



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

FINAL MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Human Services Building
 166 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, CT

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

Kristine Halleck
 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.*

Attending: EDC – Dave Hammond, Kevin Bowdler, Jim Lathrop, Suzanne Lane, Rich Balestracci, Danielle Chesebrough, Pete Robinson (by phone), Bill Hobbs; Department of Planning: Jason Vincent; GMCC Rep: Al Valenti; Public: Joan Durant; The Day; The Sun; about 10 SHS students.

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

The Minutes of the April 17TH Regular meeting and April 30TH Special meeting were approved. Motion: Kevin; Second: Jim; **ALL IN FAVOR.**

The FY18-19 YE Budget was reviewed. The balance-to-spend of \$3,700 was agreed to be allocated to EDC website development. Motion: Jim; Second: Rich; **ALL IN FAVOR.**

A presentation of the *2018 Connecticut Local Economic Development Organization Survey Report* was given by guest speaker Laura Brown, UCONN Community & Economic Development Educator.

A presentation of the economic benefits of the proposed Smiler’s Wharf development was provided by Harry Boardsen and Don Poland. After discussion, it was agreed the EDC will provide a Letter of Support for May 28TH Special PZC meeting. Motion: Jim; Second: Danielle; **ALL IN FAVOR.**

Old Business – EDC Initiatives Updates – status reports were provided, no decisions were made – see table for updates.


New Business – it was proposed that a Community Conversation for Mystic Greenways be held. Danielle to outline a proposal for content and objectives for June EDC meeting.

The Department of Planning Monthly Activity Update was distributed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Hammond, Chairman
 Economic Development Commission


 David Hammond, Chairman
 Approved June 19, 2019

Upcoming

- May 18 – Circus Lot cleanup
- May 28 – Smiler’s Wharf at PZC Special Meeting
- June 4 – NDD TC-80 for hotels at PZC meeting
- June 19 – Regular EDC Meeting
- TBD – Stonington-North Stonington Joint EDC meeting
- TBD – TCI Community Conversation #2

Stonington Economic Development Commission - May 2019 Report				5/17/2019
2018-2019 Plan Potential Areas of		Team	May Minutes / Meeting Notes	Completed Actions (since last EDC in RED)
1	Grain building lot - conceptual drawing and marketing strategy	Jim (Lead), Dave, Danielle, Rich, Suzanne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$3K Grant received from Washington Trust Phase 1 contract signed with Azzinaro for \$6K owner actively involved in marketing on Loopnet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> formed a team Oct 2018 rough DRAFT conceptual drawing RFQ v1.0; v2.0 (11/12) Team Meetings: 10/30, 11/14, 12/20, 1/9, 1/24, 3/1 proposal from local architect to draft conceptual schematics; signed contract to execute Phase 1. (May) ongoing talks with owner Grant received from Washington Trust
2	Continue to advance Targeted Community Investment (TCI) using TIF	Rich (Lead), Kevin, Dave, Jim, Pete, Sal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4/30 Community Conversation held Targeted Community Investment (TCI) using TIF was well-received by about 50 attendees Based on public support, move expeditiously to next phase - introduce draft Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> scheduled 5/22 team meeting plan 2nd Community Conversation to introduce draft Policy
3	Marketing - branding / placemaking / wayfinding	Kevin (Lead), Dan, Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> continued progress on Stonington 1649 website allocated \$3,700 of FY19 budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> met with state tourism reps re Cvisit.com linkage submitted entry to Smithsonian for possible inclusion in 20 Best Small Towns 2019 updated EDC Facebook to Stonington 1649 standard met with BETA, received wayfinding proposal for consideration
4	Pawcatuck Historic Structure designation	Jim (Lead), Dave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> update at next Regular meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Track: CT designation of 5 bldgs in downtown Pawcatuck; submission to US Dept Interior explore eligibility for grants and tax credits
5	Acquire Circus Lot / Potential Uses	Bill (lead), DoP, Team pending	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> clean-up project set for May 18 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter of Recommendation sent to Conservation Commission 10/22; followed-up with Acquisition Proposal
6	Stillman Ave mill	DoP, Team pending	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to demo, the initiative is CLOSED 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter of Support for Brownfield Grant Application sent to First Selectman 10/31 Grant application submitted, but was not funded Met with potential buyers / developers building collapsed and demo-ed in April site awaiting Town disposition, EDC CLOSED initiative pending Town action
7	UCONN CE projects - PV pedestrian bridge / riverwalk / Mystic Train Station	DoP, UCONN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> project completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects complete, reports delivered
8	TC-80 Community Conversation #2 w/ UCONN Gateway plans	Pete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter of Support for TC-80 NDD hotel application in draft 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held Community Conversation 2/28/19
9	Housing strategy	Dave (Lead), Chris, Kristene, Jim Kelly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> schedule first subcommittee meeting, work over summer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11/8 Housing Strategy meeting with David Fink team formed 3/5 Special meeting to understand 126 S Broad St proposal, submitted Letter of Support to PZC, spoke in favor - APPROVED