

April 22, 2021

The Stonington Board of Selectmen and Economic Development Commission held a special virtual meeting on this date at 4:00 p.m. This was available via audio on a conference line. First Selectman Danielle Chesebrough, Selectwoman June Strunk and Selectwoman Debbie Motycka Downie were in attendance along with Economic Development Commission members Dave Hammond and Jim Lathrop. Staff members Susan Cullen, Keith Brynes and Candy Palmer were present. No public or press were present in the room.

**(1) Call to Order**

Ms. Chesebrough and Mr. Hammond called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

**(2) Discuss Circus Lot Property**

Ms. Chesebrough provided an outline of the objective for bringing the Board of Selectmen, and key staff, up-to-date on the work the Economic Development Commission has been leading on in regards to the Circus Lot Property. This included the history of the Economic Development Commission's efforts, objectives linked to broader revitalization efforts, and future plans.

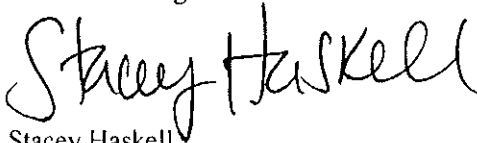
Mr. Jim Lathrop provided rough conceptual plans on site development and use. He gave an overview of the Economic Development Commission's efforts on the property and the future vision for how this parcel could play an important role in future development in the downtown area, particularly along Liberty Street. He mentioned another Economic Development Commission priority was the revitalization of four contiguous lots totaling two acres and containing 250' of road frontage on Liberty Street. These four properties are owned by DB Acquisitions, LLC and abut the Circus Lot property. Mr. Lathrop provided a copy of a preliminary Wetland Site Inspection that was performed at by Avizinis Environmental Services (AES). He reviewed details of the inspection including that along with general observations, the document overlays the USDA-NCS Soil Survey map over the GIS mapping of the Circus Lot and indicates none of the soils mapped on this site are considered hydric.

The group discussed past results of the Phase I Environmental Testing, which came back with no significant concerns. Ms. Downie suggested holding off on a Phase II until future uses for the site are determined to better focus that effort. The next step will be to survey the lot, which would include wetlands determination. The Economic Development Commission has already received one quote from Cherenzia and Associates which they provided to the Board of Selectmen on the survey cost. The Town will acquire at least one other quote to compare pricing. The survey work will be funded through line items in the Economic Development Commission and the First Selectman's budget with each paying fifty percent. Once that survey work is done the group will meet to discuss next steps, including reaching out to all abutting property owners along Liberty Street.

In addition to economic impacts, the group touched on the importance to overall quality of life and new outdoor, recreational options related to the improvement of the Circus Lot.

**(3) Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.



Stacey Haskell  
Recording Secretary