



Town of Stonington Economic Development Commission

152 Elm Street
Stonington, Connecticut 06378

COMMISSIONERS

Dave Hammond
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Kevin Bowdler
Vice Chairman

Jim Lathrop
Member

Suzanne Lane
Member

John Godin
Member

Dan McFadden
Member

Bill Hobbs
Member

Virginia Abernathy
Member

Cullen Hagan
Member

Elsie Bisset
Alternate

Derek Johnson
Alternate

Don Fiore
Alternate

*EDC Mission:
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.*

FINAL MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
SPS District Office Board Room, 40 Field St, Pawcatuck, CT

Attending: Dave Hammond, Jim Lathrop, Suzanne Lane, John Godin, Bill Hobbs, Virginia Abernathy, Cullen Hagan, Elsie Bisset, Derek Johnson, Don Fiore; DoP: Susan Cullen

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

The Minutes of the Jan 11, 2022 Regular Meeting were approved. Motion: John; Second: Jim. **All in Favor.**

New Members Don Fiore and Derek Johnson were welcomed to the team.

New Business:

- a) The results of the prioritization exercise were reviewed (see Table). A brief status and next steps for each effort was provided by initiative leads.
 - i) Initiative #3 Circus Lot: A Motion was made to allocate \$2,000 of EDC budget to combine with a Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association (WPWA) grant to fund a landscape architecture conceptual rendering. The intent is to facilitate discussion for potential public use at a future Community Conversation. Motion: John; Second: Bill. **All in Favor.**
 - ii) Initiative # 5 Marketing / Branding / Placemaking: A Motion was made to allocate \$1,500 of EDC budget to produce a Town-EDC-sponsored Stonington marketing video. The video will be produced over the coming 9 months to promote Stonington through various channels. Motion: Suzanne; Second: John. **All in Favor.**

Department of Planning Report – Susan provided an update on major DoP projects: Pawcatuck sidewalks, Mystic River Boat Park, Stillmanville Environment Assessment grant, 3/7 Community Conversation for potential uses for Old Mystic Elementary School.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Hammond, Chairman
Economic Development Commission

David Hammond, Chairman
Approved April 12, 2022

2022 EDC Goals and Objectives - Status Report as of February 2022

Key
In-progress, 2022 activity
Parking Lot: awaiting action
Hold and monitor

Nr	Potential Initiatives	2022 Key Objectives	Lead	Accomplishments / Next Steps
1	Comprehensive Zoning Update	support consultant: provide Economic Development-specific recommendations (incl: contemporized Zoning District Regs, parking, signage, etc); partner with DoP to assist with Community Conversations	DoP / Dave	consultants interviewed, award in Feb; kickoff meeting in Mar
2	Exit 90	Develop strategic plan to account for increasing visitor numbers; continue to promote Vision; continue to engage public; use effort as catalyst for pedestrian / bike greenway effort	Kevin	Community Conversation summary; subcommittee meeting TBD
3	Circus Lot / Dahl Oil Lot	topo survey; decide EA; purchase Circus lot, illustrative renderings / landscape architect designs; Community Conversations for use	Jim	3-D conceptual rendering done; EDC \$2K for landscape architect rendering; Topo survey by 3/11; 3-D final
4	Donahue Park Ext	complete survey and permitting; conceptual design; quotes for engineering / construction; explore financing alternatives	John	1/5 pre-app w/ DEEP will lead to completion of design / cost; apply for permit (45-90 days to approval), then cert of permission
5	Marketing / Branding / Placemaking	continue to leverage 1649 website; explore public engagement platform; submit quarterly Stonington Magazine articles; continue incremental approach to placemaking through branding and wayfinding efforts	Kevin	EDC \$1.5K for Stonington mktg video, EDC input at March meeting
6	Affordable Housing Plan	Follow-through until adopted by PZC (addendum to POCD); advocate for incorporating recommendations into Comprehensive Zoning Regulation update	DoP / Dave	Public Hearing at 3/15 PZC meeting, step before considering adoption
7	Cultural District	Work closely with SECT Cultural Coalition to realize establishment of Cultural District(s)	Elsie	begin to meet with potential Committee members
8	Stuck Property Analysis	Focus on Mechanic Street Mills - establish connections with owners to plan, save buildings / realize value; identify other specific properties to target such as Breslin; what is stuck due to zoning regs, such as CS-5?	Cullen	
9	Business Outreach	Continue: collaborate with seCTer; support new and existing business; monitor cannabis post approval at referendum (late 2022)	Suzanne / Cullen	
10	Mechanic Street "Gateway"	consider streetscape improvements to establish neighborhood identity and placemaking, connecting to the important Mechanic St Mill assets	Jim	
11	Maritime / Marinas	Re-engage with Marinas, inspired by surge in boating interest	Dan	
12	Campbell Grain lot	Monitor and continue to pursue options for highest and best use infill development as a key part of Downtown Pawcatuck revitalization effort	Dave	
13	Cogswell Pedestrian Bridge	contingent upon development of Campbell Grain lot	Jim	
14	POCD	2023 or later	DoP / Elsie	
15	Agriculture / Aquaculture	Monitor	Dave	
16	Stillman Mill EA	grant awarded, monitor progress	Dave	\$139K grant awarded; EA consultants interviewed
17	Stillman Mill Remediation	2023 or later: Once EA complete, seek remediation path; continue to partner with Eastern CT Landbank	Dave	