

Town of Stonington Economic Development Commission

152 Elm Street Stonington, Connecticut 06378

COMMISSIONERS

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Kevin Bowdler Vice Chairman

Jim Lathrop Member

Suzanne Lane Member

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Elsie Bisset Alternate

John Godin Alternate

Open 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 – Exit 90 Tourist Commercial (TC-80) Monday, December 6, 2021

EDC Members in attendance: Kevin Bowdler, John Godin, Elsie Bisset, Dave Hammond.

- Call to order 9:31 am.
- Kate Rattan (SECCOG) brought the group up to date on the work she has been doing with the DOT re Exit 90 and shared her knowledge of the SEAT HOP Bus Service.
- Jess Brown, Denison Homestead updated the group on the work that his group plus the UCONN Engineering students have been working on re walking and bike trails.
- We brainstormed next steps and agreed on one BIG idea. We need a strategic plan on how does Exit 90 cope with a large increase in Tourists over the next 10 to 20 years. This Strategic Plan would encompass the existing problems that have been identified to date. E.g. How do we allow people to safely and easily move around Exit 90, in cars, as pedestrians, cyclists and on the river. How do tourists move between Exit 90 and downtown Mystic? This strategic plan needs professional execution which is not something that the EDC volunteers have the skills. EDC will lobby for a consultant or employee to be funded by the Town to create the strategic plan and then execute on this strategic plan.
- A few small interim ideas can be pursued. They are:
 - Market the existing Stonington SEAT HOP Service to Exit 90 Hotels, Chambers of Commerce, etc. Reach out to New London parking authority who is marketing SEAT. (KB)
 - Seek Mystic River access by asking for an easement from private property owner on north side of I95, south side of I95 and Elm Tree Cemetery. (KB)
 - Stay connected with Dennison Homestead and SECCOG initiatives. (KB)

Adjourn: 10:36 am.

Kevin Bowdler, Vice-Chairman Economic Development Commission

David Hammond, Chairman Approved December 14, 2021