

Town of Stonington
Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting
May 20, 2010

Members present: Blunt White, Ed Planeta, Paul Burgess, Ed Hart, John Delmhorst, Dan Oliverio, Ed Dear, Gary Bennett, and Wendy Bury. Absent: Dan Barber

This meeting was called to order by Chairman Blunt White at 7:02 PM. The minutes of the special meeting held April 22, 2010 were accepted as distributed.

Old Business: It was reported that the applications of Peter Glankoff (Mystic Aquarium) and Nat Arata (Mystic Seaport) to be alternate members of the commission are waiting approval by the Board of Selectmen. There are also two other individuals who have shown interest on being on the commission.

Chairman White stated that a sub-group consisting of himself and Dan Barber had met with Les Bray of William Pitt/Sotheby's Real Estate regarding the Coogan Property on Route 27(Bray is the listing agent). Also attending were representatives of the Seaport, Aquarium, and Nature Center. These groups felt that future development of the property should preserve the character of the area. The parcel of fifty acres has an asking price of \$7.5 million but is said to be worth about \$2 million. Peter Glankoff and Nat Arata will be able to provide input on how this property could affect their employers. Commissioner Ed Hart noted that this parcel with its size and location should be the subject of further EDC discussion regarding development options.

An invoice has been received for work on the EDC website. This is a second invoice in the amount of \$1,721.88; a prior invoice of about \$1,000 was paid. Since this invoice was addressed to the First Selectman and EDC, it was unclear who was to pay the bill. This will be decided following discussion with the First Selectman.

Ed Planeta gave an update on the manufacturers group from the Solutions for Stonington session in April. He plans a follow-up session in June. Wendy Bury is working on the same for the not-for-profit group. A follow-up letter to all attendees needs to be coordinated by the First Selectman and the Town Planner.

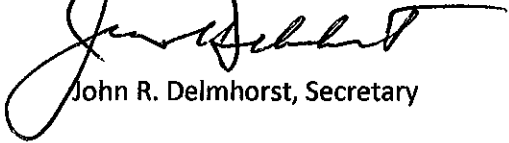
Wendy Bury reported on the new SEAT bus schedule designed to highlight certain tourist-related stops; she has been working with Tricia Cunningham, head of the Mystic Chamber of Commerce.

Wendy further reported the ferry between Watch Hill and Stonington is scheduled to begin operation of May 28; it is planned to operate through October 31st. The ferry will operate Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays with five trips daily. The ferry, sponsored by the Ocean House, costs \$25 round trip for adults and includes a tour and a beverage. A 49-passenger wooden boat is to be used.

Recent business proposals included: a new Jake's Burgers on Route 27, approval of the Tractor Supply application to P&Z, development of the 23rd Publications Building in Mystic into a mixed-use facility.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Delmhorst", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John R. Delmhorst, Secretary