



Town of Stonington
Economic Development Commission
152 Elm Street
Stonington, Connecticut 06378

COMMISSIONERS

Cullen Hagan
Chairman

Elsie Bisset
Vice Chairman

Virginia Abernathy
Member

Hannah Cedermark
Member

Charles Clew
Member

Don Fiore
Member

Christopher Smith
Member

Stephen Bessette
Member

Sarah Welch
Member

The EDC's mission is to advance the Town's economic prosperity; foster equitable and sustainable growth; and champion a thriving community.

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DRAFT MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 19, 6:00 pm

SPS District Office, Room 103, 40 Field St, Pawcatuck, CT

Attendees: Cullen Hagan, Stephen Bessette, Elsie Bisset, Hannah Cedermark, Jonathan Collins, Don Fiore, Charles Glew and Sarah Welch.
Absent with notification: Virginia Abernathy and Christopher Smith.

1) Cullen Hagen, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2) Regular Meeting Minutes February 20, 2024. Motion to approve by Elsie, second by Sarah. ALL IN FAVOR.

3) New Business

b) Thomas Mitchell and Charles Glew presented an outline and information which they prepared and gave handouts as well. Thomas read a letter from Alene Whipple, owner of Sea Well Seafood supporting improvements to the Town Dock for fishing businesses to enhance and improve their economic opportunities. Rob Smith, an attendee, representing the Southern New England Fisherman and Lobstermen's Association, participated in the discussion. He stated that the fishermen need infrastructure repairs in order to expand the south dock which could accommodate more boats. More funding is needed. EDC is willing to explore the potential and learn more about the example that was given of Martha's Vineyard "Bank" as a resource for fishermen. Possibly a capacity analysis of the fishing industry here could be beneficial. Joe Gilbert and Dexter Murphy also spoke in support of the fishing industry in Stonington.

a) Bruce Flax, Executive Director, Mystic Chamber of Commerce, gave updates. The chamber has acquired a converted mail truck with a freezer, to use for events and marketing. Their outreach is from Misquamicut to Niantic. A new program is being developed with member businesses to create video footage of "Who's working and living among us." The chamber is considering a new fee structure, as they haven't increased membership fees for 5 years. Bruce mentioned upcoming events, and welcomes participation by EDC members at ribbon cutting events for new businesses. Bruce will show the EDC's Stonington video at the Welcome Center in Mystic. EDC will review it next month and then share with Bruce.

4) Update from Clifton Iler, Town Planner-None

5) Public Comment-Aiden Adams introduced himself; he is potentially interested in commission membership.

6) Motion to adjourn at 7:40 pm by Cullen, second by Charles. ALL IN FAVOR.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Cullen Hagan', written over a rectangular box.

Cullen Hagan, Chairman