meeting on January 21, 2013, 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; Carole Kenney, Board of Supervisors Liaison; and Scott Greenly, Staff Liaison.

**REORGANIZATION:**

Chairperson Dan-Sardinas temporarily turned the meeting over to Mr. Greenly for the nomination of ECDC positions.

Lydia Dan-Sardinas was nominated for the position of chairperson with a motion made by Mr. Sibley and seconded by Mr. Swisher. All were in favor.

Mr. Greenly turned the meeting back over to Ms. Dan-Sardinas for the duration of the nominations.

Scott Sibley was nominated for the position of vice-chairperson with a motion made by Mr. Swisher and seconded by Ms. Dan-Sardinas. All were in favor.

Sheryl Smith was nominated for the position of chairperson with a motion made by Ms. Dan-Sardinas and seconded by Mr. Swisher. All were in favor.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the 11/19/12 meeting. All were in favor.

**CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION:**

Chairperson Dan-Sardinas wished all of the ECDC members a Happy New Year and reminded all members to keep new projects in mind for 2013. She also reminded the ECDC that the joint meeting with the Board of Supervisors will be held in May and that they should start thinking about their presentation.

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Moore Irwin House Subcommittee:**

Mr. Sibley reported that the King of Prussia Players have come to a lease agreement with the township's solicitor.

**Community Center Subcommittee:**

Ms. Dan-Sardinas reported that there is a business plan being created for the Community Center property, and that the subcommittee will be reorganizing to see if the plan that is created is feasible for the Township.

**Environmental Subcommittee:**

Ms. Dan-Sardinas commented that the ECDC would be reaching out to the Environmental Advisory Council to discuss joint presentations in the future. The ECDC members also discussed the possibility of hosting paper-shredding and electronics recycling events.

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

Mr. Sibley explained that more BID gateway signs may be installed in 2013. He also explained that the Business Improvement District is working with the Greater Valley Forge TMA to promote the Route 100 Study. The BID is currently planning on hosting another Beerfest as well as a summer event.

**Tricentennial Subcommittee:**

Ms. Kenney reminded the ECDC about the Tricentennial Gala on February 16<sup>th</sup>, and announced that replicas of the King of Prussia Inn and the Old Swedes Church are on sale. She also reported that the history book would be arriving within a week. She also reported that the parade and expanded community fair will be held on September 7<sup>th</sup>, and that Upper Merion Tricentennial information will be displayed on the PECO building in Downtown Philadelphia.

**ADDITIONAL BUSINESS:**

**New Resident Welcome Package:**

It was recommended that the ECDC work with Carla Showell-Lee the Township Public Information Officer on this project. It was also decided that with the Tricentennial, would be a good time to release a new township map.

**Communications Update:**

Mr. Swisher was unable to attend the most recent Media Communications Advisory Board meeting, but reported that they discussed the Comcast agreement, the Township's social media policy, an electric sign demonstration, a forty second tricentennial commercial, and the suggestions for changes to the township website.

**Township Development Update:**

Mr. Greenly reported that Burger King is redeveloping their site, including the demolition of their current building and construction of a new restaurant with a drive through. He also reported that the Shake Shack has recently been approved by the Board at the location of the old Wells Fargo Bank on Mall Boulevard. He also mentioned that the container store was approved and that the Exxon at 620 W. DeKalb Pike has come up with a redevelopment plan including a Chipotle restaurant and an AT&T store. Mr. Greenly announced that the Franklin Maps, Porcelainosa, Wawa, and Chick Fil A projects are moving forward.

**Board of Supervisors Update:**

Ms. Kenney explained that Chili's was considering knocking down their building and changing their restaurant to a single level, and that the car wash at the Franklin maps would also have a pet wash station. She announced that the Board of Supervisors had their reorganization meeting and that Greg Waks is now the Chairman and that Erica Spot is the Vice Chair. Ms. Kenney reported that the office of the tax collector will be moved

to the downstairs level of the township building and that the township will be collecting rent for the space; this will take effect in January of 2014.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Ms. Kenney was asked about revenues from the Valley Forge Casino, she explained that a foundation is being formed to help local organizations. The ECDC also discussed creating a calendar with all township events including the school district, fire companies etc. The ECDC will also be inviting the Township Manager, David Kraynik, to a future meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

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Sheryl Smith, Secretary

Smb

Minutes Approved:

Minutes Entered: