

**Upper Merion Township Economic and Community Development Committee  
Regularly Scheduled Meeting for April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

The Economic and Community Development Committee (ECDC) met for its regularly scheduled meeting on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 WebEx (due to COVID-19.) The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Tony Hamaday, Staff Liaison  
Clara Martis, Vice-Chair  
Tina Garzillo, Board Liaison  
Rachel Zobel, Secretary  
Pam Forster  
Anmol Darooka  
Koren Draper

**ABSENT:**

Andrea Esqueda, Chair  
Frank Buttarro

**COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATE:**

Welcome our new committee member Koren Draper!

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**

March Minutes will be approved in May

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS UPDATES:**

*Restaurant Week*

Continues through April 22 – benefits CHOP

*Township Website Revisions*

Noticeable changes on the township website. There is a tutorial to help navigate the structure

*Ballot Drop-off Box at Township Building*

There has been approval to implement new ballot drop-off box in the front of the Township Building  
Important: Deadline to register is May 3; Primary is May 18; Mail-in/absentee ballots in by May 11

*New Ordinances*

New ordinances have been approved. The ordinances include fencing, non-conforming, marijuana, and an adult bookstore

*Crow Creek Trail*

Completion of the trail is expected to be by the end of June with some parts already paved

*KOP Rail*

Septa has defined route on their website under KOP rail. SEPTA is gathering information together to submit for review. Once 30% is designed, SEPTA can apply for government funding

*Two Studies Underway (Not by UMT)*

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County is working with Moore Park area plan and how COVID-19 has affected it and the specific impacts COVID-19 had. The second study is by KOP BID with Renaissance Office area to analyze potential new uses, new branding, signage, etc.

*Schuylkill River West Trail*

Connecting to Valley Forge Park so by the end of the year there should be trails connecting all of the township

*Businesses Coming to UMT*

LIDL – Replacing Stein Mart

TopGolf

Sports Complex

**CURRENT BUSINESS**

*DEI Task Force*

- Town Hall on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm
- Citizen Committee for DEI
  - Subcommittee of ECDC and can collaborate with other committees
  - C. Martis expressed community interest in a citizen board on DEI
  - T Garzillo proposed a Subcommittee of ECDC and can collaborate with other committees
- Marijuana Ordinance
- Police Department has a new with Mental Health Unit

*Small Business Initiatives*

Revisiting Small Business Here and will discuss restarting that initiative next month

*EAC*

Submitted BCA Grant. Applications will be reviewed soon.

*Community Events*

Begin brainstorming on potential community events

*Upper Merion Township*

Collaborate with KOP BID on hiring fairs for all industries in UMT

*Farmer's Market*

First day is Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 7pm (remote)

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business to discuss, Ms. Martis adjourned the meeting.