

## **Economic Development Commission Meeting**

Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 5:30pm

Via Zoom

### **Minutes**

**Call to Order:** Brett Mastroianni called the meeting to order at 5:47pm after a quorum was obtained. From 5:35pm to 5:46pm, a workshop was held with a general discussion regarding the North Stonington Works initiative.

**Members in Attendance:** Brett Mastroianni, Nicole Porter, Jennifer Dayton and Jennifer Anderson.

**Members absent:** Salvatore Cherenzia, Jennifer Strunk, Paul Simonds, Anthony Mazzella, Will Mason

**Staff present:** Nathan Reichert, PZDO

**Public Present:** One via phone.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Additions to the Agenda:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the September 21, 2021 meeting accepted after the spelling of Lou Steinbrecher's name was corrected.

**Treasurer's Report:** None

**PDZO Report:** N. Reichert gave a general report on the steady flow of permit/activity he has experienced in his first month, including a site visit with LedgeLight on the location of well, septic and buildings on the proposed gas station near the rotary.

### **New Business:**

- a. **2022 Meeting Calendar:** Commission members present agreed to submit to the town the calendar of meetings for the coming year to be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month.
- b. **Future Meeting Platform:** The Commission members present agreed that the platform for future meetings should be discussed by the new EDC members along with any returning members at the next meeting. There was a brief discussion about the benefits of a remote platform (increased attendance by EDC members as well as the public) and the benefits of in person meetings.
- c. **Annual Report:** N. Reichert stated Juliet has been working on the Annual Report and he will reach out to her to see the status of completion. B. Mastroianni stated he believed the report was due to November 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Old Business:**

- a. **North Stonington Works:** B. Mastroianni informed the Commission members that the North Stonington Works program was approved by the Board of Selectman. SeCTer is aware and ready to handle the application process. There was an in depth discussion of the marketing and advertising needed to get this program known to our local businesses so they can apply. Suggestions included a dedicated social media page, advertising in the Stonington Times and the Mystic River Press, an article in The Day and/or Westerly Sun and manually handing out flyers.
- b. **Business Operational and Infrastructure Grant Program:** B. Mastroianni started a discussion with present members regarding holding off for a month until the new board and commission

members were all on-boarded before continuing work on this larger program. This will require going to the new Board of Finance, Board of Selectman and then a Town Meeting for approval of appropriations. The members had consensus on this and discussion on this program was deferred until a future meeting.

**Motion to adjourn at 6:55 pm (N. Porter/J. Dayton) Motion carried 4-0-0.**

Next EDC meeting is schedule on November 16, 2021 at 5:30p via Zoom

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole Porter