



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

**COMMISSIONERS**

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Member

**Virginia Abernathy**  
Member

**Pete Robinson**  
Member

**Ed Planeta**  
Alternate

**Bill Hobbs**  
Alternate

**Ward Smith**  
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 21, 2018**

**6:00 p.m.**

Human Services Building  
166 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, CT

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.
2. Minutes from previous meetings were approved with no additions or corrections: January 17, 2018 Regular Meeting; Special Meetings: January 16, 2018; January 17, 2018 Branding / Wayfinding subcommittee; January 29, 2018 Aquaculture Forum; January 31, 2018 and February 14, 2018 TIF subcommittee; February 8, 2018 Liberty St subcommittee. **Motion:** Pete; **Second:** Kevin; **All in Favor.**
3. Comments from the Public
  - Harrison Macris gave an overview of plans for the Armory building to house his fabrication business as well as provide incubator space for fledgling technology entrepreneurs. He will submit a change of use application at the March 20, 2018 PZC meeting. **Motion** to provide a Letter of Support: Dave; **Second:** Pete; **Seven in Favor, one abstain. Action:** Pete to draft Letter, send to Dave.
4. **Guest Speaker:** Wendy Bury, Executive Director, Southeastern CT Cultural Coalition (CC) gave a presentation that highlighted how arts and culture drive economic development. The CC has launched a Cultural Landscape Initiative to build a database of cultural assets (see item 5f, below). Other areas for collaboration include grants, networking, connecting businesses to the arts.
5. Old Business:
  - a) **EDC-sponsored Community Conversations** – Several property owners in (one of eight) GC-60 zones would like to see contemporized zoning regulations to promote mixed-use, specifically to include housing. **Action:** Kevin to invite property owners to an EDC meeting to present their ideas.
  - b) **EDC subcommittee structure:** Subcommittees come to full EDC for decisions; brief subcommittee agendas and minutes can summarize meeting purpose and outcome. Two or more EDC members in attendance constitutes a public meeting; per FOI submit Agenda at least 24 hours prior to meeting, Minutes within 7 days (send to Cheryl Sadowski at Town Hall)
  - c) **Agriculture Committee Report:** A debrief of the 2/13/18 Agriculture subcommittee meeting was provided. The EDC is sponsoring a PA490 Information Forum on Feb 26. **Motion** to authorize \$100 for LaGrua rental: Ward; **Second:** Kevin; **All in Favor.**

- d) **Aquaculture Community Education Forum:** A report out of the 1/29/18 highly-informative shellfish industry Education Forum was given; next steps to support this initiative are TBD. No actions or decisions.
  - e) **Branding / Placemaking / Wayfinding** – Branding effort continues, web design and content for economic clusters are in the planning phase. **Motion** to purchase banner with new Stonington logo and aerial backdrop for \$235: Kevin; **Second:** Dave; **All in Favor.** The banner can be used for any ED-related purpose.
  - f) **Cultural Asset Inventory Initiative** – Jake Mueller, a Stonington High School senior in the school’s Internship program, has begun to develop a database of cultural assets (see also Guest Speaker, above). No actions or decisions.
  - g) **Marinas economic cluster** – EDC presence (banner included) at a table at the Hartford Boat Show (Feb 5-8) brought visibility to marinas in Stonington. **Motion** for \$95 for electricity to run Stonington Marinas Three Harbors video loop: Kevin; **Second:** Dave; **All in Favor**
  - h) **Liberty St subcommittee** – Initial meeting held Feb 8; subcommittee still in planning phase. Next meeting is Feb 27. No actions or decisions.
  - i) **TIF subcommittee** – Initial meetings held Jan 31 and Feb 14; subcommittee still in planning phase. No actions or decisions.
  - j) **Pawcatuck Village Update** – An update of activity was provided. No actions or decisions.
  - k) **Budget Review** – Of the \$2,770 budget, about \$2,570 is spent, committed, or authorized-to-spend, leaving a balance-to-spend of about \$200.
6. New Business:
- a) **Bikeways Plans:** deferred.
  - b) **EDC Comprehensive Economic Development Plan:** deferred.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dave Hammond, Chairman  
Economic Development Commission



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Dave Hammond, Chairman  
Approved March 21, 2018