Plan of Conservation and Development Implementation Committee Regular Meeting Minutes April 18, 2022

The Plan of Conservation and Development Implementation Committee held a Special Meeting on Monday, April 18, 2022, 5:00PM at Stonington Town Hall, 152 Elm St., Stonington, CT.

Attending were Chairman / First Selectman, Danielle Chesebrough and members, David Hammond, Susan Hibbard, Donald Kluberdanz, Ben Philbrick, Lyndsey Pyrke-Fairchild, Lynn Young and Keith Brynes, Town Planner. Members, Erika Lebling, John Truscinski, and Barbara McKrell – Director of Public Works were absent.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chesebrough at 5:01PM.

Approval of Draft Minutes

Ms. Hibbard motioned to approved the draft 1/24/22 minutes; seconded by Mr. Philbrick. The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion of First Selectman's Implementation Priorities

Ms. Chesebrough stated that the proposal for solar energy at the Town landfill has been postponed to further investigate financial details.

Mr. Philbrick summarized the Planning and Zoning Commission's 4/5/22 public hearing on adoption of the Affordable Housing Plan. The Commission's is scheduled to vote on adoption on 4/20/22.

Mr. Kluberdanz stated that Jennifer Lacker of Bike Stonington drafted a proposal for a bike route from the Mystic Train Station along Rt. 1 to Greenhaven Rd. Ms. Lacker stated this would entail temporary chalk markings on the side of Rt. 1. The goal is to present the concept to the Police Commission for approval followed by CTDOT. A letter from Bike Stonington and Bike Groton has been sent to DOT requesting bike-friendly grates on the Mystic River Drawbridge.

Ms. Chesebrough stated that Mystic Seaport has decided to offer half of their southern parking lot as public parking with a shuttle bus running downtown. The Seaport's goal is to also offer a water taxi from their property to downtown. Groton and Stonington have hired the consultant who prepared the Downtown Mystic Parking Study for further investigation into options for metered parking downtown. Some public parking spots at the 4th District Voting Hall will be striped this year; drainage improvements at this property were recently completed.

Mr. Hammond stated that the EDC has been working with local fishermen on a marketing campaign, and has been working with a group of local farmers. Meetings have been held with the Southeastern CT Cultural Coalition to establish a Cultural District in Stonington. Next step on this issue would be to establish a committee.

Ms. Young stated that the WPCA's moratorium on increased flows to the Mystic plant has mostly been lifted.

Ms. Chesebrough summarized a recent \$900,000 grant application for repairs to the north pier of the Town Dock. The Town and its partners are close to closing on 224 acres of conservation land on Al Harvey Rd. The Committee discussed ways to keep people informed of municipal issues.

Mr. Philbrick motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ms. Hibbard. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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