



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

COMMISSIONERS

Dave Hammond
Chairman

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.*

MINUTES

Special Meeting

Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 6:00 pm
SPS District Office Room 103, 40 Field St, Pawcatuck, CT

Attending: EDC – Dave Hammond, Kevin Bowdler, Jim Lathrop, Suzanne Lane, Bill Hobbs, Virginia Abernathy, Cullen Hagan, Elsie Bisset, Don Fiore; DoP – Susan Cullen

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm
- 2) The Minutes of Oct 11 Regular Meeting were approved as amended, and Minutes for the Oct 18 Special Meeting – Cultural District were approved as written. Motion: Elsie, Second: Don. **All in Favor**
- 3) New Business
 - a) EDC Membership and Openings – there are 4 openings; incumbents can reapply, Alternate members can apply for a Regular member slot leaving an Alternate slot as the opening. Dave Hammond announced he is retiring from the EDC after 9 years. The Board of Selectwomen are interviewing candidates and will consider appointments at a January BoS meeting.
 - b) The Tax Assessor Community Conversation is being planned for early December
- 4) Old Business – Project Review of each of the initiatives – see Table for updates and progress. No decisions were made.
- 5) Department of Planning Report – Susan provided updates on:
 - a) Stonington received a Sustainable CT bronze award. Congratulations!
 - b) Cannabis regulations have been finalized
 - c) Stillmanville mill site environmental assessment spells out contaminants; criteria for possible uses are being reviewed
 - d) Engineering work is ready to commence for Mystic River Boathouse Park
 - e) Pawcatuck sidewalks have received DOT review and will be out for bid soon
- 6) The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Hammond, Chairman
Economic Development Commission

2023 EDC Goals and Objectives

Status Report as of November 2022

N	In Progress - Active		Leader	Accomplishments / Latest Progress
	On Hold - awaiting kick-off			
	2023 Initiatives / Areas of Focus			
	Key Objectives			
1	Comprehensive Zoning Update	Provide Economic Development-specific recommendations. Susan to invite consultant team to an EDC meeting, provide Keith's list of updates, and provide project plan with milestone dates	Susan / Don	Oct: Don to attend PZC meetings with consultants. Public comment 1Q23 once detail review of existing regs and issues complete; Nov: Don attends Phase 1 meetings, focusing on structure and definitions
4	Donahue Park Ext	complete survey and permitting; conceptual design; quotes for engineering / construction; explore financing alternatives	John	Oct: John to meet with consultant 10/14; goal is to complete application to DEEP; Nov: Tony Nenna presented conceptual plan, leading to a pre-app meeting with DEEP to determine permit-ability
5	Marketing / Branding / Placemaking	Continue incremental approach to placemaking through branding and wayfinding efforts; Stonington video; use Newsletter to inform and educate	Kevin	Nov: Stonington1649 upgrade underway, EDC suggestions sought
2	Stonington Gateways: Exits 90, 91, 92, Mechanic St	Exits 90, 91, 92 "Welcome"; Exit 90 water access at Elm Grove Cemetery, alternative energy hub; Mechanic St: conceptual design to improve appearance of railroad embankment	Elsie / Derek	Nov: on hold pending completion of Cultural District application (phasing EDC member resources)
7	Higher-Potential Property Analysis	Partner with Town and property owners to return to productive use; conduct another pass to identify non-performing, abandoned, vacant properties	Cullen	Oct: display properties on Google map on Stonington1649; Nov: cont. work on to-be-published map
3	Circus Lot / Dahl Oil Lot	Reconnect with Dahl property owner, use completed survey to complete landscape architect conceptual designs for Circus Lot uses	Jim	Oct: formed subcommittee: Don, Suzanne, Bill; Nov: DoP meeting with Chad Frost for conceptual drawing work; have been unable to connect with Dahl lot owner
6	Cultural District	Work closely with SECT Cultural Coalition to realize establishment of Cultural District(s); membership on AH Commission	Elsie	Oct: Next meeting 11/18 at 9am to formalize 2 districts; Nov: team continues work on application substrate for 2 districts
8	Business Outreach	Continue outreach to support new and existing business; leverage Business Directory, seCTer resources	Suzanne	Oct: Identify commercial property owners and invite them to the Energy Fair (John, Virginia); Nov: database of businesses has been developed, facilitating communication, e.g. provide seCTer info
9	Promote Fishing / Town Dock	Partnering with SNEFLA to promote fishing	OPEN	Nov: Stonington Fresh effort connecting to restaurants, other PR efforts through website
11	Alternative Energy	Public information / early 2023 Fair. Partner with Climate Change Task Force	Kevin	Nov: organizers to meet 11/16, Fair date set for 3/25 at Mystic Aquarium Research Center
12	Promote Pawcatuck River	Kayak Trail, recreation / tourism, WPWA	OPEN	
13	Establish bikeways	Police Commission supports: help establish network	Kevin	
10	Wequetequock Village	Revive Village heritage; dire prerequisites: water, sewer	OPEN	