



**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

**Richard Balestracci**  
Member

**Dan McFadden**  
Member

**Bill Hobbs**  
Member

**Virginia Abernathy**  
Member

**Pete Robinson**  
Member

**John Godin**  
Alternate

**Chris Donahue**  
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, February 9, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m.

Roll call: EDC attending: Dave Hammond, Kevin Bowdler, Jim Lathrop, Suzanne Lane, Rich Balestracci, Dan McFadden, Virginia Abernathy, Pete Robinson, John Godin, Chris Donahue; DoP: Susan Cullen.

The Minutes for the 1/12/21 Special Virtual Meeting were approved. Motion: Pete; Second: Rich. **All in Favor.**

New Business: Discussion ensued related to the exercise to refresh the EDC's list of project / initiative ideas (see Tables below):

- a) Top priorities according to the EDC ranking exercise were agreed. Several initiatives were related, and so were combined.
- b) Sub-committee Leaders and Team Members were confirmed.
- c) A simple sub-committee Charter template will be provided. The Charter will provide structure to guide realistic bite-sized goals / deliverables and timeline; identify any potential EDC budget request.
- d) Initiatives that can be driven by individual effort are shown on the second table below, along with several that will be monitored while on "hold".

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Hammond, Chairman  
Economic Development Commission

David Hammond, Chairman  
Approved March 9, 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	Dave / Jim / Bill	Kevin, Suzanne, Dan, Virginia, Cullen, John, Chris	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 Yardney: Restart overtures to connect with owners; Threadmill: conceptual drawing (EDC budget use?)
	Mechanic St mills - Harris / CT Trust plan, Yardney;	8	Rich	Jim, Bill, Dave	Yardney: Restart overtures to connect with owners; Threadmill: conceptual drawing (EDC budget use?)
	Pawcatuck River Greenway - Phase 1;	T10	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; Streetscape: \$20K approved '20-21 CIP funding; partner with Beautification Committee
	Pawcatuck Streetscape	T10	Dave / Susan	Dave, Kevin, Suzanne, Virginia, Pete, Chris	CIP Request: \$1 '21-22; integral to EDC vision for Pawcatuck
	Pedestrian Bridge Engineering Design	6	Jim	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
	Stuck Property Analysis;	9	Cullen	Dave, Kevin, Jim, Dan, Virginia, John, Cullen	CIP Request: \$75K '21-22; \$75K '22-23; EDC: PV-5 update; drive-thrus; signage; +
Townwide	"Unstick" Exit 92 - potential for lifestyle center with added residential	13			Assist Don Poland through Plan completion / submittal
	Comprehensive Zoning Update	2	DoP		
	Housing strategy / Affordable Housing Plan	5	DoP		
Exit	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

Stonington Economic Development Commission				
2021-2022 Project Plan Areas of Focus	Ref: Rank	SubTeam Lead	Team Members (any EDC member or the public can join)	Comment
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)
Stillmanville Mill Environmental Assessment	17	Dave / Cullen		CIP Request: \$1 '21-22; \$200K '22-23; Use TBD pending concepts / community input
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		CIP Request: \$30 '21-22; \$30K '22-23; +. Chance for EDC input
Marketing - branding / placemaking	25	Kevin		branding complete; website launched; website refresh ongoing
Stonington Magazine article submissions	26	Kevin	EDC contributors	per editorial Calendar (Kevin)
Agriculture / Aquaculture	27	Dave / Ward Smith	Liaise with Ward	Ag Committee initiatives continue (Ward Smith); monitor fishing industry needs
Hold and Monitor				
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