



Board of Parks and Recreation Virtual Meeting Transcript July 30, 2020

The Zoom transcript is computer generated and does not always accurately capture the words. This transcript has been edited to properly and accurately capture the meeting. The unedited version is available in the Parks and Recreation Department.

WEBVTT

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00:00:00.000 --> 00:00:04.020

Gary Dell'Abate: Before anyone but that's, that's great. It's Rick on audio only

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00:00:05.670 --> 00:00:06.750

Lenore Caserta-McClester: We are now recording

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00:00:07.170 --> 00:00:09.990

Gary Dell'Abate: Okay, now recording, so it's July 30

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00:00:11.130 --> 00:00:13.170

Gary Dell'Abate: 4:02 pm it is the

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00:00:14.880 --> 00:00:17.430

Gary Dell'Abate: Parks and Rec meeting for the month of July.

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00:00:18.510 --> 00:00:21.360

Gary Dell'Abate: 1 I want to start with approval of the May 28

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00:00:22.710 --> 00:00:23.790

Gary Dell'Abate: minutes of the meeting.

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00:00:24.930 --> 00:00:30.870

Gary Dell'Abate: I have a first. Thank you. I recognize a first. I have a second

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00:00:32.490 --> 00:00:37.350

Gary Dell'Abate: Mike Bocchino is our first Scott Johnson is our second. All in favor, raise your hand.

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00:00:38.550 --> 00:00:40.530

Gary Dell'Abate: Let the record show that Frank, Kirk,

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00:00:42.240 --> 00:00:54.660

Gary Dell'Abate: Mike, Scott, and Rick all raise their hands so Minutes are approved. So I'm going to go through this, but just as a reminder to everyone that if you do if you are going to speak just start by stating your name.

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00:00:56.340 --> 00:00:59.520

Gary Dell'Abate: probably state of your name and saying, Board of Parks.

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00:01:01.440 --> 00:01:03.060

Gary Dell'Abate: Parks and Rec member board member

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00:01:04.140 --> 00:01:07.200

Gary Dell'Abate: So Joe, let's start with you with the director's report Joseph Siciliano

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00:01:07.680 --> 00:01:07.980

Joe Siciliano: Okay.

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00:01:08.550 --> 00:01:12.360

Joe Siciliano: The two items that are on the director's report, there may be

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00:01:13.380 --> 00:01:15.420

Joe Siciliano: a couple other things we want to discuss

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00:01:16.740 --> 00:01:26.130

Joe Siciliano: First thing would be the field study, there's been progress on the field study improvement study, we had a discussion, a week ago or so with our consultants.

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00:01:26.700 --> 00:01:37.170

Joe Siciliano: And we are scheduled to have a zoom meeting with the stakeholders. Now this is a when we say stakeholders. These are all the people that have requested in the past or

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00:01:37.470 --> 00:01:38.730

Joe Siciliano: In the future.

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00:01:39.780 --> 00:01:45.870

Joe Siciliano: The opportunity to get field space, whether it's for a Team, league or an individual group, that kind of thing.

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00:01:46.740 --> 00:01:54.570

Joe Siciliano: And what Ryan Chmielewski from Western and Sampson will do is that he'll have a questionnaire that he will go through on the zoom meeting.

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00:01:55.560 --> 00:02:06.330

Joe Siciliano: With the stakeholders and we request that the stakeholders will be able to fill that information out and send it back to us, we have a two week three, week return time on that.

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00:02:06.750 --> 00:02:08.160

Joe Siciliano: And that's the next step.

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00:02:08.190 --> 00:02:20.100

Joe Siciliano: In collecting information from our constituents or stakeholders. Donald has given Ryan all the fields scheduling information.

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00:02:20.760 --> 00:02:32.820

Joe Siciliano: But this would be the next step in the process. almost to the conclusion. Once we get that data and kind of shake it out a little bit. There'll be a table in the in the report that talks about

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00:02:33.630 --> 00:02:42.510

Joe Siciliano: Field user requests and field users actually assignments of what you know what they requested and what they received and maybe even what they can use

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00:02:43.080 --> 00:02:57.600

Joe Siciliano: What they could use. So, we have a week. That's part of the last step here, and we're hoping to have the draft report somewhere around the first two weeks of September, which is very timely, then the field committee will resume.

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00:02:57.660 --> 00:03:03.750

Joe Siciliano: And review the draft report and then finalization by the end of the month of September.

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00:03:04.350 --> 00:03:13.080

Joe Siciliano: And our goal would be to have that document available for the next budget cycle. So we can look at what we should be requesting as a capital improvement.

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00:03:13.320 --> 00:03:22.650

Joe Siciliano: For field improvements in the next 21-22 budget. So that's where we are. And we're, we're in good shape. We just have to put the last two pieces of the components together.

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00:03:29.550 --> 00:03:47.220

Joe Siciliano: The next thing on the posted agenda is a little bit of an update about the golf course and how we fared through this year, interesting enough, you know, we were closed at the golf course for approximately six weeks of the of the spring. But year over year from

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00:03:51.090 --> 00:03:59.130

Joe Siciliano: from 2018-19 to June 30th of 2020 we were up in the number of rounds of golf, and the number of rounds of carts we sold

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00:03:59.760 --> 00:04:08.010

Joe Siciliano: So the last couple of months has been very, very strong. I mean, even though we closed for approximately six weeks.

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00:04:08.790 --> 00:04:15.840

Joe Siciliano: Before we closed, there was a lot of golf being played. And after we reopened because people's whole life schedules have changed.

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00:04:16.110 --> 00:04:28.290

Joe Siciliano: And where we were doing less than 200 rounds during the week. Now we're doing an average of 250 rounds a day and on weekends. We're doing somewhere between 250 and 275 rounds a day so

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00:04:28.950 --> 00:04:37.110

Joe Siciliano: We even increased the start time. I mean, increase will decrease the start time, we were going. We went from eight minutes starts to 10 minute starts

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00:04:37.470 --> 00:04:44.310

Joe Siciliano: And we still are putting those number of rounds on the course. It's just amazing that people's whole work habits life has changed.

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00:04:44.580 --> 00:04:51.000

Joe Siciliano: There's no Saturdays or Sundays anymore. It's kind of like when can I go and play golf and when can I work remotely from home

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00:04:51.420 --> 00:04:56.400

Joe Siciliano: And that's how it's been that's how it's worked so it's good for us. I mean, we're not we're not

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00:04:56.940 --> 00:05:04.440

Joe Siciliano: Taking any kind of financial hit at the golf course, even though we did put out a report that said that our that our revenue on

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00:05:05.310 --> 00:05:20.670

Joe Siciliano: Hold on a second. Let me just get the right page here our revenue is about \$190,000 less than anticipated, but also our expense, because we were closed down for those six weeks is almost equally.

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00:05:22.020 --> 00:05:32.100

Joe Siciliano: less because, we didn't spend a lot of money. We had just our full time staff. We didn't pay any part time people no supplies and materials.

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00:05:32.460 --> 00:05:40.470

Joe Siciliano: Not many operating costs, etc. So we almost came out with a zero, negative. It was a zero balance budget.

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00:05:40.950 --> 00:05:48.450

Joe Siciliano: Based on but they're definitely away from our projections of what we should have been what we should have been doing on the revenue and expense side but all in all.

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00:05:48.810 --> 00:05:56.730

Joe Siciliano: We're in good shape our overall balance in our reserve account is \$849,000 so we're financially sound.

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00:05:57.030 --> 00:06:07.650

Joe Siciliano: We have enough money for our Rainy Day Fund, which is a half a million dollars and we have about \$350,000 of additional operating funds so

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00:06:08.070 --> 00:06:25.380

Joe Siciliano: We're in good shape. But as long as the summer keeps going the way it is. I mean, you know we're playing significant rounds of golf, every day, a light day would be about 210 and a good day on a weekend would be over to 275 so that's quite an accomplishment.

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00:06:25.740 --> 00:06:26.760

Gary Dell'Abate: That's amazing Joe.

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00:06:27.780 --> 00:06:28.170

Gary Dell'Abate: Um,

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00:06:28.650 --> 00:06:30.390

Gary Dell'Abate: What's going on up there with the

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00:06:31.470 --> 00:06:34.710

Gary Dell'Abate: Concessions, are they open and operating?

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00:06:35.100 --> 00:06:39.840

Joe Siciliano: Yeah, the concession has been open since May and

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00:06:41.550 --> 00:06:46.140

Joe Siciliano: It's running really well. We're getting a lot of positive feedback from the golfers, and we're getting a lot of

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00:06:46.680 --> 00:06:56.310

Joe Siciliano: Positive feedback from the general public, who's been enjoying the patio at the Griff, who seem to the folks who are managing the Griff and the owner seems to

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00:06:56.730 --> 00:07:05.940

Joe Siciliano: Have satisfied a lot of the requests from the golfers, and I haven't heard one negative comment. I mean, you know, it's a learning process when they first got in there.

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00:07:06.270 --> 00:07:19.200

Joe Siciliano: But at the end of the day, it's a positive outcome and people seem to be very, very satisfied with the service, with the food, with the attention they're getting as the golf groups and others that are going to enjoy that to location so

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00:07:21.630 --> 00:07:23.040

Gary Dell'Abate: That's great and the vendor is happy as well?

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00:07:23.310 --> 00:07:23.850

Joe Siciliano: excuse me

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00:07:24.150 --> 00:07:25.740

Gary Dell'Abate: The vendor is also happy?

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00:07:26.160 --> 00:07:33.300

Joe Siciliano: Yeah, I mean, I think, you know, the vendor has a good amount of experience they have some good people managing the course and at the end of the day.

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00:07:33.570 --> 00:07:47.670

Joe Siciliano: they're feeling their way out. They're taking little steps to see what works, what won't work. But it was good that Karen from the Cos Cobber came in and had that background and experience. And also she had a following.

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00:07:49.170 --> 00:08:03.360

Joe Siciliano: That's a good thing. That's A plus because that was like business that you know she was coming from downtown here to the golf course to look at a different

venue. It's pretty nice little location sitting on the patio being able to watch a little golf and having a meal.

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00:08:04.170 --> 00:08:04.620

Gary Dell'Abate: Great.

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00:08:05.760 --> 00:08:07.320

Gary Dell'Abate: All right, are you good?

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00:08:08.100 --> 00:08:08.850

Joe Siciliano: I'm good

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00:08:08.910 --> 00:08:12.840

Joe Siciliano: For this. Yeah. And maybe when we go down the roster there will be some other thing so

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00:08:15.210 --> 00:08:16.230

Joe Siciliano: Yeah, I'm good.

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00:08:16.380 --> 00:08:23.310

Gary Dell'Abate: At this moment. Okay, I'm gonna turn it over to Scott Johnson who will give the chairman's report from us.

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00:08:24.480 --> 00:08:25.710

Scott Johnson: Wait, Mike has a question.

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00:08:26.220 --> 00:08:26.970

Gary Dell'Abate: Oh, sorry, Mike.

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00:08:29.520 --> 00:08:31.140

Gary Dell'Abate: Mike. Mike, you're muted.

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00:08:35.520 --> 00:08:40.800

Mike Bocchino: Mike Bocchino, Parks and Rec. Joe, one question. And if you can just clarify.

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00:08:42.000 --> 00:08:58.140

Mike Bocchino: The report came out that the golf pro here tested positive for COVID the papers wrote an article but we found out that the pro the pro doesn't have COVID, it was actually, I want to say 15 or 17 tests that were missed handled at

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00:08:59.430 --> 00:09:01.920

Mike Bocchino: The hospital. Is there any kind of

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00:09:05.070 --> 00:09:09.840

Mike Bocchino: Notification coming out? or is the paper doing a retraction on that?

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00:09:10.950 --> 00:09:12.900

Joe Siciliano: Let me just give you a little background here

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00:09:14.340 --> 00:09:15.690

Joe Siciliano: on Tuesday.

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00:09:18.090 --> 00:09:29.520

Joe Siciliano: Since you've said it, the pro notified me that he tested positive for the virus, he and his staff went and got tested on Monday and Tuesday.

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00:09:30.270 --> 00:09:43.320

Joe Siciliano: As a result of a young man who worked there out on the range on the golf range picking up balls who called him on Sunday night and said he tested positive for the virus.

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00:09:44.430 --> 00:09:51.720

Joe Siciliano: The good part about it is that the young man has a job out on the range. He's not located primarily in the shop. He has limited contact with the people in the shop.

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00:09:52.350 --> 00:10:01.260

Joe Siciliano: Joe said, you know, he thought it would be appropriate to go and have his crew tested because, you know, once the word got out there, there'd be all kinds of misinformation floating around.

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00:10:01.800 --> 00:10:10.020

Joe Siciliano: So they did, everybody in the shop that went on Monday or Tuesday to get tested turned out negative except for Joe

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00:10:11.040 --> 00:10:18.180

Joe Siciliano: Joe was only person that went to that one testing facility, all the other people went to other testing facilities.

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00:10:19.080 --> 00:10:27.990

Joe Siciliano: So with, that Joe notified me on Tuesday afternoon that he had tested positive and then we followed. I mean me as the manager, the owner of the golf course manager.

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00:10:29.070 --> 00:10:37.860

Joe Siciliano: We followed the CDC guidelines for how we were going to handle the issue and also with the advice of the health department.

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00:10:38.460 --> 00:10:48.930

Joe Siciliano: Now, so we took the appropriate steps. Joe left the facility, obviously, the young man hadn't worked since last week. And so, that wasn't a concern of ours.

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00:10:49.380 --> 00:10:57.660

Joe Siciliano: But Joe left the facility and we went into, we followed the CDC guidelines of changing the protocol of how we were going to rent carts, etc.

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00:10:57.960 --> 00:11:07.860

Joe Siciliano: Having the shop overnight cleaned and disinfected. I was there when it happened and they did early on Wednesday morning

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00:11:08.400 --> 00:11:17.520

Joe Siciliano: And then we changed the protocol of how we were going to rent carts or service people by not letting them in the shop by using the exterior window of the shop where there's glass between

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00:11:17.970 --> 00:11:26.610

Joe Siciliano: the people working in the shop and the public. And we also know that the carts are disinfected every time they're used

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00:11:27.000 --> 00:11:36.300

Joe Siciliano: The range balls are disinfected every day, the baskets that hold the range balls are cleaned every day. That was a standard protocol and we continue to reinforce that.

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00:11:37.320 --> 00:11:43.020

Joe Siciliano: Then what happened is that the health department took over Joe's case and they did contact tracing with Joe

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00:11:43.590 --> 00:11:52.740

Joe Siciliano: And you know they did that yesterday to see who he was in contact with and who might need to get notified who might not need to get notified.

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00:11:53.790 --> 00:12:04.380

Joe Siciliano: And the issue is that everybody immediately and Joe's inner circle tested negative except for Joe Okay, so it kind of brings up, why is this happening?

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00:12:05.490 --> 00:12:09.960

Joe Siciliano: Yesterday afternoon, Joe notified me that the testing facility which I'm not going to name.

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00:12:11.760 --> 00:12:19.590

Joe Siciliano: Notified him that they wanted him to come back and get a re-test because they think that they were having a technical problem with the test results.

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00:12:20.400 --> 00:12:41.700

Joe Siciliano: So Joe and 17 other people that got tested on Monday at this one testing facility went back last night and they ran a test on them that they produced last night, they gave them the results last night, which is 99% accurate and Joe came back negative.

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00:12:42.960 --> 00:12:52.470

Joe Siciliano: So after Joe consulted with this doctor and his doctor consulted with the Director of Health, his doctor determined that Joe could go back to work.

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00:12:53.310 --> 00:12:53.820

Gary Dell'Abate: And he could

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00:12:53.880 --> 00:13:00.930

Joe Siciliano: He could do that as early as today, but he's not there today decided to take a day off and come back tomorrow and that

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00:13:01.560 --> 00:13:14.130

Joe Siciliano: We could resume. Once we got the shop cleaned and disinfected and renew all of our protocols, all of that we can then open up the shop tomorrow so shop will be open tomorrow for normal business.

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00:13:14.970 --> 00:13:19.110

Joe Siciliano: We've renewed all the protocols with everybody with the shop has been completely clean

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00:13:19.740 --> 00:13:25.170

Joe Siciliano: Carts, balls, all that stuff. Even the key rings for that for the carts have been disinfected

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00:13:25.590 --> 00:13:35.370

Joe Siciliano: So I feel relatively confident that we can go back to business. And this is just an example of a false positive. We're not quite sure why there was a false positive.

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00:13:35.730 --> 00:13:42.720

Joe Siciliano: But there seemed to have been a problem on the day that Joe went to get tested at this testing facility so

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00:13:43.170 --> 00:13:48.780

Joe Siciliano: That's what we know as of today, even though there was a story last night in the Greenwich Free Press.

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00:13:49.170 --> 00:13:55.200

Joe Siciliano: There will be a bigger story tomorrow in the Greenwich Time Joe is going to give some factual information.

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00:13:55.530 --> 00:14:01.800

Joe Siciliano: We, as the town cannot release that because it's medical is it's against the HIPAA regulations for us to talk about that.

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00:14:02.220 --> 00:14:07.020

Joe Siciliano: But Joe can say whatever he wants. He's you know it's his medical condition

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00:14:07.350 --> 00:14:15.240

Joe Siciliano: You know he can talk about the testing facility. If he wants. We did not take that position, we just wanted to stay within the protocol of the CDC.

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00:14:15.540 --> 00:14:25.500

Joe Siciliano: And other department of health guidelines and the contact tracing guidelines that Caroline's does and follows. So that's what our statements are going to be but Joe may say something completely different tomorrow.

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00:14:26.070 --> 00:14:39.450

Joe Siciliano: There have been some emails floating around out there from the user groups. There's been some Facebook postings that have been going on about the change in the test results. So I think it's out there pretty far.

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00:14:40.410 --> 00:14:44.220

Joe Siciliano: But there will be an article in tomorrow's paper that will all make different statements. So,

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00:14:45.060 --> 00:14:54.540

Gary Dell'Abate: even the fact that the test was wrong. I'm glad to hear how well it was handled when we thought something was wrong.

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00:14:54.990 --> 00:15:09.060

Joe Siciliano: Yeah, no, I mean I'm clear about what the guidelines are I've read them. I understand them, myself and the golf course staff took charge of this immediately and took the appropriate steps. People have all kinds of comments about notification, but

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00:15:10.620 --> 00:15:21.900

Joe Siciliano: You know, in this case, there was no notification that needed to be done until the contact tracing was done and you know Caroline Baisley spent over an hour talking to Joe and had a list of information that

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00:15:22.410 --> 00:15:32.190

Joe Siciliano: she was kind of managing and if we had to do any more contacts or notify anybody else she would have notified us to do that. So the timing was such that

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00:15:32.820 --> 00:15:44.610

Joe Siciliano: When she was evaluating that information the hospital called or the facility called and said he needs to come back for retest so Joe will speak openly in the paper tomorrow, I'm pretty sure about it.

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00:15:44.970 --> 00:15:48.060

Gary Dell'Abate: Any other questions before we move on?

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00:15:49.290 --> 00:15:49.530

Gary Dell'Abate: All right.

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00:15:52.590 --> 00:15:55.740

Gary Dell'Abate: Okay, so I'll move on. I'll turn it over to Scott for chairman's report

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00:15:57.840 --> 00:16:03.570

Scott Johnson: Okay, I have two things and I'll do the Eastern Greenwich Civic Center too Gary, is that alright?

00:16:03.990 --> 00:16:08.430

Scott Johnson: so two meetings occurred on the Civic Center.

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00:16:09.480 --> 00:16:14.190

Scott Johnson: One was a meeting on June 18 where we went over.

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00:16:15.570 --> 00:16:17.610

Scott Johnson: Updated architectural plans.

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00:16:18.750 --> 00:16:23.160

Scott Johnson: We had a full zoom meeting. not a lot of participants.

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00:16:25.740 --> 00:16:41.280

Scott Johnson: Some good questions, but not any questions that in. I think the view the committee raised issues that were earth shaking. We do have some disagreements on certain things and we have

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00:16:43.470 --> 00:16:47.400

Scott Johnson: A serious interest to continue to be involved, which

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00:16:49.080 --> 00:17:02.790

Scott Johnson: Thanks to Gary who spoke to, to the First Selectman and he's going to modify our charge to make it clear that we continue through what they call the design and development stage, which means the next stage for plan development.

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00:17:03.990 --> 00:17:05.460

Scott Johnson: I personally was

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00:17:07.080 --> 00:17:07.980

Scott Johnson: Big on

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00:17:09.000 --> 00:17:20.280

Scott Johnson: us being involved in finishing details and a lot of questions that have not yet been answered. And just one example was a question. Kirk asked, Kirk and I were both in attendance.

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00:17:22.200 --> 00:17:29.010

Scott Johnson: For example, the impact characteristics of the glass. Like if you hit a hardball, you throw a

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00:17:30.420 --> 00:17:34.080

Scott Johnson: lacrosse ball or soccer ball. And that's something that's a pretty

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00:17:34.080 --> 00:17:38.370

Scott Johnson: Common question for these guys to deal with that. That's the kind of thing that we needed to work on.

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00:17:39.780 --> 00:17:44.520

Scott Johnson: we need to develop in my opinion, things like colors.

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00:17:45.630 --> 00:17:50.880

Scott Johnson: Details. Like, for example, when we went to New Lebanon, school we saw

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00:17:51.900 --> 00:17:57.450

Scott Johnson: Some design elements that were very attractive like colored railings.

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00:17:59.610 --> 00:18:08.850

Scott Johnson: Furniture layout to make it more amenable to kind of a hangout room hangout situation for parents and kids waiting to play.

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00:18:10.620 --> 00:18:24.900

Scott Johnson: So that's going to go on. Alan, to his credit, kept the ball rolling and submitted an application for MI approval to the Board of Selectmen that occurred on July 22.

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00:18:26.640 --> 00:18:30.930

Scott Johnson: Kirk and I were in attendance virtually on that

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00:18:33.570 --> 00:18:41.280

Scott Johnson: The Selectmen's questions were modest, no objections from the audience that I heard

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00:18:42.570 --> 00:18:53.850

Scott Johnson: I don't think Kirk heard any and there were really no surprise questions, there are no challenges to size, scope, or basic character.

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00:18:55.230 --> 00:18:59.790

Scott Johnson: There was a question for example on potential solar panels.

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00:19:00.810 --> 00:19:12.210

Scott Johnson: But the presentation by the architects TSKP were very good, it went through the plans with a full opportunity to see the plans. So the next stage will occur.

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00:19:14.250 --> 00:19:22.290

Scott Johnson: Al will give us a memo on this but, the MI process will continue. Joe, I understand it, there will probably be a request.

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00:19:22.890 --> 00:19:31.110

Scott Johnson: I guess it won't be a request yet, but pretty soon have a request for money to further develop the plans, I think, to the BET

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00:19:31.740 --> 00:19:51.690

Scott Johnson: Because some plans were withheld until certain stages, but as I understand it, the architects can go with the money they already have allocated. So as we go to architectural review with planning zoning, wetlands and the other agencies, those plans will need to be embellished. So, for example,

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00:19:52.200 --> 00:19:52.530

Scott Johnson: In wetlands.

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00:19:52.800 --> 00:20:03.270

Scott Johnson: There may be some additional information. They'll want. So that process will start. They did not vote, even though there was really no objection.

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00:20:04.050 --> 00:20:20.520

Scott Johnson: Because of their normal characteristic of having two meetings; one opportunity to hear questions, people have some time and then send questions in and then they vote on it. Finally, at the next meeting which Joe, I believe, is in August, Right?

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00:20:21.120 --> 00:20:22.320

Scott Johnson: And accepting that

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00:20:22.560 --> 00:20:29.700

Joe Siciliano: They generally have a two-week schedule for meetings. I don't have an exact date, but it's usually every two weeks.

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00:20:30.930 --> 00:20:40.440

Scott Johnson: So anyway, it was all good news Kirk can chime in, but let me just say one more thing, which is kind of a shout out.

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00:20:41.790 --> 00:20:52.140

Scott Johnson: It's clear that COVID has stressed out all of the staff, without exception, but something kind of came to light recently where I want to say something about Don Mohr.

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00:20:53.730 --> 00:20:58.350

Scott Johnson: Who. A lot of people don't know much about because he's behind the scenes.

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00:21:00.180 --> 00:21:09.480

Scott Johnson: Does a lot of the scheduling so you know when fields are finally opened. There's obviously a flood of applications field user requests.

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00:21:10.260 --> 00:21:30.840

Scott Johnson: To get, you know, an idea of volume, I asked Donald kind of what was going on last year at this time, in general there are 7,400 field permits issued last year totaling 25,000 hours of field use

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00:21:31.950 --> 00:21:43.350

Scott Johnson: So now, take all of that volume and throw it into a field situation right now, which we're missing Western or missing New Leb, we're missing Hamilton Ave.

161

00:21:43.980 --> 00:21:54.210

Scott Johnson: We had closures for just the normal wetness stuff our field committee tries to address these things, but we haven't met that much lately.

162

00:21:54.840 --> 00:22:05.040

Scott Johnson: So it gets bottlenecked, Donald tries to schedule the stuff he does pretty good job. I'll give you one example. Normally for say a 91 foot

163

00:22:06.030 --> 00:22:15.660

Scott Johnson: baseball field, we would use Havemeyer but Havemeyer has a track because of COVID, there would be a lot of people in the outfield so we might have to reduce that

164

00:22:16.770 --> 00:22:26.940

Scott Johnson: growing pressure on other fields. So anyway, it's just an example of the stuff people don't know you guys all seen a computer printout of fields. It's just big

165

00:22:28.050 --> 00:22:35.250

Scott Johnson: I mean, that's the kind of stuff that he has to manage with the software programs. So anyway, just, just a shout out to him.

166

00:22:35.520 --> 00:22:37.170

Kirk Schubert: Yeah,

167

00:22:37.410 --> 00:22:37.770

Scott Johnson: Kirk, why don't

168

00:22:37.890 --> 00:22:38.370

Scott Johnson: you say

169

00:22:39.450 --> 00:22:45.420

Kirk Schubert: I want to second that you know Don is somebody that is works incredibly hard and is available.

170

00:22:46.710 --> 00:22:52.170

Kirk Schubert: Maybe not 24-7 but kind of close to that and is always responsive and we are

171

00:22:53.790 --> 00:22:56.910

Kirk Schubert: thankful that he's doing that job

172

00:22:58.590 --> 00:23:02.850

Kirk Schubert: super valuable person so I second that.

173

00:23:03.420 --> 00:23:03.660

What

174

00:23:04.770 --> 00:23:06.300

Kirk Schubert: I wanted to mention about the

175

00:23:07.620 --> 00:23:08.160

Kirk Schubert: Some of the

176

00:23:09.510 --> 00:23:15.360

Kirk Schubert: Items in the in the Civic Center the direction of the court and

177

00:23:17.280 --> 00:23:27.840

Kirk Schubert: How it faces the West. When you know lengthwise. So going down the court. I think if there's something they can do about it. maybe darkening the windows to make that less a problem that would be handy.

178

00:23:29.070 --> 00:23:34.800

Kirk Schubert: And I also spoke to Pat Coleman from a GYL about where things stand, and

179

00:23:36.180 --> 00:23:54.630

Kirk Schubert: I mentioned the whole question of the windows so he he'd be eager to hear about a solution to that. So the lacrosse, to the extent that they need it or other lacrosse groups need it. He'd be eager to hear a solution to the window challenge so

180

00:23:55.380 --> 00:24:03.780

Scott Johnson: It's got to be a common question. I mean, I can't believe it is field houses, there are people throwing balls around like crazy not to mention hardballs.

181

00:24:06.270 --> 00:24:11.490

Kirk Schubert: lacrosse balls are I mean they travel, you know, they're really hard and they travel fast so

182

00:24:13.140 --> 00:24:13.650

Kirk Schubert: As you know,

183

00:24:15.840 --> 00:24:16.560

Joe Siciliano: Thank you for the

184

00:24:16.590 --> 00:24:24.180

Joe Siciliano: those comments about Donald we'll be sure to pass them on. I think you guys have hit it right on the head, Donald's calling

185

00:24:24.930 --> 00:24:34.320

Joe Siciliano: people at 8 o'clock at, night weekends, all kinds of crazy things. But he's committed to this and he wants to see the program's go on and I appreciate you guys saying that because

186

00:24:34.800 --> 00:24:46.650

Joe Siciliano: You're right. Sometimes he just gets dumped on and doesn't get the recognition that he that he really, he really should get for spending the enormous amount of time trying to manipulate that schedule. So I'll make sure it gets the comments.

187

00:24:47.550 --> 00:24:55.800

Gary Dell'Abate: And just, to triple up on that. I do have to say that because over the years, Donald takes a lot of abuse and his

188

00:24:56.460 --> 00:25:08.100

Gary Dell'Abate: worst trait is that he can't say "no" to anybody, his only agenda is trying to get as many people to use a field as often as possible. That's all he cares about

189

00:25:08.700 --> 00:25:09.840

Joe Siciliano: Yeah, I know sometimes

190

00:25:10.080 --> 00:25:11.610

Joe Siciliano: We try to teach him to say that word "no".

191

00:25:11.610 --> 00:25:12.300

Joe Siciliano: but it doesn't come out that easily.

192

00:25:13.140 --> 00:25:14.040

Gary Dell'Abate: Right, but

193

00:25:14.070 --> 00:25:14.760

Joe Siciliano: He's committed, that's great.

194

00:25:14.940 --> 00:25:16.950

Frank DiVincenzo: May I add

195

00:25:18.900 --> 00:25:29.400

Frank DiVincenzo: To the conversation about Don. I spoke to him a few days ago, he called here and we were talking about things that happened like 30 years ago.

196

00:25:30.060 --> 00:25:51.060

Frank DiVincenzo: And he has institutional memory and he knew he remembered every character, every person that was involved in the Bandidos and junior Babe Ruth and senior Babe Ruth and every detail better than I did. So I, I concur with everybody was saying about Don

197

00:25:52.230 --> 00:25:55.800

Frank DiVincenzo: You should write it all down. We could write a memoir.

198

00:25:56.460 --> 00:25:56.760

Yeah.

199

00:25:58.020 --> 00:25:59.760

Gary Dell'Abate: Alright guys, thank you very much. Thank you.

200

00:25:59.940 --> 00:26:00.570

Joe Siciliano: Thank you for that.

201

00:26:01.020 --> 00:26:06.030

Gary Dell'Abate: Thanks, everybody. All right. Scott are you good? Can I move on to some of the subcommittees?

202

00:26:06.510 --> 00:26:07.320

Scott Johnson: Good, good.

203

00:26:07.890 --> 00:26:09.420

Gary Dell'Abate: Rick Loh. You want to tell us

204

00:26:11.250 --> 00:26:11.460

Gary Dell'Abate: what's going on with Dorothy Hamill? Where are you?

205

00:26:12.660 --> 00:26:13.440

Rick Loh: You hear me.

206

00:26:13.710 --> 00:26:14.430

Gary Dell'Abate: I can hear you.

207

00:26:14.910 --> 00:26:15.300

Okay.

208

00:26:16.380 --> 00:26:17.670

Rick Loh: I'm actually in New Hampshire, but

209

00:26:21.000 --> 00:26:27.150

Rick Loh: The rink project moves along thanks to Al Monelli and his staff.

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00:26:29.790 --> 00:26:33.600

Rick Loh: The request for proposal went out. We had 19 responses.

211

00:26:35.250 --> 00:26:45.090

Rick Loh: We receive 19 different packets to evaluate the evaluation process is taking place and we have narrowed it down to five architectural firms.

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00:26:46.170 --> 00:26:50.880

Rick Loh: To present a design for whatever will be next for the Dorothy Hamill Rink.

213

00:26:53.250 --> 00:26:54.840

Rick Loh: We will meet

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00:26:56.160 --> 00:27:04.200

Rick Loh: With those people. I believe it's set up for the third week in September at this point in time, it might change.

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00:27:06.360 --> 00:27:07.410

Rick Loh: But we are

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00:27:08.550 --> 00:27:14.460

Rick Loh: making progress, as you probably all know there was a bit of a budget cut to the rink.

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00:27:15.930 --> 00:27:20.520

Rick Loh: To the rink money in response to the pandemic.

218

00:27:21.630 --> 00:27:25.140

Rick Loh: But we have enough money to take us through this phase that we're heading into now.

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00:27:26.880 --> 00:27:27.360

Rick Loh: So,

220

00:27:29.490 --> 00:27:34.290

Rick Loh: I mean, that's the short summary. That's, where we are if anybody's got any questions. Happy to help them.

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00:27:34.650 --> 00:27:41.550

Gary Dell'Abate: Rick, I have a quick question. Do you guys have any interest from any potential donors, sponsors, etc.

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00:27:42.900 --> 00:27:50.430

Rick Loh: Not anything serious at this time. But, but it's what comes first, the chicken or the egg.

223

00:27:51.510 --> 00:27:53.760

Rick Loh: We can't even tell you where it's going to be on the property yet.

224

00:27:56.250 --> 00:28:02.100

Rick Loh: So because one of the ideas is to build the new facility in the parking lot.

225

00:28:03.240 --> 00:28:05.430

Rick Loh: Using the old drink as long as possible.

226

00:28:08.310 --> 00:28:09.570
Rick Loh: To minimize downtime.

227
00:28:10.920 --> 00:28:13.110
Rick Loh: But we don't know the exact location yet.

228
00:28:14.340 --> 00:28:27.240
Rick Loh: Alan may have a better idea than everybody else. Obviously, that's what he does. But as of right now, it's hard to go out and ask people for money because we don't really know yet what we're building

229
00:28:29.160 --> 00:28:34.830
Gary Dell'Abate: I thank you, Rick. I appreciate it. Appreciate you jumping on your New Hampshire vacation.

230
00:28:35.130 --> 00:28:36.630
Rick Loh: Now, okay.

231
00:28:37.440 --> 00:28:44.460
Gary Dell'Abate: Scott you covered the Eastern Greenwich Civic Center. So usually we go to the Field Committee for Sue, but I don't know, is Sue on here?

232
00:28:44.820 --> 00:28:51.780
Joe Siciliano: Hey Gary, this is Joe, Sue is on vacation today and tomorrow. She left some notes which I can

233
00:28:52.830 --> 00:28:54.180
Joe Siciliano: Quickly paraphrase.

234
00:28:54.510 --> 00:28:57.990
Joe Siciliano: And then we can include her notes in the minutes of the meeting if that's okay. (See page 50 for said notes)

235
00:28:58.710 --> 00:29:05.670
Joe Siciliano: It's really nothing you don't know, obviously the field committee did not meet for several months.

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00:29:06.900 --> 00:29:16.770

Joe Siciliano: the sections of the Governor's guidance that we can open up feels on June 17 we sent out a packet to all of the user groups on June 15

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00:29:17.160 --> 00:29:25.410

Joe Siciliano: Saying that, this is the information you have to provide your rosters and insurance. Your COVID plan and how you're going to manage your organization.

238

00:29:26.010 --> 00:29:39.990

Joe Siciliano: As those started to come in, Sue and Don read them and approve them or work with the group to improve them. We then started to assign some fields space.

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00:29:41.160 --> 00:29:52.650

Joe Siciliano: And we started to be opened up most of our stuff by July 6 so there is some baseball going on. There's some softball going on. There's other type of field activities. There's some sports camps.

240

00:29:53.010 --> 00:30:03.780

Joe Siciliano: There's a bunch of things going on. And so that's kind of a paraphrase, I will send her notes and to give them to Lenore, she can include them with the minutes of the meeting. There's not a whole lot else here.

241

00:30:04.620 --> 00:30:05.070

Great.

242

00:30:06.780 --> 00:30:15.360

Gary Dell'Abate: Nancy welcome, you've got your camera on, good to see you unmute yourself. Identify yourself and then tell us what's going on at Binney Park with the Tuchman friends group.

243

00:30:15.600 --> 00:30:18.210

Nancy Chapin: Okay. So Nancy Chapin

244

00:30:19.980 --> 00:30:21.720

Nancy Chapin: I'll start with Binney Park.

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00:30:23.340 --> 00:30:40.770

Nancy Chapin: So we are winding down we're spending the end of the dollars. Well, I believe. So a couple things. I'll just start with thanking Lenore, and Joe for getting that thank you letter off to the Crucitti family.

246

00:30:42.090 --> 00:30:53.340

Nancy Chapin: They gave the largest gift, I believe, and really helped us get that island done so I don't know who's been around or looked at Binney Park, but the improvements are really remarkable.

247

00:30:54.450 --> 00:31:02.400

Nancy Chapin: So just quick update when we, I think I mentioned we were down to two buckets and we identified infrastructure and landscape.

248

00:31:02.880 --> 00:31:14.970

Nancy Chapin: So we were able to get the patio in near the ball fields or at least I haven't seen it. I've been away. It just got back after I've been up since five. So this will be a short report.

249

00:31:16.560 --> 00:31:32.550

Nancy Chapin: And they put some tables in or that's the plan tables or seating and they're going to landscape around that patio. It'll be end up being really nice. The loop trail is pretty well rolling

250

00:31:33.780 --> 00:31:52.020

Nancy Chapin: And then the last we're doing working on our benches, the thank you benches or the recognition benches, one for Crucitti family and one for Nancy Caplan, as well as signage and we're going with sort of simple signage and keeping with the

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00:31:53.280 --> 00:31:58.650

Nancy Chapin: Sort of signage that is characteristic of old Greenwich

252

00:32:00.570 --> 00:32:12.810

Nancy Chapin: We have one little thing. We had a neighbor on the southeast side, sort of, we call it the national area that we're going to be working on some landscaping there with a fence and Darrin was able to take care of that.

253

00:32:14.070 --> 00:32:23.310

Nancy Chapin: Just a little shout out to Joe, your staff, I can only think that Joe was involved in hiring these people, Darrin Wigglesworth

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00:32:23.880 --> 00:32:32.040

Nancy Chapin: As well as Dr. Greg Kramer, They're awesome. They've just been so great to work with. And then the people that are under them. So it's been a great public/private

255

00:32:32.790 --> 00:32:42.210

Nancy Chapin: partnership. So we're really winding down Binney, which means I'll just segue into the next, ramping up the next project.

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00:32:43.350 --> 00:32:51.420

Nancy Chapin: And we won't take a lot of time to talk about it. But we did have a preliminary meeting and we'll have to maybe think about and for Joe and

257

00:32:52.500 --> 00:32:58.500

Nancy Chapin: Everybody to think about.

258

00:32:59.520 --> 00:33:12.900

Nancy Chapin: I talked to Scott, you know how to get this ball rolling. You know, this park I think that Bruce always call it the tripod park It's really Tuchman, Pomerance and Pinetum all together.

259

00:33:13.530 --> 00:33:21.810

Nancy Chapin: And it's been loved to death, almost, you know, with everything else closed, there's been a lot of activity here. The good, the bad, the ugly.

260

00:33:22.320 --> 00:33:35.580

Nancy Chapin: But it really could be just a Town gem. It's a park in the center of Cos Cob that allows for a lot of people to walk to as well as you know people are coming here, it just has great potential, a lot of great potential

261

00:33:36.360 --> 00:33:45.630

Nancy Chapin: So met with a very small group in person. We met with just to get things rolling. Dr. Greg Kramer, Darrin Wigglesworth

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00:33:46.830 --> 00:33:51.300

Nancy Chapin: And Chair of district 8; Cheryl Moss and myself.

263

00:33:52.410 --> 00:33:55.530

Nancy Chapin: We also had a gentleman, Fred Woo

264

00:33:57.090 --> 00:33:59.010

Nancy Chapin: who had done some work.

265

00:34:00.330 --> 00:34:07.320

Nancy Chapin: With Conservation Commission mapping trails. So we now have a GIS map trail system.

266

00:34:08.640 --> 00:34:15.690

Nancy Chapin: So we're just sort of getting going. So we kind of talked about what the structure of this group should be

267

00:34:15.750 --> 00:34:16.050

Scott Johnson: We have

268

00:34:16.860 --> 00:34:20.970

Nancy Chapin: We have a whole bunch probably like 20 names. We want to make sure our stakeholders are involved.

269

00:34:21.570 --> 00:34:33.780

Nancy Chapin: Whether it should be friends, whether it should be modeled after Binney, whether it should be, there was. And I had the report and all. Actually, I have a huge binder from the Selectmen's

270

00:34:34.320 --> 00:34:40.770

Nancy Chapin: Pomerance Planning Committee and then their final report and the recommendations in that report, which included

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00:34:41.640 --> 00:34:50.040

Nancy Chapin: Should Tuchman and be acquired, that all of these parks should be looked at as one place and how they're getting used so

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00:34:50.910 --> 00:35:06.480

Nancy Chapin: We don't need to really spend too much time on this, but I think it's important to think about. I personally believe that it would be best structured similar to Binney, because you have kind of Parks and Rec oversight.

273

00:35:08.370 --> 00:35:20.100

Nancy Chapin: But everybody can think about that and let me know their thoughts. I don't think we need to take a vote or make a decision. I can try and write a little bit more and try and get more

274

00:35:21.930 --> 00:35:30.090

Nancy Chapin: written documentation of people rather than ramble on here about what information is currently available in

275

00:35:30.720 --> 00:35:48.300

Nancy Chapin: the current study. There was an RFP that went out, actually I don't know if it went out Joe, it was Bruce Spaman who put together an RFP for an open space plan for these parks. I don't know if it ever went out and

276

00:35:48.600 --> 00:35:50.340

Joe Siciliano: I have to think about that a second,

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00:35:50.760 --> 00:36:00.690

Joe Siciliano: I don't think it went out either because I think we had prepared because at the time we were budgeting for Park restoration and our budget, and I think we identified it

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00:36:01.200 --> 00:36:11.370

Joe Siciliano: But we never got the park restoration for this parcel funded. So we said, well, why are we put in our fee, we have no way to take any action afterwards, you know,

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00:36:11.370 --> 00:36:12.210

Nancy Chapin: Right, right.

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00:36:12.900 --> 00:36:21.000

Joe Siciliano: But it might be something as we get closer to September and October when we start to prepare our budget and I'm not sure what that's gonna look like this year but

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00:36:21.450 --> 00:36:36.030

Joe Siciliano: We might want to give it a placeholder in the 15-year plan to say that we'd want to do an RFP and then we'd want to do some improvement. So not only us if we don't see funding in the next year's appropriation, at least we can get it in the queue.

282

00:36:36.390 --> 00:36:44.550

Joe Siciliano: To say there's a talking group going out here. They're thinking this is what they're thinking about. And if we and we need some money to do the RFP.

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00:36:45.000 --> 00:36:54.210

Joe Siciliano: And then we need some money to do the actual work, we should get placeholders in our 15-year plan. So let's keep that in mind as we get into September.

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00:36:54.540 --> 00:37:06.720

Nancy Chapin: Alright, excellent. And we with Greg and Darrin, we've talked about, I think Greg has been working very well with DPW. You know, they had to redo the damn as part of DEEP's requirement.

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00:37:07.200 --> 00:37:19.740

Nancy Chapin: And he was able to get through their budget some dollars to help with a plant back plan. So already we've identified one area that really would be helpful to know the

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00:37:20.100 --> 00:37:26.040

Nancy Chapin: Residents are not happy with how it looks now, so we're calling it an opportunity.

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00:37:26.730 --> 00:37:31.860

Nancy Chapin: We're also looking at the sunken garden as an opportunity. So, you know, there's a couple of

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00:37:32.370 --> 00:37:45.030

Nancy Chapin: Items that we've identified as potential. Let's get going, well it'll cost a lot of money. Maybe we can do with volunteers. But everyone should think about how this

might be structured. There's so many interest groups. There's so many stakeholders, you have

289

00:37:46.440 --> 00:37:51.120

Nancy Chapin: The Greenwich Botanical Garden, you have the Community Garden, you have

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00:37:52.890 --> 00:38:00.150

Nancy Chapin: The Abilis house. We have, it's a lot to take in or like Frank did with his projects so

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00:38:01.440 --> 00:38:07.830

Nancy Chapin: We just have to kind of look at, I think it's crying for management plan and

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00:38:08.100 --> 00:38:24.600

Nancy Chapin: Rather than sort of piecemeal it together and a place where residents can go if they have an idea would like to help or like to put dollars forth. So that's what we're talking about. Any questions or any, any suggestions?

293

00:38:25.830 --> 00:38:30.870

Scott Johnson: Nancy, it's Scott maybe think of scratching out a mission statement.

294

00:38:31.710 --> 00:38:33.660

Scott Johnson: Okay, like some of the other "friends of" groups

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00:38:34.110 --> 00:38:34.920

Nancy Chapin: okay,

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00:38:35.040 --> 00:38:51.630

Scott Johnson: You want to do this, this and this and then if somebody could find a map of basically what you want to have included, let's say some three parcels or whatever. I'm not even sure the legal description of it, but I would, so you can then define it.

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00:38:53.700 --> 00:38:58.890

Nancy Chapin: Yeah, so, I think you're leaning toward friends,

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00:38:59.940 --> 00:39:18.960

Nancy Chapin: I really feel that, to start, I would lean towards creating another like Binney, you know, a park advisory committee, if you will, with residents and this is just, maybe we can you know talk further with Joe and see what he thinks but

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00:39:21.000 --> 00:39:30.570

Nancy Chapin: I think it might work so well to work with staff, rather than just a friends group working on their own.

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00:39:30.930 --> 00:39:41.370

Nancy Chapin: The other option would be to, the Conservation Commission has a lot of interest because it's you know it was that designated open space Park.

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00:39:41.820 --> 00:39:56.460

Nancy Chapin: You know, should it fall under them. right now, I think, Parks and Rec because they're the managers of the property. But again, Joe has Joe knows this Park. Didn't you tend to the skating pod when you were

302

00:39:57.600 --> 00:39:59.190

Joe Siciliano: Let's not spread that rumor.

303

00:40:01.830 --> 00:40:05.100

Nancy Chapin: I think I've been here longer.

304

00:40:05.400 --> 00:40:07.680

Joe Siciliano: You were one of the people on skating on the pod actually

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00:40:09.750 --> 00:40:20.820

Nancy Chapin: So anyway alright so let's not take up all this time, but I see this opportunity and it could be just another crown jewel for our town.

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00:40:21.330 --> 00:40:25.980

Rick Loh: Nancy, this is Rick, is there room for field space?

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00:40:28.080 --> 00:40:39.150

Nancy Chapin: So, I would not think so for many, many reasons because of wetlands and you know the Tuchman property.

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00:40:41.280 --> 00:40:46.740

Nancy Chapin: Alma Tuchman retained 13 acres. So

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00:40:48.570 --> 00:40:52.140

Nancy Chapin: You know, there's, you know,

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00:40:53.160 --> 00:41:01.050

Nancy Chapin: we can put it, put it out there. Obviously you have, we have to listen to all the interests and see what people think.

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00:41:02.130 --> 00:41:05.520

Nancy Chapin: There's a lot of push for everything.

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00:41:06.570 --> 00:41:23.400

Nancy Chapin: You know The Pomerance Planning Committee came up with their recommendations, maybe they need to be revisited. But, I would love to walk with anybody who wants to see it. And if they have a vision that I'm not seeing that would be great.

313

00:41:25.050 --> 00:41:26.880

Rick Loh: I have not been in there so I'm

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00:41:28.230 --> 00:41:33.300

Rick Loh: unintelligent about what actually exists here. that's the reason for the question.

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00:41:33.420 --> 00:41:38.400

Gary Dell'Abate: Yeah, I wouldn't mind seeing it. It's exactly where? the property. Exactly.

316

00:41:38.910 --> 00:41:42.480

Nancy Chapin: So the access to the park.

317

00:41:43.620 --> 00:41:58.710

Nancy Chapin: You have the Greenwich Botanical Garden, which is the Pinetum, that's right on Bible street there's parking there. And then on Orchard Street. There's parking as well and

318

00:41:59.790 --> 00:42:03.990

Nancy Chapin: So then there are people that park at the bottom of Montgomery Lane.

319

00:42:05.130 --> 00:42:22.410

Nancy Chapin: As well and people are welcome to come down my driveway and park here and walk through but I'm happy. I would love to give anyone if they want the walking tour. There's just so much great history, it was Seton founded his Woodcraft Indians there.

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00:42:23.790 --> 00:42:27.870

Nancy Chapin: One project that we did with the scouts we rediscovered the rock.

321

00:42:27.900 --> 00:42:34.380

Nancy Chapin: You know, there's just a lot of great history there. The Worthime family. The reason why a lot of people don't know about it.

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00:42:35.010 --> 00:42:53.190

Nancy Chapin: The Worthime family bought it around 1912 something like that from Seton and then they basically owned that property. I mean, it's now been in the family for, you know, over 100 years but parcels were sold. So first, the Town

323

00:42:54.270 --> 00:43:08.820

Nancy Chapin: purchased Pomerance portion. So Worthime had three daughters; one became a Pomerance, one became a Tuchman and the other daughter had property elsewhere, but, I could keep us

324

00:43:09.120 --> 00:43:19.410

Gary Dell'Abate: Yeah, no, we won't, but I will say that while we're talking. I just did a quick search if you really want to know the history, there is an awesome York Times article from 2004

325

00:43:19.830 --> 00:43:28.560

Gary Dell'Abate: That kind of explains all. But, that's great. And thank you for everything on this and I appreciate it. So,

326

00:43:29.700 --> 00:43:38.160

Gary Dell'Abate: For new business, Joe I did have one question. I'm curious about. I know that we're down one member for sure.

327

00:43:38.610 --> 00:43:55.290

Gary Dell'Abate: On the board and possibly two because Tom had mentioned that he might not re-seek another term, and I do know through the grapevine that several people have been interviewed by the Selectmen to come on the board. Do you have any
Word on that?

328

00:43:55.560 --> 00:44:07.200

Joe Siciliano: So once the Board of Selectmen interviews and at a formal board meeting, they can make an appointment, and then that appointment goes to the RTM in September. I heard that.

329

00:44:07.830 --> 00:44:25.890

Joe Siciliano: Just unofficially that there's potentially 21 appointments that are going in front of the RTM in September. Hopefully, the ones that we are interested in filling will be with that group because there is the processes in place already

330

00:44:27.300 --> 00:44:32.460

Gary Dell'Abate: Two new members? Has Tom technically left the board?

331

00:44:33.120 --> 00:44:34.110

Joe Siciliano: Um, that's

332

00:44:35.160 --> 00:44:42.120

Joe Siciliano: That's a good question. But he has mentioned that he would serve until replaced

333

00:44:42.420 --> 00:44:45.300

Joe Siciliano: So I assume that there will be two.

334

00:44:46.500 --> 00:44:50.430

Joe Siciliano: Positions being filled in September on the RTM call

335

00:44:51.030 --> 00:44:57.960

Gary Dell'Abate: Great. Okay. Thank you. If any of the attendees have any questions they want to ask, raise your hand.

336

00:44:59.190 --> 00:45:02.880

Gary Dell'Abate: And I'm looking at the attendees raising hands and I don't see

337

00:45:02.970 --> 00:45:06.570

Gary Dell'Abate: Frank, Frank, Frank. unmute, Frank.

338

00:45:06.900 --> 00:45:07.650

Frank DiVincenzo: I'm

339

00:45:07.890 --> 00:45:16.170

Frank DiVincenzo: I have a question for Nancy, she mentioned that the parks are being used quite a bit and being loved

340

00:45:17.580 --> 00:45:21.270

Frank DiVincenzo: With the good, the bad, and the ugly. Can you expand on that?

341

00:45:21.960 --> 00:45:24.930

Nancy Chapin: Okay. Well, the good is

342

00:45:25.200 --> 00:45:28.380

Nancy Chapin: It. There's a lot of people out walking the trails. They just love this park.

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00:45:29.580 --> 00:45:30.990

Nancy Chapin: I have seen

344

00:45:32.010 --> 00:45:34.950

Nancy Chapin: There was one day where there were people setting up

345

00:45:35.040 --> 00:45:37.890
Nancy Chapin: Targets in the picnic area and literally

346
00:45:38.130 --> 00:45:39.960
Nancy Chapin: shooting at targets.

347
00:45:39.990 --> 00:45:40.830
Nancy Chapin: That was interesting.

348
00:45:42.210 --> 00:45:42.420
Gary Dell'Abate: with what?

349
00:45:43.980 --> 00:45:46.050
Nancy Chapin: You know, like pellet guns

350
00:45:46.410 --> 00:45:55.980
Nancy Chapin: Okay, and what was scary. Is there is a trail below. So that was a little scary. there's a lot of people. So I started with bad and I'll finish up with good

351
00:45:56.430 --> 00:46:05.790
Nancy Chapin: there's a lot of people that are not abiding by the social distancing, creating ad hoc parties, if you will.

352
00:46:06.690 --> 00:46:19.230
Nancy Chapin: The kids partying. I think there was a bad incident that I know that Joe is aware of that was not good at all. You know, the drug up thing but you know the fires.

353
00:46:20.370 --> 00:46:30.180
Nancy Chapin: And, graffiti vandalism stuff like that. The good news is, people are out with their kids and hiking and fishing and

354
00:46:32.040 --> 00:46:34.980
Nancy Chapin: The dogs, that's going to be, something that you that

355
00:46:35.310 --> 00:46:41.250

Nancy Chapin: So there's a lot of rules. I think we're gonna have to have rules that are an enforced, and figure out how to do that.

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00:46:43.500 --> 00:46:53.100

Nancy Chapin: But it's just a fabulous park, people are loving it. You know, we have to think about bikes right now. You know, there's not supposed to be bikes on trails, but people are biking on trails.

357

00:46:54.660 --> 00:47:11.070

Nancy Chapin: So what else, it's just a fabulous Park. We just need to figure out, really need to have a consensus from the residence, how and what should be used and

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00:47:12.570 --> 00:47:18.150

Nancy Chapin: Everybody has a lot of different opinions and I think if we build consensus, we can really get there.

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00:47:20.820 --> 00:47:36.990

Frank DiVincenzo: Nancy, so you mentioned bikes on trails., I live here next to the Minus River Park and I'm noticing an awful lot of bikes and I walked the trails here. And what's happening is the trails of being eroded.

360

00:47:37.320 --> 00:47:39.540

Nancy Chapin: Right,

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00:47:39.810 --> 00:47:58.620

Frank DiVincenzo: so, then you could imagine, there are literally rocks rising out of the trails and as a result, they make new trails, because they don't want to go over the rocks. So that's a big problem because somewhere down the line. It's going to create a larger area of being overused.

362

00:47:59.580 --> 00:48:02.460

Nancy Chapin: So that's what was raised at the. Pomerance committee.

363

00:48:03.630 --> 00:48:13.830

Nancy Chapin: and you'll see if anybody walks with me, the erosion is horrible. We no longer have horses here, but we used to ride the trails. I could never bring a horse. It's just all rock.

364

00:48:14.370 --> 00:48:19.740

Nancy Chapin: It's becoming riverbeds. So these are the things that's on the list to deal with

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00:48:20.730 --> 00:48:27.870

Nancy Chapin: You could potentially, you know, right now I think it's 50 bucks just on the roadways. You know, there's a nice rather that goes with opinion.

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00:48:28.500 --> 00:48:43.890

Nancy Chapin: maybe I can say more in an email. Again, I don't want to take everybody's time but definitely reach out to me if you have any questions at any time anyone who wants to walk the park literally Sarah net Vivian. I can never pronounce her name.

367

00:48:45.300 --> 00:49:00.600

Nancy Chapin: But she's married on the Conservation Commission, we walked every single little trail in this park and she has put it on a GIS and it's been mapped and that we go we're going to look at it and I can share that with this board as well.

368

00:49:01.770 --> 00:49:03.870

Gary Dell'Abate: All right. Anybody have any questions?

369

00:49:05.160 --> 00:49:07.980

Gary Dell'Abate: I want to thank everybody for coming out, especially Lenore and Jenny for

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00:49:08.040 --> 00:49:08.550

Gary Dell'Abate: All of this

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00:49:08.850 --> 00:49:16.680

Gary Dell'Abate: And I apologize if I was really antsy during this meeting. I'm having knee surgery on Tuesday. So I literally can't find a comfortable position to get it.

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00:49:18.960 --> 00:49:19.650

Gary Dell'Abate: So,

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00:49:22.560 --> 00:49:23.700

Rick Loh: Yikes.

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00:49:24.120 --> 00:49:32.460

Mike Bocchino: You know I raised my hand. I, just recognize that we were ending seemed like we were ending the meeting

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00:49:34.140 --> 00:49:35.160

Mike Bocchino: I must have missed the New business.

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00:49:35.820 --> 00:49:36.540

Gary Dell'Abate: Oh, sorry.

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00:49:37.200 --> 00:49:38.280

Mike Bocchino: Did I jump past

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00:49:38.550 --> 00:49:39.030

Gary Dell'Abate: No.

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00:49:39.240 --> 00:49:41.880

Mike Bocchino: I apologize. Anyway,

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00:49:43.080 --> 00:49:52.200

Mike Bocchino: Thanks Joe for everything that you and your group have done up at the golf course. There has been a huge increase in play.

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00:49:52.830 --> 00:50:06.270

Mike Bocchino: But along with the increase in play, just to bring to everyone's attention is the dismay, with the locker room facilities up here and as you know I'm up at the golf course a lot and

382

00:50:08.430 --> 00:50:21.390

Mike Bocchino: In the past, I know that we've addressed. We tried to address it through the RTM and then a lot of the RTM team members at that particular time. This is going back quite some time. We're not interested in

383

00:50:22.380 --> 00:50:35.520

Mike Bocchino: Upgrading or renovating the bathroom facilities, because they felt that it was just to help the concessionaire create some more business, I can assure you that the new concessionaire here that's in place.

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00:50:36.990 --> 00:50:55.320

Mike Bocchino: Is really doing a fantastic job in changing the dynamics of the concession area investing a lot of her own money into making the place very, very accommodating and spectacular, but

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00:50:56.280 --> 00:51:05.850

Mike Bocchino: The locker room facilities and the bathroom facility seems to still be from basically never touched since 1971 when the building was built so

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00:51:06.330 --> 00:51:17.640

Mike Bocchino: I mean, I think I would like to try to pursue and I would be more than happy to be the one that looks into it some sort of renovation of the locker room facilities.

387

00:51:18.120 --> 00:51:28.380

Mike Bocchino: That house the women's Club and the men's clubs, along with showers locker rooms and bathroom areas. Not that we need to tear anything down and redo

388

00:51:28.860 --> 00:51:38.280

Mike Bocchino: But, you know, in this day and age, when you see some of these amazing shows you know where people go and they do renovations. It's something for

389

00:51:39.030 --> 00:51:50.730

Mike Bocchino: An inexpensive or not a lot of money. What you can accomplish in just changing our toilets, where there's tile putting in are just things that I've seen on TV.

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00:51:51.480 --> 00:52:01.890

Mike Bocchino: You know, putting the board up over that putting new flooring down and in vinyl strips. I think we can make a huge, huge improvement to

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00:52:03.330 --> 00:52:11.850

Mike Bocchino: A facility that has been in dire need. I don't know if anyone else has been up to the golf course and has experienced the bathroom facilities, but it's

392

00:52:13.740 --> 00:52:14.610

Mike Bocchino: It's unfortunate.

393

00:52:15.390 --> 00:52:23.760

Frank DiVincenzo: Hi. This is Frank DiVincenzo. I agree with Mike that area needs to be cleaned up and upgraded

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00:52:25.140 --> 00:52:30.210

Gary Dell'Abate: Who makes that determination is us? or is the golf course kind of its own entity?

395

00:52:30.660 --> 00:52:37.200

Joe Siciliano: Well, there's a couple of factors here. First of all, if you're talking about a cosmetic upgrade. That's one thing if you're

396

00:52:37.650 --> 00:52:39.990

Joe Siciliano: Talking about a cosmetic upgrade to a certain

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00:52:40.020 --> 00:52:51.330

Joe Siciliano: Dollar amount, our facilities are in this transition situation where if we go to a certain extent, we have to bring them up to 100% Ada

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00:52:51.960 --> 00:53:02.940

Joe Siciliano: Requirements, which would change completely what's there. I mean, you're going from a cosmetic improvement to a structural improvement.

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00:53:03.900 --> 00:53:14.130

Joe Siciliano: Which may alter the way things look or go as far as what can be done there. So, Alan completely understands how to do this.

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00:53:14.610 --> 00:53:25.770

Joe Siciliano: Now the golf course is self-funding and we can appropriate some money to do certain things, but the building maintenance part of it and the building improvement part of it is under DPW.

401

00:53:26.490 --> 00:53:41.490

Joe Siciliano: So you know it would have to be a collaboration and a complete understanding about what the outcomes gonna be because when you when you use the word renovation and maybe that's the wrong word, maybe you're just looking for, you know, you know,

402

00:53:42.570 --> 00:53:48.930

Joe Siciliano: You know, some kind of cosmetic upgrade because you have to be careful when you use that word renovation, because if you have to do.

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00:53:49.260 --> 00:54:00.240

Joe Siciliano: You know, certain structural work additions, plumbing, electrical and all that kind of stuff. It really comes into play that you and you need a building permit.

404

00:54:00.690 --> 00:54:10.770

Joe Siciliano: Once you pull a building permit, they're going to want to see the ADA compliance and that may not be easy to achieve at some of these locations so

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00:54:11.280 --> 00:54:20.490

Joe Siciliano: this is a little outside of my purview. But Alan completely understands this. Oh, he does this, and other buildings where we do bathroom upgrades.

406

00:54:20.820 --> 00:54:34.590

Joe Siciliano: And you know it be something that we can talk about, you know, going into the fall, but it's going to need an offline meeting and this is the one for that, but to have this conversation and to understand, you know what,

407

00:54:35.730 --> 00:54:41.520

Joe Siciliano: might need to get accomplished, and what can get accomplished. Now when you talked about briefly.

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00:54:41.970 --> 00:54:46.560

Joe Siciliano: That there was a vote. It wasn't about the bathrooms. It was about the whole restaurant facility.

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00:54:47.280 --> 00:54:52.650

Joe Siciliano: When we did a master plan as a golf course we laid out what the important things were

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00:54:53.310 --> 00:55:04.050

Joe Siciliano: And did golf user groups were intimately involved in this, because golf is about golf and playability and so everything that was on the backside, such as the

411

00:55:04.680 --> 00:55:17.820

Joe Siciliano: The administration building the pro shop the restaurant building etc. were all at the end of the list as far as what was going to get done the irrigation was first, the cart paths, the tee renovations, the

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00:55:18.300 --> 00:55:27.030

Joe Siciliano: the green renovations, the drainage. All of that was on the front side because without that you don't have a golf course. I mean, you have a green space so

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00:55:27.570 --> 00:55:36.060

Joe Siciliano: The golfers express their opinion about a project for the restaurant building

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00:55:36.750 --> 00:55:48.450

Joe Siciliano: and this was a complete renovation or renewal, because what's happened in the past, and this is the process we follow is that the golfers end up paying for it. Okay, and

415

00:55:48.930 --> 00:55:53.910

Joe Siciliano: What we did on the golf course administration pro shop project, which was \$1,000,500

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00:55:54.750 --> 00:56:03.690

Joe Siciliano: We went out and raised as much money as we could, for seed money and then we took \$1,000,500 loan from the Town of Greenwich

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00:56:04.110 --> 00:56:11.670

Joe Siciliano: It was an interest free loan that the golfers paid back over a 10-year period.

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00:56:12.210 --> 00:56:24.030

Joe Siciliano: And that's the way we did all of the golf course renovations on the course itself the million-dollar irrigation system, the tees, the greens and whatever else we did. It was all based on a series of loans.

419

00:56:24.510 --> 00:56:29.670

Joe Siciliano: all of them were interest free because it is the town at the end of day its' the town's asset.

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00:56:30.240 --> 00:56:39.690

Joe Siciliano: And they were over the schedule of a five-year payback period or a 10-year payback period. It's a little bit different in the sense that

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00:56:40.320 --> 00:56:52.290

Joe Siciliano: The assessment for the improvements will be done at the expense of the golfers, who will generate the revenue based on increase user fees, rounds,

422

00:56:52.800 --> 00:57:00.090

Joe Siciliano: Greens fees and other ways that we raise income to fund the golf course so that whatever that payment schedule will be

423

00:57:00.630 --> 00:57:17.670

Joe Siciliano: Will be done that way. And so their interest was not, that's the time we were talking about a building with new restrooms, etc. A \$2 million renovation. That was five years ago. So I don't know what the markets doing these days but and

424

00:57:17.850 --> 00:57:19.260

Joe Siciliano: There was not a lot of interest.

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00:57:19.320 --> 00:57:21.390

Joe Siciliano: From the golfers to say,

426

00:57:22.980 --> 00:57:29.520

Joe Siciliano: That we want the building that's going to be more modernized that we want to do or facility that we want a different patio layout.

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00:57:30.210 --> 00:57:36.990

Joe Siciliano: There was not a whole lot of interest and there was. It was a harder. It was equally a harder sell for the pro shop administration building

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00:57:37.380 --> 00:57:45.960

Joe Siciliano: But we went out raise some money. We had a couple serious golf tournaments. We had a couple donors. We did a we did a fundraising drive and even though

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00:57:46.440 --> 00:57:56.070

Joe Siciliano: You know, we raised several hundred thousand dollars, which kind of started the process and offsetting it, we still ended up taking a million \$1,000,500 loan from the

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00:57:56.490 --> 00:58:06.060

Joe Siciliano: Town and a 10-year payback period. So that's kind of the mechanics of it, but we'd be willing to do have a discussion going into the fall

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00:58:06.540 --> 00:58:16.950

Joe Siciliano: If there's stuff, cosmetic things that can be done before we get to that point of where we have to take out the building permits and conform to

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00:58:17.940 --> 00:58:37.860

Joe Siciliano: All of the ADA requirements which may not be as easy as you think; showers, restrooms, petitions, access points, emergency exits and things of that nature. The building was built in 1971 and doesn't have a lot of features to it, you know, but we can talk about it.

433

00:58:40.110 --> 00:58:44.010

Gary Dell'Abate: Okay thank you Joe. Does anyone have any other new business?

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00:58:45.780 --> 00:58:50.940

Gary Dell'Abate: then I believe we can adjourn. Thank you, everybody. Thanks again.

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00:58:52.170 --> 00:58:52.680

Rick Loh: Thank you.

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00:58:53.010 --> 00:58:54.150

Gary Dell'Abate: Hey, Mike

437

00:58:56.160 --> 00:58:56.550

Mike Bocchino: Room.

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00:58:58.440 --> 00:58:59.340

Mike Bocchino: In the office.

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00:59:00.570 --> 00:59:02.700

Mike Bocchino: For Cobber North, the restaurant up at the golf course.

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00:59:02.850 --> 00:59:06.300

Gary Dell'Abate: Oh, OK. OK. I didn't know. I didn't know you had anything to do with it.

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00:59:06.930 --> 00:59:08.790

Mike Bocchino: Yeah, I'm managing the restaurant.

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00:59:09.000 --> 00:59:10.410

Gary Dell'Abate: I didn't know that. Okay, great.

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00:59:11.820 --> 00:59:12.360

Gary Dell'Abate: I should

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00:59:13.410 --> 00:59:14.430

Gary Dell'Abate: when my knee is working again, I'll see ya

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00:59:14.760 --> 00:59:15.270

Mike Bocchino: All right.

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00:59:16.410 --> 00:59:16.830

Rick Loh: No wonder

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00:59:16.980 --> 00:59:18.810

Rick Loh: you want the bathrooms cleaned up.

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00:59:20.130 --> 00:59:22.920

Mike Bocchino: You smell them. I'll tell you, come on up and take a look at them. It's

449

00:59:22.920 --> 00:59:23.490

Horrible.

450

00:59:24.540 --> 00:59:25.590

Rick Loh: I know, I know.

451

00:59:25.740 --> 00:59:26.400

Mike Bocchino: You know,

452

00:59:27.090 --> 00:59:31.590

Rick Loh: It's a, it's a very worthy project Joe brings up some good points right but

453

00:59:34.440 --> 00:59:35.130

Rick Loh: It has to be done.

454

00:59:36.150 --> 00:59:37.110

Mike Bocchino: Something needs to be done.

455

00:59:37.500 --> 00:59:38.100

Rick Loh: Yet, correct.

456

00:59:38.640 --> 00:59:39.150

Mike Bocchino: All right, well,

457

00:59:40.230 --> 00:59:40.680

Nancy Chapin: Thank you.

Joseph A. Siciliano, Director
 Thomas J. Greco, Assistant Director
 Susan M. Snyder, Recreation Superintendent
 Brian Kerzner, Marine & Facility Superintendent
 Dr. Gregory Kramer, Parks & Trees Superintendent
 Steve Pyo, Golf Course Operations Manager



Administration	203-622-6472
Recreation	203-622-6480
Marine & Facility Operations	203-618-7649
Parks and Trees	203-618-7651
Griffith E. Harris Golf Course	203-622-7824
Information/Programs	203-531-7200
	203-622-7830

**Field Committee of the Board of Parks and Recreation
 Update for Board of Parks & Recreation Meeting 7/30/20**

- The Field Committee last met on February 5, 2020.
- The COVID-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of the April committee meeting and closed all athletic fields for spring 2020.
- “REOPEN Connecticut – Sector Rules for June 17” allowed for Moderate and Lower Risk sports activities to resume as of June 17 and for Higher Risk sports to resume as of July 6.
- Recreation contacted all user groups on June 15 to inform them of new requirements for the use of Town athletic fields as a result of the pandemic. In addition to the normal requirements to obtain a field permit, sports organizations and exercise classes all had to submit a COVID-19 Operation Plan and complete and sign an Agreement in Response to COVID-19. User groups were provided resources from the State of CT and the CDC in order to devise their operation plans.
- The “Athletic Field Update” for the managed reopening of Town athletic fields was placed on the website for public notification on June 23.
- While fields officially opened to the public on July 6, those organizations which were able to submit all requirements to Recreation sooner than July 6 were given a field permit as soon as all requirements were met.

Town of Greenwich Parks and Recreation—Anti-discrimination Policy

It is the Town of Greenwich's policy to provide full, equal and nondiscriminatory access to its park facilities, beaches and recreation areas in accordance with applicable state and federal laws. The Town's park facilities, beaches and recreation areas are open to all Town residents and other members of the general public admitted thereto in accordance with, and subject to, applicable state and federal laws, and ordinances, and regulations promulgated by the Director of Parks and Recreation and the Selectmen. It is the policy of the Town of Greenwich that all Town ordinances, regulations, policies and rules with respect to the Town's park facilities, beaches and recreation areas are applied consistently without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, lawful source of income, mental retardation, mental disability or physical disability, including but not limited to blindness or deafness or any other legally protected classification. The Town complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding non-discrimination, equal opportunity, affirmative action, and providing reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. If you require an accommodation to participate, please contact the Commissioner of Human Services at 203-622-3800 or alan.barry@greenwichct.org as soon as possible in advance of the event.