

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**  
**JULY 18, 2011**

The Economic and Community Development Committee (ECDC) met for its scheduled meeting on July 18, 2011 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; Michelle Gallagher, Secretary; Russ Swisher; Tom Kohler; Scott Greenly, Staff Liaison; and Greg Waks, Board of Supervisors Liaison.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made to approve the minutes of 6/20/11 without correction. All were in favor.

**CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION:**

Chairperson Dan- Sardinas reviewed all of the current subcommittees, including which ECDC members would be leading them. Ms. Dan-Sardinas also asked questions about the structure of each subcommittee.

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Route 422 Project:**

Mr. Kohler reported that this project has not yet begun and is still open to suggestions and the creation of goals. The goal of this subcommittee should be to provide unbiased facts to the Upper Merion community, and find out what effects such changes to route 422 will have on businesses in Upper Merion Township. Mr. Kohler also mentioned that the project has to be approved by its affected counties before being passed onto state legislature.

**Environmental Subcommittee:**

Ms. Dan-Sardinas sent a letter to Janet Medrow, the chairperson of the Environmental Advisory Committee, asking for the committees to form a partnership to focus on environmental issues in Upper Merion, but has not received a response.

**Communication Subcommittee:**

Ms. Dan Sardinas reported that this subcommittee would like to work with the Media Communications Advisory Board, as well as the Public Information Office, and other public relations initiatives to help outline services and benefits to residents and

business owners in Upper Merion Township. Scott Greenly will look into finding more online examples of other municipalities showcasing businesses.

**Community/Cultural Center Subcommittee:**

Ms. Dan Sardinias talked to Dan Russell, and reported that the community center meeting originally scheduled for July has been moved to September.

**Tri-Centennial Committee:**

Ms. Gallagher reported that several committees are forming, including those to create: a calendar, a history book, a cook book, a parade, a gala dinner, historical interviews etc. She commented that the subcommittee is looking to start the tri-centennial events off with the senior fling, and would like to include Valley Forge National Park as well as the Upper Merion School District. Ms. Gallagher explained that the group's facebook page is being utilized and that the subcommittee will be hosting a workshop meeting with the Board of Supervisors in September.

**Moore-Irwin House Subcommittee:**

Mr. Sibley reported that the agreement between the township and the King of Prussia Players is on the agenda for the next Board of Supervisors meeting and discussed ideas including an outdoor theatre.

**ECDC Website Content Review:**

Ms. Dan-Sardinias reported that Scott Greenly will be looking at the material on the ECDC website to be updated and asked all of the ECDC members to send him the information they would like edited so that he can write a draft for the committee's approval.

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

Mr. Sibley reported that the Economy League of Philadelphia submitted a proposal of the type of report they will be creating. This report will include 5-10 competitive locations, and will look at Upper Merion's operating budget, it also described its steps for obtaining information.

**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:

