



Board of Parks & Recreation  
Meeting Transcript  
May 28, 2020

WEBVTT

1

00:00:00.000 --> 00:00:00.510

Would be great.

2

00:00:02.550 --> 00:00:14.429

Gary Dell'Abate: All right, here we are. We're all here. So now we got here. Thank you all. And we have a full house were eight of nine so that's good. So we do have limited time. I want to get right to it.

3

00:00:15.059 --> 00:00:32.700

Gary Dell'Abate: As she said earlier, just really important. If anybody has something to say. You can raise your hand on the on the screen and just state your name before you start. So I am going to start off, let me get my agenda up here and I need approval of the January 8, 2020

4

00:00:34.080 --> 00:00:38.760

Gary Dell'Abate: meeting Minutes. So looking for approval and anybody want to raise their hand to say to prove

5

00:00:40.350 --> 00:00:41.280

Gary Dell'Abate: Anybody second

6

00:00:42.510 --> 00:00:42.870

Gary Dell'Abate: Okay.

7

00:00:43.950 --> 00:00:48.090

Jenny Larkin: All state your name. I'm sorry. You have to state your name when you second and

8

00:00:49.140 --> 00:00:54.900

Gary Dell'Abate: I took. So Rick, say, state your name said you're proving it might say your name, your second you both have to unmute

9

00:00:58.230 --> 00:00:59.010

Gary Dell'Abate: You're still muted.

10

00:01:02.400 --> 00:01:03.060

Scott Johnson: Top right

11

00:01:09.690 --> 00:01:10.530

Rick Loh: About now.

12

00:01:10.920 --> 00:01:12.360

Gary Dell'Abate: Yes, good.

13

00:01:13.290 --> 00:01:15.420

Rick Loh: Make a motion to accept the minutes as presented

14

00:01:16.170 --> 00:01:17.040

Gary Dell'Abate: State your name.

15

00:01:17.550 --> 00:01:18.090

Rick Loh.

16

00:01:19.560 --> 00:01:20.400

Mike Bocchino: I second

17

00:01:21.690 --> 00:01:22.770

Gary Dell'Abate: All in favor.

18

00:01:23.520 --> 00:01:23.820

Gary Dell'Abate: Aye.

19

00:01:24.420 --> 00:01:25.170

Frank DiVincenzo: Do we have to ask

20

00:01:25.200 --> 00:01:27.870

Jenny Larkin: Our names. Yes. Roll call.

21

00:01:28.200 --> 00:01:30.750

Gary Dell'Abate: Okay, Scott. Scott Johnson.

22

00:01:33.000 --> 00:01:35.280

Scott Johnson: Except Scott Johnson accepts

23

00:01:36.450 --> 00:01:36.720

Gary Dell'Abate: Answer.

24

00:01:38.040 --> 00:01:38.550

Nancy Chapin: Yes.

25

00:01:39.630 --> 00:01:40.470

Nancy Chapin: It's taken

26

00:01:41.520 --> 00:01:42.330

Gary Dell'Abate: McGarrity

27

00:01:43.200 --> 00:01:43.740

Yes.

28

00:01:45.390 --> 00:01:45.900

Gary Dell'Abate: Frank

29

00:01:46.800 --> 00:01:47.400

Yes.

30

00:01:49.380 --> 00:01:50.130

Gary Dell'Abate: Rick Loh.

31

00:01:50.790 --> 00:01:52.620

Rick Loh: Yes

32

00:01:52.980 --> 00:01:53.430

Gary Dell'Abate: Mike Bocchino

33

00:01:54.030 --> 00:01:54.840

Mike Bocchino: Yes.

34

00:01:57.990 --> 00:02:00.750

Gary Dell'Abate: I think we lost Kirk again, so

35

00:02:02.100 --> 00:02:02.910

Gary Dell'Abate: I'm going to

36

00:02:03.300 --> 00:02:05.370

Gary Dell'Abate: wait one motion. motion carries we had

37

00:02:05.430 --> 00:02:07.980

Scott Johnson: we had a quorum and we had a majority.

38

00:02:09.540 --> 00:02:15.780

Gary Dell'Abate: Like I said, we have limited time, I'm going to turn it right over to Joe just going to start with the Director's Report.

39

00:02:15.870 --> 00:02:18.060

Scott Johnson: What is your

40

00:02:19.260 --> 00:02:19.950

Gary Dell'Abate: What's

41

00:02:20.280 --> 00:02:22.320

Scott Johnson: your timeline wasn't it 45 minutes?

42

00:02:22.380 --> 00:02:26.340

Gary Dell'Abate: We have about an hour. The other thing is for those

43

00:02:26.400 --> 00:02:31.740

Gary Dell'Abate: from the public. We're going to go through our agenda and then the public comment will come at the end.

44

00:02:34.380 --> 00:02:36.210

Gary Dell'Abate: So good for about an hour, an hour 10

45

00:02:36.780 --> 00:02:37.140

Scott Johnson: Don't

46

00:02:37.290 --> 00:02:37.770

Gary Dell'Abate: Look to give us

47

00:02:37.980 --> 00:02:40.920

Scott Johnson: Joe you have to leave when?

48

00:02:44.010 --> 00:02:46.620

Scott Johnson: Do you have any

49

00:02:48.120 --> 00:02:57.030

Joe Siciliano: I have back to back to back Zoom meetings so, I have to be off by noon, because

50

00:02:58.050 --> 00:02:59.670

Joe Siciliano: then I have another one at one so

51

00:03:00.450 --> 00:03:00.660

That's

52

00:03:01.890 --> 00:03:02.700

Joe Siciliano: We've got to move through

53

00:03:06.060 --> 00:03:07.260

Scott Johnson: So Joe, why don't you start

54

00:03:08.580 --> 00:03:09.660

Joe Siciliano: What do you want me to talk about?

55

00:03:11.220 --> 00:03:14.400

Joe Siciliano: Well, we've been sitting by the fire since March.

56

00:03:15.930 --> 00:03:36.540

Joe Siciliano: But so as you know, we vacated town hall on March 22 and the building was closed. Parks and Recreation every employee full time and permanent part time has been working from a remote location that includes all of our administrative staff and superintendents.

57

00:03:38.100 --> 00:03:50.190

Joe Siciliano: We were producing, you know, answering numerous emails. Here's just an example; from March 22 to April 30 we answered over 9,028 emails

58

00:03:50.640 --> 00:04:05.670

Joe Siciliano: of various kinds from people who had interest or concern or wanted information. We had a full beach program or park pass program renewal and a full operation full Marina renewal operation.

59

00:04:07.590 --> 00:04:23.400

Joe Siciliano: You know; we still had to produce our payroll our Accounts Payable and all of that. So we kept good records of what our staff was doing from March 22 to April 30 and I can also produce that information going forward to date.

60

00:04:24.450 --> 00:04:32.970

Joe Siciliano: This week we started to implement people back into the building and then Monday, June first our folks will be back in the office with a

61

00:04:33.780 --> 00:04:44.190

Joe Siciliano: rotating schedule as permitted by state guidance. So the days that they're not here, I want to make it perfectly clear that they are working 100% from home

62

00:04:44.520 --> 00:04:50.790

Joe Siciliano: doing the best they can with the technology and the equipment that they have to service the public and to move our programs forward

63

00:04:51.510 --> 00:05:02.880

Joe Siciliano: Our outside staff such as park gardeners, marine staff, etc. we got a little creative with them since March 22.

64

00:05:03.510 --> 00:05:08.130

Joe Siciliano: Since we were required to give them some distancing breaks during the work week,

65

00:05:08.760 --> 00:05:15.840

Joe Siciliano: I went to the Union and got special permission to work our folks in two shifts; Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Tuesday, Thursday Saturday.

66

00:05:16.380 --> 00:05:24.600

Joe Siciliano: And that commenced on March 22 through the fourth of May, when they went back to their consistent five-day workweek.

67

00:05:25.080 --> 00:05:27.630

Joe Siciliano: All of our folks have been working consistently.

68

00:05:28.320 --> 00:05:37.590

Joe Siciliano: It was kind of a little bit of a groundbreaking decision to go Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Tuesday, Thursday Saturday usually Saturday's are a premium day for our employees, they get paid overtime.

69

00:05:37.890 --> 00:05:44.550

Joe Siciliano: I negotiated with the Union not to make it a premium day so that we will be doing is out of our rotation during that period of time.

70

00:05:44.820 --> 00:05:52.080

Joe Siciliano: We were getting three days on and two days off from all of our staff members. These are the people that work in the field operation and it worked out relatively well

71

00:05:52.350 --> 00:06:00.750

Joe Siciliano: And as you've seen in some of the information produced that you know we got quite an extensive amount of work done in preparation for where we are today.

72

00:06:01.740 --> 00:06:03.840

Joe Siciliano: there are a couple of other things that I will cover.

73

00:06:04.680 --> 00:06:13.200

Joe Siciliano: Obviously there are some definite challenges with the guidance that keeps changing, my life is on a roller coaster on a daily basis in the sense that

74

00:06:13.530 --> 00:06:19.980

Joe Siciliano: You know, we come up with a plan today the guidance changes or somebody has a better idea. The next day we change the plan.

75

00:06:20.640 --> 00:06:36.840

Joe Siciliano: For the whole time period that we were out from March 22 until this past week as department heads, we were meeting five days a week in the emergency operations center or virtually in the emergency operator center with the First Selectman's

76

00:06:37.980 --> 00:06:46.620

Joe Siciliano: COVID 19 Task Force, and that includes some major department heads and there were some folks from the state legislation on board

77

00:06:46.980 --> 00:06:57.150

Joe Siciliano: and a Congressman on board, Fred Camillo, Ben Branyan, the Town Administrator and folks like that, we had a conversation every day.

78

00:06:57.660 --> 00:07:04.020

Joe Siciliano: For all of those days that we were out, at least Monday through Friday and we did have a few weekend ones, if required

79

00:07:04.470 --> 00:07:13.380

Joe Siciliano: Or necessary. So what the task was is that we were getting updated information daily from the Health Department as far as how many people were being infected.

80

00:07:13.920 --> 00:07:20.430

Joe Siciliano: The counts. You know, people being seen at the hospital, different tasks that had to be overcome and

81

00:07:20.790 --> 00:07:30.330

Joe Siciliano: It worked relatively well in the sense that we had a unified command center and we still have that unified command today on basically making decisions. So, how we kind of

82

00:07:30.900 --> 00:07:37.980

Joe Siciliano: Fast forward here a little bit how decisions get made is that, seem like simple decisions when we

83

00:07:38.610 --> 00:07:47.550

Joe Siciliano: Step back a month ago, we decided to start opening up some of our facilities, you know, we come up with some process of how we're going to do that, it goes to the

84

00:07:47.970 --> 00:07:54.690

Joe Siciliano: unified command staff, which is the people in the Emergency Operations Center, we make some decisions based on

85

00:07:55.020 --> 00:08:02.400

Joe Siciliano: a very short presentation, leave the details to the professionals, but just some conceptual presentation of

86

00:08:02.700 --> 00:08:09.690

Joe Siciliano: this is the next step we want to take and this is how we want to do it. Let the professionals deal with the finite details.

87

00:08:09.960 --> 00:08:19.560

Joe Siciliano: But at the end of the day, that's how it gets done. And that's how it's getting done today. So what we want from this unified command is we want everybody to buy into

88

00:08:19.800 --> 00:08:32.130

Joe Siciliano: what we're doing in the sense that we can have split decisions. So, at least in concept if we're going to, open up a park or tennis or whatever else we've been doing

89

00:08:32.700 --> 00:08:42.720

Joe Siciliano: at least everybody conceptually can agree with. That's what we want to do for the next step and leave the details to me and my staff to do the detailed planning.

90

00:08:43.320 --> 00:08:52.320

Joe Siciliano: that's happening today, we still are continuing that forward. I think it's very important to do that to have all of the major players in the room.

91

00:08:52.710 --> 00:08:59.280

Joe Siciliano: So that we can understand how we're going to move our town forward from not only the Parks and Recreation section but

92

00:08:59.640 --> 00:09:13.650

Joe Siciliano: Police, fire, DPW, parking services, whatever else has to get accomplished to move things forward to keep the town moving in a forward direction and progressing towards reopening and various stages so

93

00:09:14.040 --> 00:09:24.960

Joe Siciliano: we do get the guidance from the state of Connecticut on a regular basis and everybody's, sharing that guidance where it pertains to your area and

94

00:09:25.620 --> 00:09:32.220

Joe Siciliano: and that's kind of generally how it's been going now. It sounds pretty simple, but it's pretty

95

00:09:32.670 --> 00:09:40.290

Joe Siciliano: intense in the sense that you're the meetings, generally in the beginning, were lasting at least an hour and a half a piece that we kind of met have it managed to about an hour now.

96

00:09:40.830 --> 00:09:49.590

Joe Siciliano: Going on right now. It's got a lot more simplified, but at the end of the day, you take what you get from that meeting, you go back and you start to create some kind of plan.

97

00:09:50.520 --> 00:09:58.050

Joe Siciliano: You know, to do the next task and then by the next morning, something could possibly change. So it's this constant evolution of

98

00:09:58.500 --> 00:10:09.330

Joe Siciliano: things moving forward, the change that has to take place, you know, starting set some target dates as when we want to get this accomplished by and how we were going to get accomplished now.

99

00:10:09.870 --> 00:10:14.010

Joe Siciliano: Some of the work that we're doing in Parks and Recreation is harder.

100

00:10:14.670 --> 00:10:24.150

Joe Siciliano: Right now, and I say this because you know there's been a question like what everybody's doing it's harder to do it now because we've been working remotely.

101

00:10:24.480 --> 00:10:32.850

Joe Siciliano: That's one of the reasons some of this takes more guidance and more monitoring and supervision to do certain things that we want to do.

102

00:10:33.150 --> 00:10:39.360

Joe Siciliano: For example, I'll take the simplest example possible we decided to open up Cos Cob Park

103

00:10:39.750 --> 00:10:46.800

Joe Siciliano: first of all, there has to be a protocol, written by the state guidance that we have to come up with a written protocol, which we did

104

00:10:47.340 --> 00:10:53.580

Joe Siciliano: there has to be hours set there has to be monitoring set, etc. So we normally don't

105

00:10:54.000 --> 00:11:00.090

Joe Siciliano: Have any of that. I mean, we have a protocol that we open up the park under but we normally don't have this detailed protocol.

106

00:11:00.390 --> 00:11:07.890

Joe Siciliano: We normally have set hours at the gate and it opens and closes by itself. Now we have to staff up that location which we normally don't do

107

00:11:08.250 --> 00:11:17.160

Joe Siciliano: For the hours that we're going to be open. We have to keep a head count. We have to worry about parking, we have to worry about handicap accessibility on and on and on.

108

00:11:17.550 --> 00:11:21.960

Joe Siciliano: if we're going to have restrooms, which we don't have at this moment, how do we manage that.

109

00:11:22.260 --> 00:11:29.550

Joe Siciliano: what areas we're going to block off and what areas we're going to keep people. It's a lot more work doing what we're doing than having some of the

110

00:11:29.970 --> 00:11:35.700

Joe Siciliano: Pleasures of general open up of parks like we've been doing for the last half a dozen years or so.

111

00:11:36.090 --> 00:11:43.560

Joe Siciliano: And people know how to use it, they know what's available. They know the routine. So in doing some of what we've been doing recently.

112

00:11:43.830 --> 00:11:56.250

Joe Siciliano: Is much more detailed, much more difficult and to a certain degree, takes much more staffing to do it. So we've been using our full time and some of our part time staff to do this.

113

00:11:56.910 --> 00:12:04.380

Joe Siciliano: We are being very cautious about the number of people we're bringing on board or trying to bring them on board as with our summer part time staff.

114

00:12:04.650 --> 00:12:13.710

Joe Siciliano: In proportion to the work that we have to accomplish and also in proportion to the amount of users that are be you are using some of our facilities.

115

00:12:14.130 --> 00:12:31.680

Joe Siciliano: So it becomes this balancing act and a constant discussion daily, weekly, of how do we progress, how are we managing and how do we take the next steps to move forward. That's kind of a snapshot of what's going on. We do have some detailed

116

00:12:32.700 --> 00:12:34.470

Joe Siciliano: Information.

117

00:12:34.950 --> 00:12:40.800

Gary Dell'Abate: I just want to ask a question, really quickly. And if anybody wants to ask a question, you can unmute yourself

118

00:12:41.220 --> 00:12:50.970

Gary Dell'Abate: what are the numbers roughly that we're seeing at, say, Cos Cob Park and Todd's point. I know what the limit is. But how close are we getting to that limit.

119

00:12:51.930 --> 00:13:05.820

Joe Siciliano: Well, the number we've been seeing at let's say Cos Cob Park. For an example, we first started out going, you know, 7:00 am to 2:30 pm and now we've gone 7:00 to 3:30 and maybe in the next couple of weeks. We're going to extend that a little longer.

120

00:13:07.380 --> 00:13:10.500

Joe Siciliano: We have that as a discussion item at the at the task force.

121

00:13:11.550 --> 00:13:20.460

Joe Siciliano: But right now, we're probably seeing you know anywhere between 100 to 130 people a day come through Cos Cob Park to walk.

122

00:13:21.630 --> 00:13:30.360

Joe Siciliano: They pretty much consistently live in the neighborhood or they find it convenient to go there. But we're doing 100 or plus people

123

00:13:30.990 --> 00:13:42.120

Joe Siciliano: Every day we've seen it go up on a nice day maybe to 140 I'd say about 125 is the average a day at Greenwich Point, it's really been a fluctuation of weather.

124

00:13:42.900 --> 00:13:56.430

Joe Siciliano: And people, I can say this, we have a 500 car limit at any one time. We have not parked 500 cars at any one time in the last three weeks that we've been open

125

00:13:57.570 --> 00:14:08.640

Joe Siciliano: We've come close. But the on the balancing side of that we have not had to close the parking to people. Now what we're seeing, though, is that

126

00:14:09.870 --> 00:14:18.750

Joe Siciliano: I'm doing this a little bit off the top my head. We're seeing somewhere between 900 and 1250 cars a day.

127

00:14:19.620 --> 00:14:29.040

Joe Siciliano: And we're seeing close to 1800 people a day. That's kind of an average year has been a couple spikes. And we've had some really nice weather.

128

00:14:29.490 --> 00:14:36.990

Joe Siciliano: But the weather actually has been in our favor on some of the weekends and holidays. And I don't know if that matters anymore. I don't know if there is a weekend or holiday anymore but

129

00:14:37.410 --> 00:14:48.120

Joe Siciliano: People seem to be more available when they're not working, but we've had some close calls. Now, I mean we've had short hours there from 7am to 5pm

130

00:14:49.500 --> 00:14:58.350

Joe Siciliano: There isn't a discussion with the task force to extend those hours in the near future and to, you know, to kind of open up some of the amenities like

131

00:14:59.160 --> 00:15:14.580

Joe Siciliano: Sitting at the beach and swimming, and a few items that we have to plan for but that could come in the next several weeks, but this is what we do and I think this is a smart thing to do.

132

00:15:15.690 --> 00:15:24.150

Joe Siciliano: I'm just paraphrasing as yesterday's numbers had 794 positive cases of COVID residents in Greenwich

133

00:15:25.350 --> 00:15:29.160

Joe Siciliano: They had 24 deaths.

134

00:15:30.840 --> 00:15:42.840

Joe Siciliano: in other communities like Norwalk, they had 1900 positive cases and 124 deaths of people in their community.

135

00:15:43.800 --> 00:15:52.770

Joe Siciliano: And their policies and procedures in the beginning and throughout this whole thing were a lot. They were very pretty loose. I mean, I live there. I know. So

136

00:15:53.190 --> 00:16:03.330

Joe Siciliano: I think what we're being cautious about is a direct correlation between the number of cases that we're seeing every day.

137

00:16:03.780 --> 00:16:15.990

Joe Siciliano: And the number of hospitalizations and deaths and what we're really allowing people to use and it all kind of plays into each other because what happens is that as

138

00:16:16.680 --> 00:16:27.540

Joe Siciliano: of May 20<sup>th</sup> when the governor kind of opened up some things and some opportunities even since May 20 until yesterday, which we were down to about

139

00:16:28.470 --> 00:16:37.350

Joe Siciliano: One or two cases a day before May 20 we saw an increase climb of six to eight more cases each day since May 20

140

00:16:38.280 --> 00:16:47.940

Joe Siciliano: Now that only can be as a result of people communicating with each other, you know, being together with each other and taking opportunities to,

141

00:16:48.600 --> 00:16:55.170

Joe Siciliano: Branch out a little bit. And what we're really kind of concerned about is to see what the counts will be from May 20

142

00:16:55.470 --> 00:17:05.400

Joe Siciliano: For the next two weeks, we all know that the incubation time period for this is three to 10 days if you come in contact with somebody positive and you're going to get the virus.

143

00:17:05.700 --> 00:17:16.740

Joe Siciliano: So we're kind of concerned about spreading our wings too soon, in the sense that why open and then have to close up if the numbers really start to escalate.

144

00:17:17.190 --> 00:17:30.810

Joe Siciliano: Some of the things that we have in the queue for the next couple of weeks may not get executed. Because if the numbers start to climb. There's no sense of adding more, you know, you want to stabilize it again before you have to go to the shutdown.

145

00:17:31.230 --> 00:17:37.800

Gary Dell'Abate: Joe, can you just, I just want to be clear on those numbers. You just gave. So you're saying that before May 20, it's Gary Dell'Abate by the way.

146

00:17:38.640 --> 00:17:38.910

Before

147

00:17:39.930 --> 00:17:50.970

Gary Dell'Abate: We were getting one to two cases a day and then you said we're getting six to eight since May 20 or is that number exponential meaning like one day we got six to eight. The next was 12 to 16 the next was

148

00:17:51.000 --> 00:18:00.600

Joe Siciliano: no, no, it's an average of over that time we've seen almost in seven days, six days actually an additional 40 plus cases.

149

00:18:01.980 --> 00:18:10.260

Joe Siciliano: The queue. So what we're actually seeing is that since things have kind of loosened up a little bit, the people are communicating and congregating

150

00:18:10.770 --> 00:18:21.300

Joe Siciliano: You know, getting out about a little bit. And so what were the next step of doing some opening will restrict what we'll rely on what we see in the numbers.

151

00:18:21.660 --> 00:18:31.170

Joe Siciliano: Over the next week or so, if we're going to start to escalate, then we might want to reconsider. Some of the things that we've been thinking about, because we can just add to that.

152

00:18:31.260 --> 00:18:31.980

Scott Johnson: And we're going to add

153

00:18:32.670 --> 00:18:44.880

Joe Siciliano: People congregating, you know, so it's a cautious approach but I'm going to give Fred a ton of credit for this because I know his phone is blowing up every day.

154

00:18:45.240 --> 00:18:50.040

Joe Siciliano: With people wanting more and more. And why can't I do this and I want my old life back. And we all do.

155

00:18:50.610 --> 00:19:06.660

Joe Siciliano: But I think he's been cautious and he's been paying attention to the numbers and he's been taking the advice of some of the people he has as advisors and our health department director to say that we might want to crawl a little bit before we take the next leap and that

156

00:19:07.260 --> 00:19:08.100

Scott Johnson: I'm so

157

00:19:08.220 --> 00:19:13.980

Joe Siciliano: It's just protection for the community. And I know it doesn't rub people the right way because they all want more.

158

00:19:14.460 --> 00:19:20.340

Scott Johnson: It's Scott. Let me ask you a question. If it's about enforcement. So take Todd's Point as an example.

159

00:19:21.570 --> 00:19:33.990

Scott Johnson: Let's say that there's a group of high school kids that you know that are congregating 20 kids that are not paying attention, what's the best way to handle that? is that the police is what is that?

160

00:19:34.920 --> 00:19:41.670

Joe Siciliano: So we have been we've been working hand in hand with the police, we've gotten some additional police coverage out at the Point which has been good.

161

00:19:42.270 --> 00:19:53.430

Joe Siciliano: I took Craig Whitcomb our operations manager for the Marine Division, he is directly responsible for Greenwich Point he is there every day.

162

00:19:54.060 --> 00:20:02.190

Joe Siciliano: We have our staff monitoring on site. So in how you know every once in a while, you see.

163

00:20:02.580 --> 00:20:08.400

Joe Siciliano: More than five people and congregating, you might want to say, Hey folks, just kind of move on.

164

00:20:08.880 --> 00:20:22.290

Joe Siciliano: What we found that most of the people have been very respectful, in the sense that you haven't had any incidents where we've had to have the police called into break up

165

00:20:22.500 --> 00:20:22.800

Joe Siciliano: a group.

166

00:20:23.250 --> 00:20:31.230

Joe Siciliano: There's a lot of self-policing going on with people saying walkers people saying, hey, you know, folks, you shouldn't be gathering together or that kind of stuff.

167

00:20:32.580 --> 00:20:40.320

Joe Siciliano: all in all, the comments I get from Craig who is managing that on a daily basis is that people have been relatively respectful.

168

00:20:40.950 --> 00:20:43.260

Scott Johnson: are we going to have lifeguards there doing anything?

169

00:20:43.260 --> 00:20:44.100

Joe Siciliano: lifeguards.

170

00:20:44.910 --> 00:20:52.560

Joe Siciliano: Well eventually if we get to the next opening. We're going to have some lifeguards, right now we're using a couple of our lifeguards as monitors on the beach itself because

171

00:20:52.830 --> 00:21:04.860

Joe Siciliano: You're allowed to walk through the beach. People are sticking the toes in the water and we want to keep them moving. So, we've had a couple on, you know, when we know the days or sunny and people might be doing that.

172

00:21:05.700 --> 00:21:13.770

Joe Siciliano: But, very few staff. We haven't staffed up that yet. Our next phase would be to do that and that could come within the next couple of weeks.

173

00:21:14.790 --> 00:21:27.210

Joe Siciliano: And to kind of staff up and allow people some time on the sand and to dip in the water a little bit and we're gearing up for those kind of things and that could happen within the next two weeks.

174

00:21:27.420 --> 00:21:29.730

Scott Johnson: And the pool is still closed.

175

00:21:30.660 --> 00:21:38.310

Joe Siciliano: We just got some additional information from the state health department yesterday the guidance is that the pools are still closed and have not been released

176

00:21:38.820 --> 00:21:43.950

Joe Siciliano: By the state health department, there has been no projected date for that.

177

00:21:44.430 --> 00:21:59.310

Joe Siciliano: My sense, and this is just me talking, is that they'll probably have to make some decision by the by the end of June. Otherwise, we've missed a third of the pool season already. We have a plan.

178

00:22:00.180 --> 00:22:13.020

Joe Siciliano: In place in case that guidance comes down to offer limited pool use. But what you have to realize is that every one of these initiatives takes a protocol to be established.

179

00:22:13.530 --> 00:22:18.360

Joe Siciliano: Whether it's limiting the number of people on the beach, whether it's limiting the number of people in the park.

180

00:22:19.350 --> 00:22:28.020

Joe Siciliano: How do we get people to buy into some of the distancing protocols, when we set up how much supervision do we need to do that?

181

00:22:28.530 --> 00:22:35.940

Joe Siciliano: It's quite detailed and extensive and it takes staff to manage this stuff because the

182

00:22:36.840 --> 00:22:42.600

Joe Siciliano: Written guidance is as good as the written guidance. Okay. And then what happens is that the only way

183

00:22:42.990 --> 00:22:50.790

Joe Siciliano: and you've seen this at places like the Jersey Shore, Long Island beaches, New York beaches, maybe beaches and state parks and Connecticut.

184

00:22:51.330 --> 00:23:02.880

Joe Siciliano: They could write all the guidance they want, but unless you have the boots on the ground, you're not going to get the compliance that you really want or that you really should have. So we've been also looking at how do we get that compliance.

185

00:23:03.600 --> 00:23:20.310

Gary Dell'Abate: what are you telling organized sports people who are saying, hey, when are we back on the fields because I get those requests every once in a while, not like they're in a rush, but what do you know, what do you foresee?

186

00:23:21.450 --> 00:23:29.220

Joe Siciliano: Well, unfortunately, we lost the prime spring season because we were really under restraints, but right now. I mean,

187

00:23:29.820 --> 00:23:35.160

Joe Siciliano: The weather. There's guidance from the state or not, the local guidance from our first Selectman

188

00:23:35.520 --> 00:23:43.050

Joe Siciliano: Is that there's not going to be any sports activities at the current time. Luckily, we're moving into the slowest part of the season.

189

00:23:43.380 --> 00:23:58.380

Joe Siciliano: Which is the summer months where we don't get a high demand for sports activities. But, you know, right now, if you're running any kind of program and I don't know of any town that's running any sports programming at this time that I'm familiar with.

190

00:24:01.200 --> 00:24:02.100

Gary Dell'Abate: No camps or anything?

191

00:24:03.120 --> 00:24:09.390

Joe Siciliano: Well camps are different, camps are kind of looked under guidance is like childcare so

192

00:24:10.470 --> 00:24:18.900

Joe Siciliano: Right now there's camp guidance out there for things like day camps and there's a 40-person limit on a day camp.

193

00:24:19.950 --> 00:24:31.170

Joe Siciliano: And you can apply for a 10-person waiver, if you can prove produce that you have the space to spread them out. So just some simple guidance like on day camps like you were talking about.

194

00:24:32.730 --> 00:24:34.170

Joe Siciliano: We run Kamp Kairphree

195

00:24:35.220 --> 00:24:39.000

Joe Siciliano: The limit is 40 people we usually handle 150 people

196

00:24:40.080 --> 00:24:50.670

Joe Siciliano: We, we can try for a 10-person waiver, which we can get. So now we're up to 50 people. So we're at one third of the normal people that we handle in that program.

197

00:24:51.450 --> 00:25:00.810

Joe Siciliano: And during very some very specific guidance they all have to be able to know more than groups of 10 they all have to be in separate rooms separated from each other.

198

00:25:01.320 --> 00:25:10.710

Joe Siciliano: You know what they can't do any combined activities and larger groups than 10 people. We have to provide certain supervision, as far as counselors and

199

00:25:11.130 --> 00:25:23.970

Joe Siciliano: protocols for cleaning restrooms and the building. And if we go on outer trips, like Greenwich Point, there's a protocol for how they ride on the bus. How many people how they get transported

200

00:25:24.390 --> 00:25:38.040

Joe Siciliano: It's quite extensive. And it's quite time consuming to do all of this. And somewhere along the line, you have to make the decision. Is it worth doing it, because, we are proceeding.

201

00:25:39.240 --> 00:25:41.160

Joe Siciliano: With the protocols.

202

00:25:42.810 --> 00:25:52.230

Joe Siciliano: Our big issue has been that we've heard from a lot of people who use our program. This is the Parks and Recreation day camp that they rely on it for

203

00:25:52.710 --> 00:25:58.800

Joe Siciliano: daycare for their child because our program basically runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and

204

00:25:59.520 --> 00:26:05.400

Joe Siciliano: They have to go to work. So they always sign your children up for that program because it kind of covers their work day you know

205

00:26:05.880 --> 00:26:16.140

Joe Siciliano: So we will have people registered and we do have them registered now, but we're building some protocols and it's quite detailed, but at the end of the day.

206

00:26:16.560 --> 00:26:21.660

Joe Siciliano: You know; those are the kind of things that will happen. So if we're only going to take a third of the of the

207

00:26:22.380 --> 00:26:30.270

Joe Siciliano: Of the participants, we're going to hire work staff, we wouldn't hire a full complement of

208

00:26:30.810 --> 00:26:39.150

Joe Siciliano: Counselors when we hire less than that, but we're going to have to deal with some of the guidance issues. So it's not going to be proportionately 1/3 it maybe a little greater than that.

209

00:26:39.390 --> 00:26:45.360

Joe Siciliano: But at the end of the day, we're not going to be hiring maybe 20 camp counselors for the summer because we're not going to have

210

00:26:45.390 --> 00:26:46.590

Joe Siciliano: A full complement of people

211

00:26:46.800 --> 00:26:57.420

Gary Dell'Abate: So Joe a lacrosse camp or football camp or sports camp would not fall under a daycare.

212

00:26:57.510 --> 00:27:02.640

Joe Siciliano: No, so there's specific guidance that has been approved by the State of Connecticut for day camps and daycare. Yeah.

213

00:27:03.330 --> 00:27:04.170

Gary Dell'Abate: Tom McGarrity

214

00:27:05.220 --> 00:27:05.880

Joe Siciliano: Nothing's come out.

215

00:27:06.120 --> 00:27:07.290

Joe Siciliano: about sports programs that this time

216

00:27:08.490 --> 00:27:10.530

Tom McGarrity: Hey Joe Tom McGarrity. Good to see you.

217

00:27:11.190 --> 00:27:18.840

Tom McGarrity: are there any updates on the ferry or Island Beach or any special rules on the ferry boat or anything relating to

218

00:27:19.080 --> 00:27:21.930

Tom McGarrity: the ferry boats and Island Beach

219

00:27:22.590 --> 00:27:30.090

Joe Siciliano: So what the goal here would be is to, you know, when the shutdown.

220

00:27:32.670 --> 00:27:34.290

Joe Siciliano: In March came about.

221

00:27:35.460 --> 00:27:43.920

Joe Siciliano: both of the large ferry boats were in Bridgeport at the dry dock, which created a little bit of an issue because you know

222

00:27:44.460 --> 00:27:55.470

Joe Siciliano: Not only did they have a little bit of a delay. We also were trying to get materials and things together and deliveries and all of that got kind of skewed from our normal plan.

223

00:27:56.550 --> 00:28:07.890

Joe Siciliano: So what we know right now is that the Island Beach ferry is scheduled to run on the 13th of June. I'm pretty sure, which is a Saturday.

224

00:28:08.640 --> 00:28:28.170

Joe Siciliano: And that most likely will not happen because the boats are not even back from the yard yet have not been inspected by the Coast Guard and everything's on a delay, we are trying to target the last week of June for ferry operations and it is tentative I'm telling you that right now.

225

00:28:29.220 --> 00:28:38.700

Joe Siciliano: Based on when we get the boats back, the Coast Guard can get us in the queue for inspection and we can develop some protocols of how we're going to use those boats, obviously,

226

00:28:39.060 --> 00:28:48.030

Joe Siciliano: We can't put 200 people on the boat per trip and we can't seat 200 people at Island Beach, you know, like normally we do for every trip.

227

00:28:48.720 --> 00:28:55.230

Joe Siciliano: So we're in the discussion phase of developing some protocols of how we can do that and

228

00:28:55.710 --> 00:29:06.240

Joe Siciliano: We're going to run an abbreviated service. Are we going to run one boat, instead of two are we going to run boats to both Islands? We Just Recently yesterday had this conversation

229

00:29:06.600 --> 00:29:13.620

Joe Siciliano: In our planning meeting. And now, today, we're starting to work on the combinations that we really can come up with.

230

00:29:14.160 --> 00:29:24.060

Joe Siciliano: I think there's an intent to want to provide a limited service and make things as normal as possible, but they won't be that normal because there'll be an abbreviated service.

231

00:29:24.840 --> 00:29:37.740

Joe Siciliano: You know the number of people that we can probably run out because we're going to have to get those people back in at the end of the day, there's a lot of things that are going to come into play and some of the things that are not in our control at the moment.

232

00:29:38.850 --> 00:29:42.450

Joe Siciliano: The federal government basically did no inspections for two months.

233

00:29:42.750 --> 00:29:44.010

Tom McGarrity: So we've got to get the Coast Guard on

234

00:29:44.010 --> 00:29:55.110

Joe Siciliano: Board. And we have to get two inspections, we have a dry dock inspection at Bridgeport, and we have an in-water inspection that happens here in Greenwich and we have to get those coordinated.

235

00:29:56.040 --> 00:30:03.450

Joe Siciliano: Even though we've been talking to them over the last few weeks, their schedule has now been condensed because they have been backlogged for two months.

236

00:30:03.810 --> 00:30:13.890

Joe Siciliano: So we're trying to work our way in the queue, but I don't see it happening on the 13<sup>th</sup>, if it's going to happen, it will happen sometime during that last week of June.

237

00:30:14.340 --> 00:30:15.480

Tom McGarrity: Great, thank you.

238

00:30:17.520 --> 00:30:19.230

Gary Dell'Abate: Joe Do you have more to say.

239

00:30:19.980 --> 00:30:27.480

Joe Siciliano: Well, I think, generally I want everyone to kind of understand that and I'm sorry that my time is kind of limited but

240

00:30:28.080 --> 00:30:35.940

Joe Siciliano: myself and all of the superintendents have been in the office since March 22, except for a few days for each one of us as we are

241

00:30:36.300 --> 00:30:45.270

Joe Siciliano: Trying to spread out. We have no one else in here as everybody's been working remotely.

242

00:30:45.750 --> 00:31:00.810

Joe Siciliano: And even though the superintendents are not on this call this morning. I want to thank them personally because they hung in there and were here every day trying to run their divisions from the top down. And I think that's an important factor for everybody to understand

243

00:31:01.860 --> 00:31:10.320

Joe Siciliano: We did an enormous amount of business in parks and recreation over the last several months, right now

244

00:31:11.400 --> 00:31:20.760

Joe Siciliano: here's kind of an idea of the scope when things were kind of shut down. And there was a lot of unknowns, we were just getting some general

245

00:31:20.760 --> 00:31:28.440

Joe Siciliano: Beach Park Pass renewal traffic, as soon as we said the first day that we're going to open the parks and we're going to open up Cos Cob Park

246

00:31:28.890 --> 00:31:39.510

Joe Siciliano: Overnight, we have 500 new applicants. Soon as we talked about opening up Byram Park and Byram Beach and Greenwich Point, we had 4000 applicants.

247

00:31:40.200 --> 00:31:50.760

Joe Siciliano: So, and all of those applications are multiple family members they're for golf, they're for tennis, they're for the park passes. And so right now, as of this morning we

248

00:31:51.600 --> 00:31:56.700

Joe Siciliano: we were down to 3700 applications.

249

00:31:57.420 --> 00:32:07.530

Joe Siciliano: And that's a significant amount of revenue sitting there. So our goal is to try to get them processed because then we they get their park pass renewal, their golf pass renewal, their tennis renewal and

250

00:32:08.010 --> 00:32:18.180

Joe Siciliano: Again, there's a significant amount of dollars in revenue sitting there, based on us being able to produce those cards and we were doing them from a home, which isn't the fastest or

251

00:32:18.180 --> 00:32:19.200

Joe Siciliano: Best system to work.

252

00:32:19.200 --> 00:32:29.100

Joe Siciliano: From now people are integrating into the office we will get more productivity and we'll get more when we get more accomplished, but our first goal would be to try to get that all set up.

253

00:32:30.000 --> 00:32:36.990

Joe Siciliano: The next thing. One more thing, Mike, I see your hand raise but one more thing, the golf course. Let's just talk about the golf course.

254

00:32:37.290 --> 00:32:53.400

Joe Siciliano: Because there was a lot of pushing, shoving about opening up who's opening, who is closed, but at the end of the day, we are open from 7am to 7pm. We are running 10 minutes start times at this moment. We went from 12 minutes to 10 minutes

255

00:32:54.570 --> 00:33:04.170

Joe Siciliano: We are running single carts or what is called a family cart. So if you're single, you're single. If you live in the same household and

256

00:33:04.950 --> 00:33:08.730

Joe Siciliano: Travel to the golf course together. You can get a double cart.

257

00:33:09.720 --> 00:33:18.780

Joe Siciliano: Over the weekend when we started this for the holiday weekend we did 31 carts as family, so people are still being cautious and taking singles.

258

00:33:19.380 --> 00:33:28.410

Joe Siciliano: Family members had 31 carts sold over the weekend for doubles and a lot of people are walking for exercise but you know

259

00:33:29.370 --> 00:33:49.980

Joe Siciliano: We are averaging somewhere between 140 and 160 rounds a day. We're booked out almost every day and we are also doing a significant amount of golf range business. We've just set up the range so that we have the distancing between all of the hitting stations and

260

00:33:51.000 --> 00:33:55.710

Joe Siciliano: We've done a significant range business at the moment so

261

00:33:57.420 --> 00:34:00.600

Joe Siciliano: it's been kind of interesting people are looking for those outlets.

262

00:34:02.670 --> 00:34:04.260

Joe Siciliano: whoever wants to control the meeting.

263

00:34:05.250 --> 00:34:08.250

Gary Dell'Abate: Mike state your name and ask your question.

264

00:34:08.880 --> 00:34:22.200

Mike Bocchino: Yeah, Mike Bocchino, Joe, I was actually out on the golf course last night talking to the pro and assistant pro and a lot of the people are playing and they said it's been fantastic. So kudos great job.

265

00:34:22.230 --> 00:34:28.560

Mike Bocchino: the 10-minute staggering was well received. So a lot of people don't feel pressured while they're out there.

266

00:34:30.330 --> 00:34:35.670

Mike Bocchino: things are going great. The one thing I just wanted to let you know is that the governor does have a phase two

267

00:34:36.240 --> 00:34:46.350

Mike Bocchino: where he talks about June 20 and the potential for youth sports to be opened up town-by-town and looking at those so

268

00:34:47.100 --> 00:35:06.990

Mike Bocchino: June 20 through the end of August allows for at least a decent season for some of these athletics, especially baseball and you know lacrosse, soccer. So if those things are lifted at that point in time will we be ready to open some fields for these kids to

269

00:35:08.070 --> 00:35:08.940

Mike Bocchino: Get out there and play

270

00:35:09.960 --> 00:35:17.040

Joe Siciliano: Well, I mean, obviously it's on the off season. So I don't know what proposals, there are out there, usually lacrosse and soccer is played in the spring or the fall

271

00:35:17.430 --> 00:35:28.200

Joe Siciliano: So we don't usually have a lot of summer requests. But what happens is that we, as the property owner have a certain responsibility so

272

00:35:28.710 --> 00:35:39.210

Joe Siciliano: Hypothetically, Mike, if we were going to let a user group go on, and that's not a decision I make solely it's the First Selectman's Committee that will make that decision.

273

00:35:39.930 --> 00:35:47.280

Joe Siciliano: We would want to see their protocol for how they would operate. I mean, we can't just have a free for all on town property because

274

00:35:47.880 --> 00:35:58.110

Joe Siciliano: Like before it was pretty much self-managed by the group, you know, we knew how many participants, they had in their program. The coaches kind of managed that.

275

00:35:58.680 --> 00:36:03.510

Joe Siciliano: Now as the property owner, we have a responsibility to control the activity.

276

00:36:04.200 --> 00:36:14.070

Joe Siciliano: To meet whatever guidance is out there. So, I'm sure it will be a forthcoming discussion, our sole effort right now and I hate to say this

277

00:36:14.520 --> 00:36:26.730

Joe Siciliano: Is to try to get the facilities open and get some of these protocols designed and operational that serve the masses, not just the sports people

278

00:36:27.420 --> 00:36:31.230

Joe Siciliano: It's not, not because I'm an anti-sports person at the end of the day.

279

00:36:32.010 --> 00:36:40.320

Joe Siciliano: Doing something about the beaches and some of our general parks and some of the places where multiple people can use is probably higher on the priority list.

280

00:36:40.590 --> 00:36:49.650

Joe Siciliano: Summer football camp or I'm just making up stuff, you know, but because we are charged now with trying to

281

00:36:49.800 --> 00:36:50.160

Joe Siciliano: Work as many

282

00:36:50.220 --> 00:36:58.110

Joe Siciliano: services that can be used by as many people in the public as we possibly can. Well, that's kind of a little bit of an isolated program.

283

00:36:58.440 --> 00:37:07.320

Joe Siciliano: So I'm not saying we're not going to do it, but we are just straight out on trying to get some of these other opportunities available for the public at this moment.

284

00:37:08.040 --> 00:37:17.370

Joe Siciliano: One thing when we were talking about the golf course. And let's stay with that subject for a minute. There has been a change in the golf course restaurant people

285

00:37:18.330 --> 00:37:36.540

Joe Siciliano: What happened during this whole period of time, which is a little crazy that we have to do this, but we kind of were put on notice by the LLC, there were three partners in the LLC, that the business was going bad, they anticipated

286

00:37:37.560 --> 00:37:48.090

Joe Siciliano: That they couldn't provide service or limited service going forward. And so we had several conversations about how to get that accomplished what has happened

287

00:37:48.420 --> 00:37:58.920

Joe Siciliano: Is that, and it's all been finalized by the law department that they brought in a partner or they sold their LLC shares to a fourth

288

00:37:59.370 --> 00:38:11.130

Joe Siciliano: Person who has now become a member of that LLC. So the LLC that we contracted with as a town still exists. There is a partner, a principal partner.

289

00:38:11.460 --> 00:38:17.700

Joe Siciliano: And there is somebody who still has a financial commitment in that partnership and that

290

00:38:18.450 --> 00:38:28.110

Joe Siciliano: Karen Vizzo or Karen St. Philips. However, you know her, the person that owned Karen's Cos Cobber will now be the new provider of service at the golf course.

291

00:38:28.920 --> 00:38:37.380

Joe Siciliano: She opened up we got our opened up on Saturday a little arm twisting to get that done. We got an open up on Saturday, but she's up there and

292

00:38:38.010 --> 00:38:47.580

Joe Siciliano: And I think she has the right approach and the right attitude and I spoke to her over the holiday weekend and even though we had, kind of questionable whether she said

293

00:38:48.300 --> 00:39:01.170

Joe Siciliano: She received a good reception by the golfers, people have started to find out that she's up there. And so she will be providing that service, at least for the next two years this year and next year. And there is a two year

294

00:39:02.400 --> 00:39:11.670

Joe Siciliano: Option going forward after that. So we'll see how it all kind of plays out. But she's very energetic very knowledgeable and good with the restaurant business.

295

00:39:11.940 --> 00:39:18.270

Joe Siciliano: And she has name recognition and a proven record here in town. So hopefully we're on the right track.

296

00:39:18.900 --> 00:39:29.790

Joe Siciliano: She has more of a diverse menu, then the BBQ that those folks are selling, and I think we're on the right track. So I'm anxious to see how it kind of plays out.

297

00:39:31.110 --> 00:39:32.670

Gary Dell'Abate: Right. Are you done, Joe.

298

00:39:34.050 --> 00:39:35.460

Joe Siciliano: Does anybody else have a question.

299

00:39:36.750 --> 00:39:45.810

Joe Siciliano: But one other thing I want to mention, and we have to kind of circle back and this is more or less my issue versus our consultants.

300

00:39:47.250 --> 00:39:52.230

Joe Siciliano: We are at a point with the field

301

00:39:53.790 --> 00:39:57.750

Joe Siciliano: study that we've been doing with Weston and Samson and

302

00:39:58.650 --> 00:40:06.600

Joe Siciliano: Everything's been surveyed everybody's seen the document. The next step would be for us to come up with a way that we can get the input from the user groups.

303

00:40:07.050 --> 00:40:21.750

Joe Siciliano: Prior to dealing with this pandemic, we were talking about having some collective meetings and using the Civic Center. We want the input of the user groups so that we can hear what they have to say versus what we've kind of put together.

304

00:40:23.010 --> 00:40:26.460

Joe Siciliano: I'm going to call our consultant this week

305

00:40:27.600 --> 00:40:30.780

Joe Siciliano: and see what the other options are to do that.

306

00:40:32.580 --> 00:40:38.490

Joe Siciliano: Whether we could do it by survey, it would be more helpful if we could do it in person. But I don't think that that's going to happen.

307

00:40:39.360 --> 00:40:48.000

Joe Siciliano: We do it by survey, maybe we can do it by zoom meeting which gets a little complicated so we're going to lay out some options to help finalize the report.

308

00:40:48.360 --> 00:41:01.020

Joe Siciliano: Our goal was to have it finalized by June 1. We're a little bit behind schedule, but it could come very shortly; in the next 30 to 45 days. So we're not that far off, but we have to

309

00:41:01.440 --> 00:41:13.680

Joe Siciliano: Get the final input from the user groups and I don't know. The consultant has a couple of ideas. He was off this week because of the holiday. So when he gets back on Monday, I will call him.

310

00:41:14.220 --> 00:41:31.230

Joe Siciliano: And speak with him about what his ideas might be and see if we can get this to finalization so we would have a live document to work from. The last two things that this committee might want to know is that through the budget process. There was some money.

311

00:41:32.310 --> 00:41:44.040

Joe Siciliano: On the Eastern Greenwich Civic Center. There will be an additional \$230,000 appropriated so that we now have 100% of the money we need for the engineering and architectural

312

00:41:44.850 --> 00:41:54.990

Joe Siciliano: Services to move the Eastern Greenwich Civic Center forward and that would be to the 30% completion phase and through finalization

313

00:41:55.530 --> 00:42:20.490

Joe Siciliano: And that the rink money a million dollars that was requested was reduced by \$880,000 \$120,300 was appropriated to the money we already had to try to take the rink plan to 30% completion so there is some money available for the rink committee, even though it won't be

314

00:42:21.960 --> 00:42:33.090

Joe Siciliano: moving as quickly as they wanted to move forward but we will be able to move their program forward to at least get preliminary site plan approval by P&Z.

315

00:42:34.320 --> 00:42:42.150

Joe Siciliano: So there is enough money to do that, according to Alan, who's the project manager. So I can imagine that those conversations could kind of continue

316

00:42:42.420 --> 00:42:51.720

Joe Siciliano: to keep things moving forward. I would suggest that we keep them moving forward. Basically what's just happened on the rink side is that the rink project both the

317

00:42:52.200 --> 00:43:02.580

Joe Siciliano: The additional engineering and architectural and the final construction has all got pushed out another at least another year, at this moment, and I'm sure at the next

318

00:43:03.720 --> 00:43:11.580

Joe Siciliano: budget presentation when we start preparing our budget in the fall again, there'll be a discussion about where to really slot these next projects.

319

00:43:12.000 --> 00:43:21.180

Joe Siciliano: As far as the financials go both on the Eastern Center and on the Rink. So there's a couple of unknowns, but there is some seed money to keep things moving.

320

00:43:21.510 --> 00:43:30.000

Joe Siciliano: And I would strongly suggest that we focus going forward to try to keep the momentum going. I mean, we're in the queue with a bunch of other projects.

321

00:43:30.330 --> 00:43:40.200

Joe Siciliano: But we want to stay in the queue. And we don't want to go dormant because that'll just give other projects, the opportunity to move up. So I would strongly recommend that we don't. We keep things going.

322

00:43:41.490 --> 00:43:54.510

Joe Siciliano: That's kind of what I have. It's 10 minutes to 12, I have another few minutes if anybody has a question or any comments, I'd be more than happy to field those and then I'm going to drop out and then you guys can continue.

323

00:43:54.780 --> 00:43:56.730

Gary Dell'Abate: Nancy. You can unmute state your name.

324

00:43:57.420 --> 00:44:11.610

Nancy Chapin: Nancy Chapin I just have one question which you started to answer because you went through the budget process without us having any meetings. Was there any other things in the budget process, we should be aware of other things that we should be advocating for?

325

00:44:12.900 --> 00:44:16.740

Joe Siciliano: Well, if you want to advocate, advocate for the RTM

326

00:44:16.950 --> 00:44:19.020

Joe Siciliano: Not to cut any more out of our budget. Okay.

327

00:44:19.290 --> 00:44:37.350

Joe Siciliano: So we had a budget adjustment by the BET. What they basically did is they took our increase in our budget and rolled it back. So we have kind of a flat budget to the year that we're in right now. It was \$155,000 in round numbers.

328

00:44:38.430 --> 00:44:42.960

Joe Siciliano: They're asking us for that as a cost savings going into next year.

329

00:44:44.280 --> 00:44:58.020

Joe Siciliano: Based on altering some programs and whether we have fireworks or don't have fireworks and a bunch of things like that, we'll probably be able to achieve that without a big hurt to the department

330

00:44:58.320 --> 00:45:00.900

Joe Siciliano: What my next concern is going forward with the RTM

331

00:45:01.950 --> 00:45:06.540

Joe Siciliano: that they hopefully do not delete from our budget. As they can only delete and not add to our budget.

332

00:45:07.440 --> 00:45:13.350

Joe Siciliano: That they don't take any additional steps and leave it to the professionals, not that they're not but

333

00:45:13.710 --> 00:45:20.430

Joe Siciliano: To manage wisely in the sense that my commitment is that if we're not running camp at a hundred percent,

334

00:45:21.030 --> 00:45:29.310

Joe Siciliano: We're not going to staff and so there should be some corresponding give back

335

00:45:29.820 --> 00:45:41.400

Joe Siciliano: at the end of the year for our program and you know there have been some discussions about revenue projections and I have a list of questions by the RTM about revenue projections

336

00:45:41.790 --> 00:45:53.670

Joe Siciliano: I think the BET during your deliberations just decided that town wide they came up with a number of \$5.6 million in possible revenue.

337

00:45:54.270 --> 00:46:07.020

Joe Siciliano: Reduction town wide Parks and Recreation has about a million dollars of that credit in their budget, but it's an arbitrary designation like park passes.

338

00:46:07.590 --> 00:46:15.480

Joe Siciliano: was credited with \$600,000 in loss of revenue. I personally don't see that happening in park passes or maybe not happening at all.

339

00:46:15.900 --> 00:46:27.180

Joe Siciliano: Because that we're talking about our passes that are going to be issued in February of 2021 but I understand what they did. They were just trying to allocate certain amounts in certain departments.

340

00:46:28.080 --> 00:46:38.730

Joe Siciliano: It may not play out that way, but I'm not going to say that there's not going to be any revenue loss, but they were trying to take this into consideration in preparation for

341

00:46:39.420 --> 00:46:51.990

Joe Siciliano: The presentation to the RTM and setting of the mill rate going forward, but it's not going to be town wide business as usual. There will be an estimated decrease of \$5.6 million in revenue town wide

342

00:46:52.680 --> 00:47:03.120

Gary Dell'Abate: So I'm just going to jump in really quick because I know we have you for like eight minutes. So there's people that wanted to have to public comments I want at least give them a chance to ask any questions that they have some to me, bring in

343

00:47:03.120 --> 00:47:03.570

Bill

344

00:47:06.300 --> 00:47:08.070

Gary Dell'Abate: unmute and state your name.

345

00:47:08.850 --> 00:47:15.420

Bill Drake: Hi this is Bill Drake. Thanks, Joe. For keeping us on the road to normal operations.

346

00:47:16.560 --> 00:47:22.980

Bill Drake: One short question. I know some of the town's tennis courts are open. What's the plan for opening the rest

347

00:47:24.090 --> 00:47:34.290

Joe Siciliano: Well, the next phase that I think you're going to see, and it could happen as early as Saturday, we're going to add one more court which is Laughlin Avenue. We're going to allow people to play doubles.

348

00:47:35.730 --> 00:47:41.880

Joe Siciliano: And so we're kind of moving up a little bit. There is a bigger plan, but

349

00:47:42.540 --> 00:47:48.480

Joe Siciliano: We can get that accomplished by this weekend. And of course, if people want to play pickleball. They can reserve a court.

350

00:47:48.810 --> 00:48:05.670

Joe Siciliano: And play singles or doubles pickleball on any of the courts that we have that's been another question out there. So there's going to be some guidance coming out tomorrow revised guidance about tennis we'll eventually kind of move into it that the thought process was what you know.

351

00:48:06.930 --> 00:48:17.790

Joe Siciliano: Open up what you think you can monitor at this point. And then, tell me how that's going as far as usage and then we will kind of advanced to an another step so

352

00:48:18.240 --> 00:48:28.140

Joe Siciliano: The immediate first step for Saturday will be to add Laughlin which will make six sets of courts including the high school which has numerous courts and then

353

00:48:28.890 --> 00:48:35.820

Joe Siciliano: We will be able to play doubles and then you'll see a couple more added into the program in the next couple of weeks.

354

00:48:37.500 --> 00:48:38.400

Bill Drake: Okay. Thanks, Joe.

355

00:48:39.240 --> 00:48:40.020

Joe Siciliano: ok Bill. Thank you.

356

00:48:48.930 --> 00:48:51.630

Joe Siciliano: Somebody is on mute. Whoever is speaking

357

00:48:53.160 --> 00:48:55.110

Gary Dell'Abate: Miriam state your name and unmute please

358

00:48:55.680 --> 00:49:07.740

Miriam Kreuzer: Oh. Hi. Good morning, everyone. Miriam Kreuzer, of the BET. Joe, I wanted to reiterate, thanks for helping us all keep sane by getting us all out there to breathe some fresh air and get some sunshine.

359

00:49:08.460 --> 00:49:16.890

Miriam Kreuzer: I had a couple of questions I didn't follow completely the discussion on what happened with Backyard Barbecue. So are you

360

00:49:17.430 --> 00:49:18.750

Miriam Kreuzer: is what you're saying that the fourth

361

00:49:18.750 --> 00:49:24.270

Miriam Kreuzer: LLC owner was the owner of the Cos Cobber, or are they two separate things?

362

00:49:24.990 --> 00:49:31.260

Joe Siciliano: no, no there were three principal owners of the LLC shareholders. Okay, so what they did is that

363

00:49:32.400 --> 00:49:39.300

Joe Siciliano: Three of them sold their shares to one shareholder, which is the new shareholder and

364

00:49:39.990 --> 00:49:45.300

Joe Siciliano: One of them still stayed in financial, even though they don't have any controlling shares, they still have a financial interest.

365

00:49:45.780 --> 00:49:59.460

Joe Siciliano: So what we did as the town is we contracted with the LLC Back Country Barbecue LLC, that still exists. Still registered with the state of Connecticut and the shareholders have been revised, you know,

366

00:49:59.760 --> 00:50:00.690

Joe Siciliano: At the state level.

367

00:50:01.050 --> 00:50:18.090

Joe Siciliano: And we took all of the insurance is still with Back Country, all of the important documents are still with Back Country, LLC. The Town attorney has ruled that it is still the same existing LLC. They just divided the shares in a different fashion

368

00:50:19.800 --> 00:50:24.690

Miriam Kreuzer: Okay but the important thing is that Cos Cobber is part of that contract. Is that right?

369

00:50:24.870 --> 00:50:33.150

Joe Siciliano: yeah. Karen Vizzo or St. Philips whichever you know her by has now become a shareholder in the LLC.

370

00:50:33.570 --> 00:50:43.230

Miriam Kreuzer: Yes, got it. So it's essentially the same entity. So there was no need to go out to separate bidding or anything because it's just sort of altogether. Understood.

371

00:50:43.950 --> 00:50:46.890

Joe Siciliano: As long as they kept it as the same entity, we were fine. Yeah.

372

00:50:47.340 --> 00:51:01.080

Miriam Kreuzer: got it, two more quick questions. When you talked about park passes and the way they were being lumpy. And I know this is sort of a hard question, but if you look at where we typically are on park passes and I know a lot of them haven't been

373

00:51:02.100 --> 00:51:03.180

Miriam Kreuzer: Carried through for

374

00:51:03.240 --> 00:51:15.390

Miriam Kreuzer: Due to the sort of issues that you mentioned being home and executing. What percentage of those passes do you think we have now? are we at 50%, 75% of the typical park passes?

375

00:51:16.470 --> 00:51:16.830

Joe Siciliano: my guesstimate

376

00:51:17.220 --> 00:51:24.060

Joe Siciliano: would probably be about the 50% mark and climbing.

377

00:51:24.450 --> 00:51:37.950

Joe Siciliano: So we had a general conversation yesterday about when are we going to require people to have their park pass. So, we have roughly 4000 in the queue, 3700 this morning.

378

00:51:38.880 --> 00:51:53.760

Joe Siciliano: For processing and I want to give people enough advance notice. So what we're really kind of thinking about is and this is to be determined, but we'll probably run that out until the end of June.

379

00:51:54.120 --> 00:52:05.820

Joe Siciliano: Because if I were to say two weeks from now, you have to have your park pass, we couldn't process that many park passes in the next two weeks. Okay, so we're having this discussion about the first week of June, about

380

00:52:07.080 --> 00:52:11.670

Joe Siciliano: June 29 before the Fourth of July holiday.

381

00:52:12.690 --> 00:52:19.200

Joe Siciliano: I'm getting some information from my people about how many we can process in a day, how many they think are out there outstanding

382

00:52:19.440 --> 00:52:29.820

Joe Siciliano: You know, those kind of things that we will make that decision at the beginning of the week after some consultation with the First Selectman and his group, but we're thinking about that as a date and again

383

00:52:30.930 --> 00:52:38.670

Joe Siciliano: It's like every year everybody waits until the last minute. And this year, gave them a bigger reason is whether we were going to open up anything at all. So now that we're open

384

00:52:39.000 --> 00:52:47.400

Joe Siciliano: Greenwich residence right now can use their park pass, whether it's renewed or not or any kind of Greenwich identification to get in.

385

00:52:48.810 --> 00:53:02.040

Joe Siciliano: And we will continue to do that. Probably until the last week of June. If this all plays out right. I don't have all the information today because that was a discussion item yesterday, but that's the thought process.

386

00:53:02.880 --> 00:53:10.320

Gary Dell'Abate: Joe I know you gotta go, can you squeeze in one more before you go?

387

00:53:16.530 --> 00:53:17.040

Joe Siciliano: sure.

388

00:53:18.360 --> 00:53:19.740

Katherine LoBalbo: Hi, Joe

389

00:53:20.880 --> 00:53:32.970

Katherine LoBalbo: I just wanted to field that comment about the RTM, I'm the Chair of the Parks and Rec. Committee for the RTM I can't speak for that committee, I can only speak for myself. In this case, but

390

00:53:33.330 --> 00:53:50.940

Katherine LoBalbo: We know how incredibly hard you and all your, your staff and how well run your operational budget is. And I just want to express my sincere gratitude for all the work you've been doing over the last several weeks 24 hours a day.

391

00:53:52.830 --> 00:53:53.820

Katherine LoBalbo: Seven days a week.

392

00:53:53.850 --> 00:53:54.990

Joe Siciliano: And I've been

393

00:53:56.070 --> 00:54:00.690

Joe Siciliano: I've been a joke lately. When I answer the phone. I say, Hi, this is Joe 24 seven. How can I help you

394

00:54:01.290 --> 00:54:12.240

Joe Siciliano: Because the work day has kind of expanded tremendously. It's not that I've ever really worried about the work day, but stuff going on in the morning and evening, and it's kind of crazy, but hopefully we'll get back to normal.

395

00:54:12.270 --> 00:54:18.630

Katherine LoBalbo: Yeah, I think I just, you know, to channel Yogi Berra, it's tough to make predictions, especially about the future.

396

00:54:18.990 --> 00:54:26.400

Katherine LoBalbo: And that's how I know you're operating on a day-to-day basis. So, not a question but if the board.

397

00:54:27.120 --> 00:54:32.820

Katherine LoBalbo: This is for it for the Board of Parks and Rec, if you have anything in the budget or anything you'd like

398

00:54:33.690 --> 00:54:42.510

Katherine LoBalbo: To make sure that your RTM Board for Parks and Rec needs to know about and needs to be advocating about something you're concerned that, you know,

399

00:54:42.870 --> 00:54:52.740

Katherine LoBalbo: The that we might be financially honing in on or we may be misunderstanding. Please, please email me please reach out to me. It's important that we know.

400

00:54:52.950 --> 00:54:59.280

Joe Siciliano: Thank you Katherine, I appreciate the kind words. And I know that we have to come and see you in front of your committee on

401

00:54:59.310 --> 00:55:00.090

Tuesday night.

402

00:55:02.430 --> 00:55:09.270

Joe Siciliano: You know you've shared some questions with us that have come from you or your board members and we're working to get those

403

00:55:10.260 --> 00:55:18.060

Joe Siciliano: Answered, and we will field the questions on Tuesday night when we come in front of the Parks and Recreation RTM Committee so

404

00:55:18.510 --> 00:55:27.450

Joe Siciliano: Again, anything you receive prior to the meeting forward it to us and we'll try to be prepared to answer those questions to the best of our ability. Appreciate that

405

00:55:27.780 --> 00:55:28.080

Gary Dell'Abate: That

406

00:55:28.170 --> 00:55:29.490

Joe Siciliano: Thanks for your time. I have to run.

407

00:55:29.880 --> 00:55:30.390

Gary Dell'Abate: I've gotta thank you and

408

00:55:31.980 --> 00:55:33.780

Gary Dell'Abate: More importantly for all you are doing

409

00:55:34.560 --> 00:55:35.430

Joe Siciliano: Thank you. bye

410

00:55:36.840 --> 00:55:48.720

Gary Dell'Abate: we're going to continue the meeting; we're going to pick it up we probably have about a half an hour. So we'll go through our subcommittees and if we have more public comment after that I'll certainly recognize it. So let's start with Rick Loh to talk about the Dorothy Hamill Rink

411

00:55:53.100 --> 00:55:54.060

Rick Loh: Am I unmuted.

412

00:55:55.290 --> 00:55:55.740

Scott Johnson: Yes.

413

00:55:57.360 --> 00:55:58.200

Rick Loh: Rick Clow.

414

00:55:59.400 --> 00:56:00.600

Rick Loh: Parks and Rec board.

415

00:56:01.710 --> 00:56:07.740

Rick Loh: I think Joe just gave us the update on the rink, things have been quiet due to what's been going on.

416

00:56:09.030 --> 00:56:11.130

Rick Loh: The good news is that the

417

00:56:12.210 --> 00:56:15.900

Rick Loh: request for proposals went out.

418

00:56:17.280 --> 00:56:17.880

Rick Loh: So,

419

00:56:19.860 --> 00:56:23.970

Rick Loh: We should hear from architects to help with the design phase.

420

00:56:27.780 --> 00:56:30.480

Rick Loh: hopefully there'll be participating, given what's going on in the

421

00:56:30.480 --> 00:56:30.810

World.

422

00:56:33.420 --> 00:56:41.640

Rick Loh: The bad news is, I mean, that's the good news is that from that standpoint, we're still pretty much on schedule which will allow us to get to the 30%

423

00:56:42.690 --> 00:56:49.650

Rick Loh: Because of money that was left over from this past year, combined with what we will have available going into the new year.

424

00:56:51.450 --> 00:56:55.320

Rick Loh: The bad news is the \$800,000 plus cut was made.

425

00:56:56.850 --> 00:57:03.150

Rick Loh: Hopefully, as we reopen revenue will start to come back in that money will be forthcoming again.

426

00:57:05.940 --> 00:57:13.650

Rick Loh: But Al has been doing a great job keeping the ball going while everything has been closed down. I know Sue's been involved

427

00:57:15.030 --> 00:57:24.870

Rick Loh: Joe's Obviously been involved and I also want take the chance to thank the Department for keeping the ball going in the right direction through this very unusual time

428

00:57:26.130 --> 00:57:27.330

Rick Loh: And that's about what I know.

429

00:57:28.470 --> 00:57:29.310

Gary Dell'Abate: Okay, thank you.

430

00:57:30.870 --> 00:57:31.710

Gary Dell'Abate: Scott

431

00:57:31.830 --> 00:57:35.790

Gary Dell'Abate: Why don't you state your name and we'll talk about what's going on with the Civic Center.

432

00:57:36.750 --> 00:57:40.800

Scott Johnson: Okay, can you hear me, I should be unmuted Scott Johnson.

433

00:57:41.940 --> 00:57:51.060

Scott Johnson: Okay, so the last time we met on Civic Center meaning, the committee was February 5, since then.

434

00:57:52.170 --> 00:58:04.680

Scott Johnson: The architects have been completely continuing their work because they work from home on the cab machines. So according to them and Al Monelli, we haven't lost any time on that.

435

00:58:05.340 --> 00:58:16.500

Scott Johnson: What we have lost, which is really important because we have not had a meeting with the committee. So Gary, I spoke to Al to really

436

00:58:18.510 --> 00:58:30.960

Scott Johnson: admonish him to get a zoom meeting with us as soon as possible, so we can all hear what's going on. There are several things that are important. One is flooring surfaces and the other is exterior surfaces.

437

00:58:32.010 --> 00:58:38.640

Scott Johnson: site plan, traffic flow, things like that. We're waiting to hear from Al we really want to have a zoom meeting.

438

00:58:40.230 --> 00:58:52.950

Scott Johnson: And he's assured us he's trying to circle back on that. one of the difficulties, we can't see the plans very well in a zoom meeting. So we're also trying to organize a meeting in the parking lot.

439

00:58:54.660 --> 00:59:04.830

Scott Johnson: Within the allowable limits. I think it's two to three people at a time so you can see the real blueprint sized plans and that's being worked on over the next week or so.

440

00:59:07.470 --> 00:59:17.970

Gary Dell'Abate: Great. Thank you, Scott. Sue's not here. So Tom, do you want to talk about. I don't even know when the last time we had a field committee meeting is or if there's anything to even bring up

441

00:59:18.960 --> 00:59:30.180

Tom McGarrity: I will help us catch up on some time by saying I have, I do not know of anything I've been part of one meeting and at the last seven months. So I defer to anybody who might have some information.

442

00:59:30.540 --> 00:59:32.550

Gary Dell'Abate: Okay, just say you said all that, state your name.

443

00:59:32.790 --> 00:59:35.130

Tom McGarrity: Tom McGarrity, I said all that.

444

00:59:35.550 --> 00:59:36.060

Thanks.

445

00:59:37.140 --> 00:59:39.990

Gary Dell'Abate: Nancy, do you want to talk about what's going on with Binney

446

00:59:41.130 --> 00:59:52.260

Nancy Chapin: Nancy Chapin Board of Parks and Rec. So actually Binney's been doing a fair amount thanks to the Parks Rec. staff so should start with

447

00:59:52.980 --> 01:00:03.810

Nancy Chapin: Kind of a shout out to Darrin Wigglesworth and Dr. Greg Kramer, as well as Jon Fasone, the Park Foreman there.

448

01:00:04.380 --> 01:00:15.750

Nancy Chapin: They have done a lot of work on the loop trail. So hopefully people can go check that out. It's still needs a little work. It needs to be compressed a little bit, with time, that will place.

449

01:00:16.800 --> 01:00:24.840

Nancy Chapin: Maybe some of you have seen some of the PR on that. But some of the plantings that were done are really taking shape as well. The island is starting to look really good.

450

01:00:25.800 --> 01:00:35.370

Nancy Chapin: Of note, since our last meeting is we were able to work with DPW to get as part of their budget for the bridge project to incorporate

451

01:00:35.760 --> 01:00:43.110

Nancy Chapin: A landscape plan and plantings for the reading room, which is across from the Perot library. The other thing that we're working on.

452

01:00:43.950 --> 01:00:55.650

Nancy Chapin: Is the, what we call the clubhouse, but next to the to the active ball fields is to work on that patio making a nice place for residents to sit

453

01:00:56.250 --> 01:01:02.910

Nancy Chapin: And we're waiting to see if Viti might come back with a bid on that since he's already got equipment there.

454

01:01:03.540 --> 01:01:12.750

Nancy Chapin: So hopefully that will get going, then our next step will be to figure out how much money we have left and what to do with it. So we're going to try and organize a meeting.

455

01:01:13.680 --> 01:01:21.840

Nancy Chapin: Early in June, we haven't had any formal meetings but work has been going on and Pete Urhy and I walked with

456

01:01:23.550 --> 01:01:30.960

Nancy Chapin: Greg and Darrin and Jon just Tuesday this week. So any questions about Binney?

457

01:01:31.530 --> 01:01:38.760

Gary Dell'Abate: Yeah, I just want to let you know it will all tie together so you know Scott and I just had our meeting.

458

01:01:39.540 --> 01:01:42.270

Gary Dell'Abate: With the Selectmen about re-upping and

459

01:01:43.110 --> 01:01:48.540

Gary Dell'Abate: One of the questions that they had asked me was, how can we make this committee better?

460

01:01:48.810 --> 01:01:54.720

Gary Dell'Abate: And I said, that's really up to you guys because we have no say we're only as good as the new members you send us

461

01:01:55.020 --> 01:01:59.820

Gary Dell'Abate: So they're interviewing people and they're sending us, I think we're getting two new members.

462

01:02:00.180 --> 01:02:13.020

Gary Dell'Abate: By the end of the summer, and I made a point of bringing up your name. And I said, I feel like you're kind of working alone on this board and I really would like it if they could bring someone to the board that could help you with the things that you're doing so I don't know.

463

01:02:14.700 --> 01:02:24.060

Gary Dell'Abate: if they're going to listen to me, that's what I told them I think we need, so I hope we can. I don't know what they're going to send us because they send us what they send us.

464

01:02:25.590 --> 01:02:28.500

Nancy Chapin: Well, thank you for this kind of support.

465

01:02:28.950 --> 01:02:34.950

Gary Dell'Abate: I want to help you more, once we get back to more, we're going to do that. All right, Scott.

466

01:02:35.280 --> 01:02:38.460

Nancy Chapin: when we get to new business, I will share

467

01:02:38.550 --> 01:02:42.540

Nancy Chapin: The next thing that I'm getting involved in, and hopefully we can talk about that.

468

01:02:42.990 --> 01:02:48.540

Gary Dell'Abate: Great, Scott unmute yourself and talk about the foundation, the love of your life.

469

01:02:49.050 --> 01:02:56.160

Scott Johnson: Scott Johnson, so the foundation last several months has basically been issuing small checks.

470

01:02:57.180 --> 01:03:00.870

Scott Johnson: They were for bench projects which is extremely common.

471

01:03:02.130 --> 01:03:05.280

Scott Johnson: I think there's a skating scholarship check

472

01:03:07.200 --> 01:03:12.360

Scott Johnson: Believe it or not, you know, we have to file tax returns, which are accountants prepare and they were filed

473

01:03:13.410 --> 01:03:22.350

Scott Johnson: Beside sign as a two months ago, two weeks ago. Just so people know because there's was surprising confusion.

474

01:03:24.030 --> 01:03:28.770

Scott Johnson: The Parks and Rec. Foundation has a website so it can be linked on through.

475

01:03:29.850 --> 01:03:38.430

Scott Johnson: Our website or you can just Google Town of Greenwich Parks and Rec foundation and it's there, it's a really actually a well done website.

476

01:03:39.840 --> 01:03:49.920

Scott Johnson: It kind of explains the operation so that's helpful as most of you know the amendments to the bylaws was filed which lessened the number

477

01:03:50.400 --> 01:04:10.980

Scott Johnson: Which makes it a lot easier to manage. One person selected by the Selectman versus six which never happened. We got rid of the ex-officio memberships, which are RTM complained about the BET complained about. So we'll have a meeting, probably in July or August, probably a zoom meeting.

478

01:04:12.630 --> 01:04:16.710

Scott Johnson: When we can, and that'll keep us going for the next year.

479

01:04:20.220 --> 01:04:22.710

Gary Dell'Abate: Great. alright, so

480

01:04:23.430 --> 01:04:29.130

Gary Dell'Abate: Is there any new business, Nancy. I think you suggested, you have something to talk about in new business you can unmute state your name.

481

01:04:30.690 --> 01:04:33.240

Nancy Chapin: Nancy Chapin. So just briefly.

482

01:04:34.290 --> 01:04:53.850

Nancy Chapin: I had spoken to Scott and Thanks Scott for advising, there has been incredible activity in this what Bruce called tri-park. The Pinetum, Pomerance, Tuchman and I think when all other parks were closed around other states, it was you know highway going by, but

483

01:04:54.900 --> 01:05:05.880

Nancy Chapin: So there's been a lot of interest has been a lot of talk about a friends group. So we have compiled a list of names which I will forward to everybody. Basically, RTM members,

484

01:05:06.450 --> 01:05:16.710

Nancy Chapin: And stakeholders, Tree Conservancy, botanical garden, abutting neighbors meaning Audubon Land Trust.

485

01:05:18.120 --> 01:05:24.150

Nancy Chapin: And so we're creating this right now, a start to friends, I think that maybe this board and Joe

486

01:05:25.350 --> 01:05:30.960

Nancy Chapin: Could look at if this would be better as a subcommittee of the Parks and Rec board, I don't know, but

487

01:05:32.280 --> 01:05:41.520

Nancy Chapin: There's just a huge interest. It's sort of a park that's become love to death, and it is in desperate need of a management plan and

488

01:05:42.330 --> 01:06:00.240

Nancy Chapin: We are kind of going to use the Binney committee as a model and work with Greg who has done a walkthrough with Andy, we have Sarah Coccaro, she and I hiked before this all happened in the rain. And we literally hiked every single trail.

489

01:06:01.980 --> 01:06:10.920

Nancy Chapin: And it's now been mapped GIS. We just have to get it as the software had a glitch, but hopefully soon we'll actually have a map.

490

01:06:11.400 --> 01:06:16.770

Nancy Chapin: Through GIS of every single trail in this park and figure out what trail should be maintained and which shouldn't

491

01:06:17.430 --> 01:06:32.700

Nancy Chapin: So anyway, that's exciting. I think it's exciting and we'll share more information, but I know we're short on time so I can get more information out. If anybody has any questions, there will also be a dog sort of representative component

492

01:06:33.720 --> 01:06:38.910

Nancy Chapin: So we'll have all stakeholders involved.

493

01:06:39.300 --> 01:06:46.710

Gary Dell'Abate: That's great. Thank you. That's, awesome. Alright, so is there any other new business or any other public comment?

494

01:06:47.970 --> 01:06:51.120

Gary Dell'Abate: If you want to talk, raise your hand. Sue Baker.

495

01:06:53.070 --> 01:06:54.360

Gary Dell'Abate: Please state your name and unmute.

496

01:06:58.920 --> 01:06:59.730

Sue Baker: Sue Baker.

497

01:07:00.600 --> 01:07:01.110

Sue Baker: Can you hear me.

498

01:07:01.530 --> 01:07:11.220

Sue Baker: Okay, good. I just wanted to give a shout out to Nancy, there was a wonderful article in yesterday's Greenwich Patch.

499

01:07:11.820 --> 01:07:28.800

Sue Baker: About the Binney project with a great shout out to Nancy Chapin as well as Peter and all of your staff at Parks and Rec. that she acknowledged. So if you haven't had a chance to see that, definitely see that. Go Nancy for your next project!

500

01:07:30.330 --> 01:07:30.870

Thank you.

501

01:07:32.580 --> 01:07:41.730

Gary Dell'Abate: Thank you. All right. Is there anybody else? Going once, going twice. If you're on the phone, you can hit star nine but I know who is on the phone and

502

01:07:42.090 --> 01:07:49.980

Gary Dell'Abate: I don't think they have any questions, but if you want to hit star nine. Other than that, hey, I just want to thank everybody, this has been really tough and we've been getting a lot of questions and

503

01:07:50.340 --> 01:07:56.790

Gary Dell'Abate: everybody's working hard. I appreciate everybody carving out time in the middle of their day because Joe really is working 24 seven

504

01:07:57.240 --> 01:08:09.150

Gary Dell'Abate: I thought this worked out really nicely and considering I've been on a ton of zoom calls for work and a few for the town. This actually went very nicely. So thank you all. And we'll see you on the next one. Thanks.

505

01:08:11.460 --> 01:08:12.090

Frank DiVincenzo: Thank you.

506

01:08:12.510 --> 01:08:13.110

Thanks guy.

507

01:08:17.130 --> 01:08:17.880

Nancy Chapin: Now we just have to figure