

## **EDC REGULAR MEETING**

TUESDAY, February 4, 2020 at 5:30pm

THE NEW TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

### **APPROVED MINUTES**

**Call to Order:** Brett Mastroianni called the meeting to order at 5:33pm

**Members in Attendance:** Brett Mastroianni, Nicole Porter, Will Mason, Stefan Grufstedt, Salvatore Cherenzia, Paul Simonds.

**Members Absent:** Jen Anderson, Jen Strunk (alternate), Toula Balestracci and Anthony Mazzella (alternate).

**Staff Present:** Juliet Hodge, PDZO

**Public Present:** Nita Kincaid, Selectman, Bob Carlson, Selectman. Robert Utter (Milltown Monitor), Jen Pensa (Farmer's Market Subcommittee), Christine Dias, Admin Finance

**Public Comment:** None.

**Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:** Accepted as submitted.

**Additions to the Agenda:** None.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Commission reviewed with no changes.

**PDZO Report:** J. Hodge noted there was no appeal to the Event Barn approval on Fowler Rd. Salt Water Vineyard is not yet ready to submit plans. Trillium Brewery has been looking at another way to enter the property aside from East Clarks Falls Road but crossing the stream will be cost prohibitive.

### **New Business**

- **Directional Signage:** Ron Lewis: Deferred to next meeting as Ron Lewis was not able to attend.
- **Farmer's Market-Subcommittee:** Jen Pensa gave an update of the first meeting of the Farmer's Market Subcommittee that met Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Preliminary discussions have explored 2 "pop-up" markets, one in August and one to coincide with No Sto Fest in September. The subcommittee is researching current requirements to set up a pop-up farmer's market as well as surrounding town markets with their established days and times.
- **Add Boosts:** The EDC brainstormed different key words/phrases to draw people to the EDC website. Some of the following were suggested: business relocation, buildable land, schools of distinction, all surrounding towns, Electric Boat, Foxwoods, Misquamicut, winery, brewery, beaches, quality of life, among others.
- **Commission Member Photos:** B. Mastroianni deferred this item to the next meeting.

## **Old Business**

- **Confidentiality Statement/Agreement:** B. Mastroianni distributed a draft statement for commission review. There was a brief discussion with B. Mastroianni suggesting he bring it to the Town Attorney for his advice.
- **Local business engagement and All Boards and Committees Events:** Jen Strunk has offered to draft an advertisement flyer for the Local Business Engagement Social. It was clarified that the goal of the social would be to hear the concerns and challenges of local businesses in addition to creating the new Business Directory. A new date of 4/30/2020 from 5:30p-7:30p at Shunock Brewery was proposed to give the Commission enough time to advertise.
- **Business Directory:** The Business Directory will be completed after the Business Open House.
- **Business Beautification:** It was suggested that the EDC contact the owners of Red Onion to inform them about the EDC application to apply for beautification money if they move forward with rebuilding. Ron Lewis has also expressed interest in submitting an application.
- **Business Survey re: signage and design guidelines:** It was discussed to create a survey that local businesses could complete at the social that would ask them about their knowledge of North Stonington signage and design requirements and what challenges they may have with them.

**Motion to adjourn at 6:40 pm and seconded (N. Porter/S. Cherenzia). Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.**

**Next regular meeting is February 18th at 5:30pm at New Town Hall Conference Room.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole Porter & Juliet Hodge