



Minutes
February 2nd 2022

- I. **Call to Order & Roll Call** ~ Meeting called to order at 5:42 pm
 - a. Commissioners: Jason Rusk (Chairman), Annemarie Seifert, Nishant Sahoo, & Margaret Hirsch
 - b. Staff: Cierra Patrick
 - c. Liaison: None
 - d. Presenter/Guest: None
- II. **Introductions**
- III. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. January 5, 2022 minutes not available
- IV. **New Business**
- V. **Old Business**
 - a. EDC Working Groups
 - i. Coastal Vulnerability – Next meeting TBD
 1. Working group is on hold.
 2. Awaiting feedback from other activities in Groton addressing Coastal Resiliency
 - ii. Pedestrian & Bicycle Network Assessment – Next meeting March 16th
 1. Working on coordinating with Public Works and Parks and Recreation to build out ideas for further assessments.
 - iii. Thames Street Planning – Next meeting March 30th
 1. Economic development grant program and inventory of properties and business owners to see if they can take advantage of the minor façade refresh opportunity.
 - iv. Groton City Programming – Next meeting February 16th
 1. Meeting will include a small focus group of local artists and performers to get feedback.
 - b. Staff Report:
 - i. Project Status Update
 1. A calendar of 2022 Community Engagements was shared with the commission
 2. Community Resiliency Plan
 - a. Visioning Thames Street Workshop on February 10th
 - b. Consultants will share the outcomes of the Community Resilience Plan at an Open House on February 17th
 - i. Will review tree planting at Washington Park
 - ii. Will address the Shore Ave area and flooding
 - iii. Will review Rain Gardens



- iv. Will review Birch Plain Creek trail and extension
- v. A Final report out will be held at an Open House on May 23rd
- c. Thames View Pop-up Parties being planned for 4th Saturdays from May to August
- d. Groton Brew Run Display – September 10th
- e. There will be activities planned for City Day on August 5th
- 3. Visioning Thames Street
 - a. Will continue initiatives started for placemaking in 2021.
 - b. Visioning Thames Street workshop will be an opportunity to hear more about those.
- 4. Strategic Communication ~No updates
- ii. Commissioner Terms
 - 1. Members who's terms are expiring in 2022 are being asked to let Cierra Patrick know their intent to resign or stay on the Economic Development Commission
- iii. Economic Development Grant Program
 - 1. Working on storefront discussions.
 - 2. There is a business continuity effort being discussed which may lead to additional funds being available.
- iv. TIF ~ No updates
- v. Report on Projects in the City ~No Updates
- vi. Communications ~ No updates

VI. Additions to Agenda

- i. Commission Meetings
 - 1. Jason Rusk made a motion to schedule the meetings for 2022 on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm.
 - a. Motion: Jason Rusk
 - b. Second: Cheryl Auerbach
 - c. Decision: For – Cheryl Auerbach, Margaret Hirsch, Jason Rusk, Nishant Sahoo; Against – None; Abstain – None

Public Comments

VII. Adjournment

Moved to adjourn: Margaret Hirsch

Seconded the motion: Annemarie Seifert

Meeting adjourned at 6:37 PM

Submitted by: Margaret Hirsch