



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

COMMISSIONERS

Dave Hammond
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Kevin Bowdler
Vice Chairman

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Member

Richard Balestracci
Member

Dan McFadden
Member

Bill Hobbs
Member

Virginia Abernathy
Member

Pete Robinson
Member

John Godin
Alternate

Chris Donahue
Alternate

Cullen Hagan
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

**Special Virtual Meeting
Tuesday, January 12, 2021**

Attending: EDC: Dave Hammond, Kevin Bowdler, Suzanne Lane, Rich Balestracci, Dan McFadden, Pete Robinson, John Godin, Cullen Hagan; DoP: Susan Cullen

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

The minutes of the 12/17/20 Special Virtual Meeting were approved. Motion: Kevin, Second: Pete. **All in Favor.**

New Business:


- a) The meeting was devoted to a refresh of EDC Initiatives, where members considered potential project / initiatives ideas. The list of potential projects included the current 11 initiatives, new ideas, and DoP projects informed by CIP budget requests (see Table below):
 - i) Once the review was complete, it was decided to vote on priorities by email. Dave will send out an organized list, and all members will vote their preferred rank-ordered top ten, along with interest in leading a subteam or being a subteam member. **ACTION:** Please return your votes to Dave by Friday, January 21 for consolidation.
 - ii) Several new ideas were added at the meeting.
 - iii) During the review of ongoing projects, two reminders were called out:
 - (1) Initiative #8 Housing Strategy – there will be a virtual Community Conversation on January 26. Please attend.
 - (2) Initiative #6 Marketing – articles per the agreed editorial plan are due to Kevin by the end of January. Please contact Kevin with questions.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Hammond, Chairman
Economic Development Commission

David Hammond, Chairman
Approved February 9, 2021

Goal Theme	Stonington Economic Development Commission			Priority Vote (up to 10 votes)	Willing to LEAD (mark with an "X")	Will be on a TEAM (mark with an "X")	Comment
2021-2022 Plan Potential Areas of Focus							
Town-wide benefit: Rec, EcoDev, Culture, Branding, Outreach	Bicycle / Walking / Greenway Plan						Request: \$1 '21-22; \$100K '22-23; community outreach opportunity
	POCD						Request: \$30 '21-22; \$30K '22-23; +. Chance for EDC input
	Cultural District						Restart effort / Partner with Cultural Coalition (Wendy)
	Community / Tourism Wayfinding Signs						Request: \$5K '21-22; \$5K '22-23; EDC can develop list and set priority
	Comprehensive Zoning Update						Request: \$75K '21-22; \$75K '22-23; EDC: PV-5 update; drive-thrus; signage; +
	Housing strategy / Affordable Housing Plan						Assist Don Poland through Plan completion / submittal
	Marketing - branding / placemaking						branding complete; website launched; website refresh ongoing
	Stonington Magazine article submissions						per editorial Calendar (Kevin)
	Parking						Assist with parking study(s), regulations in Comp Rewrite
	Stuck Property Analysis						Identify issues / hurdles, seek resolution, attract developers
Stonington Gateways: Exits 90 and 92	Pandemic-related business outreach						Help solve challenges
	Continue to advance TIF						Draft policy to lead to Town meeting for approval
	"Unstick" Exit 92 - potential for lifestyle center with added residential						Outreach to owners of large parcels; assist with marketing strategies; track developer interest and support as needed
	TC-80 / Stonington Gateway - realize economic potential						"Master Plan" - create vision with community input, lifestyle center to include residential; leverage UCONN study re Gateway and Coogan Blvd
Downtown Pawcatuck	Mechanic St mills - Harris / CT Trust plan, Yardney						Restart overtures to connect with owners
	Threadmill South / NDD / pre-approved site plan						conceptual drawing (EDC budget use?)
	Circus Lot Acquisition / Master Plan						Request: \$42.5K '21-22; \$50K '22-23; coordinate purchase and conceptual planning
	Pawcatuck River Greenway - Phase 1						Request: \$1 '21-22; \$20K approved '20-21 CIP funding for survey / permit
	Pedestrian Bridge Engineering Design						Request: \$1 '21-22; integral to EDC vision for Pawcatuck
	Stillmanville Mill Environmental Assessment						Request: \$1 '21-22; \$200K '22-23; Use TBD pending concepts / community input
	Stillmanville Mill Brownfield Remediation						Request: \$1 '21-22; Partner with ECLB; Use TBD pending concepts / community input
	Develop Grain building lot						Support Fixed Assessment at Town Meeting; continue partner with WinnCos
	Pawcatuck Streetscape						\$20K approved '20-21 CIP funding
	Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Districts						Monitor State grant opportunities (currently unfunded)
	"Unstick" Dahl Oil Lot						Outreach with owner ongoing, motivator is drive-thru for S. Broad Bess Eaton; possible "Master Plan" with abutting Circus Lot
	Maritime / Marinas						Follow-up outreach to marinas, capitalize on recent boating surge, pursue water taxi idea
	Agriculture / Aquaculture						Ag Committee initiatives continue (Ward Smith); monitor fishing industry needs
Key:							
Subject to EDC vote, potential high priority, ability for EDC to have significant impact							
Medium priority, success reliant on others, or in sustain phase							
Lower priority due to difficulty for EDC to influence, or resource constraints							