

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
April 17, 2017

The Economic and Community Development Committee (ECDC) met for its scheduled meeting on April 17, 2017, 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: Jenn Lyons, Chairperson; Alanna Strohecker, Vice Chairperson; Scott Sibley, Secretary; Joe Brophy; Kyle Brown, Associate Township Planner; and Erika Spott, Board of Supervisors Liaison.

MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made to approve the minutes from 3/20/2017 by Ms. Lyons. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sibley, and all were in favor.

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP FOUNDATION:

The committee will discuss senior outreach including communication between the Senior Center and township staff at the April 18th meeting.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS:

The ECDC discussed several priorities from the projects that were discussed at the previous meeting, listing those that will be presented at the joint meeting with the Board of Supervisors. The priorities include: to add gaining riverfront access for recreational purposes to the comprehensive plan, conducting an updated architectural assessment at the Moore – Irwin House as well as research into how a public-private partnership would benefit the township and the property, expanding the farmers market, holding a day of community service such as an “adopt a park” cleanup program, and the creation of a cultural arts center.

Mr. Brophy explained that he and Dan Russell met with Ben Franklin Technology Partners in reference to the creation of an entrepreneurial incubator that would encompass a space for retired executives. He also informed the ECDC that the community garden has been included in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and that soil was sent to Penn State University from Heuser Park to see if the land is suitable for this type of project.

DEVELOPMENT UPDATE:

Mr. Brown reported that Glaxo-Smith Kline is expanding their eastern campus to consolidate with their western campus, which eventually will be subdivided and occupied by a