



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

**Danielle Chesebrough**  
 Member

**Virginia Abernathy**  
 Member

**Pete Robinson**  
 Member

**Ed Planeta**  
 Alternate

**Bill Hobbs**  
 Alternate

**Chris Donahue**  
 Alternate

*EDC Goals:  
 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**

**Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, February 20, 2019**

Human Services Building  
 166 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, CT

Attending: EDC – Dave Hammond, Kevin Bowdler, Rich Balestracci, Dan McFadden, Danielle Chesebrough, Virginia Abernathy, Pete Robinson, Bill Hobbs, Chris Donahue; Public: Al Valente, Kristine Halleck, 6 SHS students.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Minutes from Jan 16<sup>TH</sup> Regular Meeting and Jan 24<sup>TH</sup> Special Meeting were approved.  
 Motion: Pete; Second: Kevin; **ALL IN FAVOR.**

EDC Initiative Work Plan Decisions; For Updates – see Table below.

- a. Branding Initiative (#3): Write a Letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting use of Stonington 1649 logo on all marketing-related material. Motion: Virginia; Second: Dan; **ALL IN FAVOR.**
- b. TC-80 Initiative (#8): endorse up to \$250 for graphics mounted on poster board for Community Conversation facilitation. Motion: Kevin; Second: Dave; **ALL IN FAVOR.**

Department of Planning Report: Distributed via email.

A proposal for enhancing the Downtown Pawcatuck Streetscape was discussed at the February 13<sup>TH</sup> Board of Selectmen meeting. A committee will be formed by the First Selectmen including representatives from all constituencies to determine a path forward.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Hammond, Chairman  
 Economic Development Commission

David Hammond, Chairman  
 Approved March 20, 2019

Stonington Economic Development Commission - February 2019 Report					2/23/2019
2018-2019 Plan Potential Areas of	Team	February Minutes	February Meeting Notes	Next Steps	Completed Actions (since last EDC in RED)
1 Grain building lot - conceptual drawing and marketing strategy	Jim (Lead), Dave, Danielle, Rich, Suzanne	Team met 1/24 with local architect to explore conceptual drawing options, proposal received and to be considered at next team meeting; ongoing discussions with owner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jim to set team meeting</li> <li>owner working with architect for conceptual drawings to market property</li> <li>owner in contact with hotelier with development ideas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>consider proposal from local architect to draft conceptual schematics</li> <li>seek funding source</li> <li>conduct PV-5 parking study</li> <li>brainstorm with developers</li> <li>hold Community Conversation</li> <li>market idea to developers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>formed a team</li> <li>rough DRAFT conceptual drawing RFQ v1.0; v2.0 (11/12)</li> <li>Team Meetings: 10/30, 11/14, 12/20, 1/9, 1/24</li> <li>proposal from local architect to draft conceptual schematics</li> <li>ongoing discussions with owner</li> </ul>
2 Continue to advance Targeted Community Investment (TCI) using TIF	Rich (Lead), Kevin, Dave, Jim, Pete, Sal	seeking speaker for Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rich to set etam meeting to plan Forum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>schedule next team meeting</li> <li>plan Community Conversation: awareness, acceptance, what do residents want to achieve with tool</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11/7 Team Meeting</li> <li>Action Plan drafted</li> </ul>
3 Marketing - branding / placemaking / wayfinding	Kevin (Lead), Dan, Bill	endorsed writing Letter to BoS to start using logo; agreed to update Facebook to Stonington 1649 standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>met with state tourism reps re Cvisit.com linkage</li> <li>submitted entry to Smithsonian for possible inclusion in 20 Best Small Towns 2019</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>continue website development</li> </ul>	
4 Pawcatuck Historic Structure designation	Jim (Lead), Dave	No activity		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Track: CT designation of 5 bldgs in downtown Pawcatuck; submission to US Dept Interior</li> <li>explore eligibility for grants and tax credits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>met with CT officials (Sept 2018) to review neighborhood and candidates</li> </ul>
5 Acquire Circus Lot / Potential Uses	Bill (lead), DoP, Team pending	discussed cleanup project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>plan cleanup project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Broach idea with Westerly</li> <li>Identify fundin options</li> <li>Hold a Community Conversation</li> <li>Engage a Landscape Architect to draft a Master Plan</li> <li>Understand cost</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter of Recommendation sent to Conservation Commission 10/22; followed-up with Acquisition Proposal</li> </ul>
6 Stillman Ave mill	DoP, Team pending	No activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to seek funding for study. Deterioration of mill accelerating, making demo most likely outcome</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>continue discussion of historic designation; drawback - if designated, will that prevent demo if no developer can be found?</li> <li>need a strategy to gain community and Town official support for preservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter of Support for Brownfield Grant Application sent to First Selectman 10/31</li> <li>Grant application submitted, but was not funded</li> </ul>
7 UCONN CE projects - PV pedestrian bridge / riverwalk / Mystic Train Station	DoP, UCONN	Three senior project teams of UCONN Civil Engineering Students; designs to be delivered April 2019		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>leverage designs to facilitate Community Conversations with property owners and Town officials</li> </ul>	
8 TC-80 Community Conversation #2 w/ UCONN Gateway plans	TBD	Community Conversation set for 2/28; approved \$250 for poster boards to facilitate meeting		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>track to TCI, plan meeting</li> </ul>	
9 Housing strategy	Dave (Lead), Chris, Kristene, Jim Kelly	Invite rep (Harry Heller) for 126 S Broad housing proposal to meet with EDC in advance of continued PZC public hearing on 3/19		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan team meeting to develop action plan (Dave)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11/8 Housing Strategy meeting with David Fink</li> <li>team formed</li> </ul>