



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

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Dave Hammond
 Chairman

Kevin Bowdler
 Vice Chairman

Jim Lathrop
 Member

Suzanne Lane
 Member

Richard Balestracci
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Dan McFadden
 Member

Bill Hobbs
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Virginia Abernathy
 Member

Pete Robinson
 Member

John Godin
 Alternate

OPEN
 Alternate

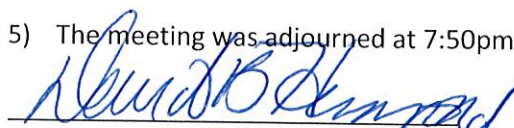
Cullen Hagan
 Alternate


*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, April 13, 2021**

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm. Present: Dave Hammond, Kevin Bowdler, Jim Lathrop, Suzanne Lane, Dan McFadden, Pete Robinson, John Godin.
- 2) The Minutes of the 3/9/21 Special Virtual Meeting; 3/3/21 Gateway / TC-80 Subcommittee meeting were **approved**. Motion: Kevin, Second: John, **All in Favor**
- 3) New Business
 - a) Cultural District – Wendy Bury of the SECT Cultural Coalition presented the benefits and process for establishing a cultural district (s) within Stonington. Steps include developing a cultural asset inventory, hosting Community Conversations to gauge interest, and establishing a Council which can lead to State designation. The key benefit is promotional, which in turn drives interest, visits, and economic value. **Action:** Pete to develop proposal for next steps to be discussed at the May EDC meeting
 - b) LI-130 – Chris Pacheco of Seacoast Mushrooms presented a proposal to amend the regulation to allow farming in the Light Industrial zone off Exit 91. Motion to write a Letter of Support to the PZC. Motion: Dave, Second: Kevin. For: Dave, Kevin, Suzanne, Dan, Pete, John; Opposed: none; Abstain: Jim. **Motion passed.**
- 4) 7:15pm – Old Business – Project Review
 - a) **Circus Lot / Dahl:** Jim is in contact with Dahl owner and will organize a subcommittee meeting soon.
 - b) **Riverwalk:** Dave met with Susan to plan next steps for Donahue Park – Rte 1 section; met with On-Site Engineering to contract for survey / permit work.
 - c) **Affordable Housing Plan:** Draft Plan is completed, available for review soon.
 - d) **TC-80:** subcommittee has met several times: Vision document created and survey for residents, businesses, and visitors being prepared.
 - e) **Stillmanville Mill EA:** DECD Application for a Brownfield Assessment Grant was submitted.
 - f) **Cultural District:** see above.
 - g) **Marketing – Branding / Placemaking:** website development continues – site content and utility is increasingly improved. Motion for \$100/month for google ads to drive traffic to Stonington1649 website. Motion: Kevin, Second: Jim. **All in Favor**
- 5) The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm


 Dave Hammond, Chairman
 Economic Development Commission
 Approved May 11, 2021

 Stonington Economic Development Commission					
Goal Theme	2021-2022 Project Plan Areas of Focus	Ref: Rank	SubTeam Lead	Team Members (any EDC member or the public can join)	Comment
Pawcatuck	Circus Lot Acquisition / Master Plan; "Unstick" Dahl Oil Lot	1 7	Jim	Kevin, Suzanne, Dan, Virginia, Cullen, John, Chris, Dave, Bill	Circus Lot: CIP Request: \$42.5K '21-22; \$50K '22-23; coordinate purchase and conceptual planning; Dahl: Outreach with owner ongoing, motivator is drive-thru for S. Broad Bess Eaton; possible "Master Plan" with abutting Circus Lot. FY21 EDC budget - approved \$6K survey, \$1K digital
	Mechanic St mills - Harris / CT Trust plan, Yardney; Threadmill South	8 T10	Rich	Jim, Bill, Dave	Yardney: Restart overtures to connect with owners; Threadmill: conceptual drawing (EDC budget use?)
	Pawcatuck River Greenway - Phase 1; Pawcatuck Streetscape	3	Dave / Susan	Kevin, Jim, Suzanne, Rich, Virginia, Pete, Chris, Dan, Bill	Riverwalk: CIP Request: \$1 '21-22; \$20K approved '20-21 CIP funding for survey / permit; Apr: met w/ On-Site Eng for survey permit work; Streetscape: \$20K approved '20-21 CIP funding; partner with Beautification Committee
	Pedestrian Bridge Engineering Design	6	Jim	Dave, Kevin, Suzanne, Virginia, Pete, Chris	CIP Request: \$1 '21-22; Integral to EDC vision for Pawcatuck
Townwide	Stuck Property Analysis; "Unstick" Exit 92 - potential for lifestyle center with added residential	9 13	Cullen	John, Kevin, Jim, Rich, Dan, Pete, Dave, Suzanne, Chris	Identify issues / hurdles, seek resolution, attract developers; Outreach to owners of large parcels; assist with marketing strategies; track developer interest and support as needed
	Comprehensive Zoning Update	2	DoP	Dave, Kevin, Jim, Dan, Virginia, John, Cullen	CIP Request: \$75K '21-22; \$75K '22-23; EDC: PV-5 update; drive-thrus; signage; +
	Housing strategy / Affordable Housing Plan	5	DoP	Dave, Kevin, Jim, Suzanne, Rich, Dan, Virginia, Pete, John, Cullen	Assist Don Poland through Plan completion / submittal
Exit 90	TC-80 / Stonington Gateway - realize economic potential	4	Kevin	Dave, Dan, Pete, John	"Master Plan" - create vision with community input, lifestyle center to include residential; leverage UCONN study re Gateway and Coogan Blvd; Apr: subcommittee creates Vison doc, working on survey

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	Individually Driven Efforts				
	Pandemic-related business outreach	14	Suzanne		Help solve challenges
	Parking	15	John		Assist with parking study(s), regulations in Comp Rewrite
	Cultural District	16	Pete / Wendy Bury	Dave	Restart effort / Partner with Cultural Coalition (Wendy); Apr: Wendy presented, Pete to write proposal for action
	Stillmanville Mill Environmental Assessment	17	Dave / Cullen		CIP Request: \$1 '21-22; \$200K '22-23; Use TBD pending concepts / community input; Feb: pre-App approved; Apr: Assesment Grant App submitted
	Maritime / Marinas	18	Dan		Follow-up outreach to marinas, capitalize on recent boating surge, pursue water taxi idea
	Develop Grain building lot	20	Dave	EDC	Support Fixed Assessment at Town Meeting; continue partner with WinnCos
	Community / Tourism Wayfinding Signs	21	Kevin		CIP Request: \$5K '21-22; \$5K '22-23; EDC can develop list and set priority
	POCD	22	Dave	EDC	CIP Request: \$30 '21-22; \$30K '22-23; +. Chance for EDC input
	Marketing - branding / placemaking	25	Kevin		branding complete; website launched; website refresh ongoing; Apr: approved \$100/mo EDC budget for website support
	Stonington Magazine article submissions	26	Kevin	EDC contributors	per editorial Calendar (Kevin)
	Hold and Monitor				
	Agriculture / Aquaculture	27	Dave / Ward Smith	Liaise with Ward	Ag Committee initiatives continue (Ward Smith); monitor fishing industry needs; Apr: LI-130 Ag use LoS
	Bicycle / Walking / Greenway Plan	12	Hold		CIP Request: \$1 '21-22; \$100K '22-23; community outreach opportunity
	Continue to advance TIF	19	Hold		Draft policy to lead to Town meeting for approval
	Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Districts	24	Hold		Monitor State grant opportunities (currently unfunded)
	Stillmanville Mill Brownfield Remediation	23	Hold		Request: \$1 '21-22; Partner with ECLB; Use TBD pending concepts / community input