

## Mystic Tourism Joint Subcommittee Meeting- 12.04.2024

Meeting Convened by Chair Rep. Meskers 10:05

Full meeting broadcast available on YouTube

Rob Hotaling (DECD) Speaks on working with insurance companies- Red Cross- CIRCA to increase thinking on involvement with how to mitigate damage from storms and increase resiliency.

Meskers- Insurance considerations regarding mitigation or reduction in insurance premiums.

Importance placed on timeline to help Mystic. Report due, for action items.

FLAX- parking is difficult should be a short-term priority.

Meskers- need to consider tax implications.

SOMERS- mentioned there will be a bill proposed regarding traffic and parking next session.

FLAX- focus on thinking and parking. Water taxi- seasonal summer parking within walking distance water taxi plans will be circulated.

Boughton- Request a consultant to work with everyone to streamline process. Particularly with transportation.

Specifics of ask needs to be comprehensive to manage the best leveraging of dollars.

Meskers- Consideration of time frame and funding.

BOUGHTON- Consultant would help the process.

Meskers – Who would carry the project after consultant recommendations? Would like to see this put into action and not shelved.

Regan- Consultant would help questions to ask how many spaces are needed where a parking structure would go?

Possible location identified, but property would have to be purchased.

Should increase and develop walkability in the town of Groton.

Would like to speak about airport in Groton to promote commercial business.

Lenda- public safety concerns for events. Event infrastructure needs attention.

Meskers- Eddie consideration for special events is a second important concern seasonal events are monumental to the experience.

Rattan- New London is a resource with how they manage resources for special events and seasonal needs.

Flax- Lighted boat parade would benefit from shared resources.

Meskers- Asked for input regarding need for special events from Flax and Rattan.

Fisher- Circled back to downtown entertainment offerings she mentioned enhancing walkability and its importance.

Coastal access walkway from open space to open space makes The Walking more appealing.

Meskers- Requested studies for walking path.

Fusaro- Crowd size with respect to special events is becoming increasingly expensive to mitigate.

Traditional staffing no longer covers their needs, they need to use external resources, weekend use now requires more attention.

Parking improvement will help.

Directing some tax revenue to local municipalities to help recover some of the increased cost would be beneficial.

O'Donnell- Use of space regarding parking, focus on flooding must be acknowledged in planning.

#### **Next meeting Dec 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024-**

Everyone should return with specific goals for short term and long-term mitigations.

Would like event planning information.

All requested information should be made available within a week.

End meeting- 11:00 AM

