

Town of Stonington Economic Development Commission

152 Elm Street Stonington, Connecticut 06378

FINAL MINUTES Special Virtual Meeting COMMISSIONERS Wednesday, June 17, 2020, 6:00 pm

Attending: members - Dave Hammond, Kevin Bowdler, Jim Lathrop, Suzanne Lane, Richard Balestracci, Dan McFadden, Virginia Abernathy, Kristine Halleck, Cullen Hagan; Director Economic and Community Development – Susan Cullen. Regrets: Members – Bill Hobbs, Pete Robinson, Chris Donahue.

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm.

The Minutes of the 2/19/20 Regular Meeting was approved. Motion: Dan; Second: Suzanne. All in Favor.

The new Director, Economic and Community Development Susan Cullen was introduced, and each member present introduced themselves to her.

A brief review of status of the EDC's 11 initiatives was held.

	Project / Initiative / Task	Shutdown Status as of June 12	Immediate Next Steps
Downtown Pawcatuck	Grain building lot – pre- approved site plan	Potential developer undergoing due diligence, no details available	Potential developer continues due diligence steps
	Pawcatuck Historic Structure designation –	Feedback provided to finalize application for submittal to the State	Seek status of NRHP SHPO app. Have requested SHPO to consider full app.
	3. Acquire Circus Lot / Potential Uses	On hold – need to complete EA (Phase 2 "lite") and secure funding to purchase	Broach topic with Westerly. Re- explore need for further enviro study with Deb Downie
	4. Pawcatuck Riverwalk	On hold pending formation of a Town task force	Need to restart effort; lay groundwork for establishing Task Force. In meantime, build temporary wood connector 'prototype' between Rte 1 and Donahue for community PR and proof of concept (need "\$5K)
	5. Pawcatuck Streetscape	On hold	On hold
Bra	Marketing – branding / placemaking	Stonington1649.com website development and content ongoing	Leverage website (ongoing)
	7. Wayfinding – BETA	On hold pending funding	On hold
Housing	8. Housing strategy	On hold pending engaging effort with Director E&CD Susan Cullen	Would like to set plan to achieve writing Plan: state grants?, consultant?, who writes?, etc.
	9. Land Bank	White paper could be written to inform possible inclusion in 8. Housing Strategy	EDC to do research
	10. Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Districts	On hold pending State and Federal programs	On hold
	11. Incentivize Workforce Housing	White paper could be written to inform possible inclusion in 8. Housing Strategy	Explore updating Zoning Regs for Inclusionary Zoning / payment inlieu-of.

The only action / decision was with regards to Initiative #1 Grain building lot. Discussion included having the developer provide a virtual introduction presentation to the EDC, and host a Community Conversation. Motion to host a Community Conversation: Kristine; Second: Suzanne. All in Favor. These will be scheduled in July, dates TBD.

Dave Hammond

Chairman

Kevin Bowdler

Vice Chairman

Jim Lathrop

Member

Suzanne Lane

Member

Richard Balestracci

Member

Dan McFadden

Member

Bill Hobbs

Member

Virginia Abernathy

Member

Pete Robinson

Member

Kristine Halleck

Alternate

Chris Donahue

Alternate

Cullen Hagan

Alternate

EDC Goals:

To assist in the establishment of new business in Stonington; finding business locations; State of Connecticut and local assistance and incentives; introductions to area officials and business leaders; and area statistics and information.

Special "make-up" meetings will be held over the summer. Motion: Dave; Second: Jim. All in Favor. We will keep the third Wednesday of every month normal slot – July 15 and August 19.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Hammond, Chairman
Economic Development Commission

David Hammond, Chairman Approved July 20, 2020