



## Board of Parks and Recreation Virtual Meeting Transcript September 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

1

00:00:00.000 --> 00:00:03.990

Gary Dell'Abate: Let's start with approval of the July 30 minutes (transcript)

2

00:00:06.480 --> 00:00:07.859

Gary Dell'Abate: Anybody want to prove it?

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00:00:08.550 --> 00:00:11.580

Scott Johnson: I move for approval, Scott Johnson.

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00:00:12.120 --> 00:00:13.590

Gary Dell'Abate: Was for approvals are the second

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00:00:13.950 --> 00:00:14.340

Do I have a Second?

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00:00:15.719 --> 00:00:22.770

Gary Dell'Abate: Kirk Schubert seconds it, all who approve, raise your hand and say your name I approve. Gary Dell'Abate.

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00:00:23.520 --> 00:00:24.150

Scott Johnson.

8

00:00:25.590 --> 00:00:26.160

Rick Loh.

9

00:00:26.790 --> 00:00:28.650

Frank DiVincenzo: Kirk, DiVincenzo approves

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00:00:30.330 --> 00:00:38.910

Gary Dell'Abate: OK, so the Minutes are approved before we start the meeting, I would like to welcome our newest member who

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00:00:40.590 --> 00:00:47.610

Gary Dell'Abate: I saw her walk through all her approvals and did a great job Sue Bodson will now join us and I am very excited.

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00:00:48.840 --> 00:01:03.780

Gary Dell'Abate: She's really adept in a lot of areas, but she's really good at fundraising and that's going to come up tonight what Scott talks later but I'm Nancy. I'm hoping that she was going to give you a hand as well. We'll talk about that all down the line, but everybody please welcome Sue.

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00:01:04.440 --> 00:01:05.490

Sue Bodson: Thank you. Thank you.

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00:01:05.520 --> 00:01:06.030

Joe's iPad: Welcome Sue

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00:01:06.480 --> 00:01:06.780

Sue Bodson: I'm real excited.

16

00:01:09.660 --> 00:01:14.190

Nancy Chapin: I'm excited to work with her again, that's greatly great, congratulations.

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00:01:14.760 --> 00:01:18.390

Gary Dell'Abate: Great. And with that, I will turn it over to Joe for Director's report.

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00:01:19.110 --> 00:01:28.890

Joe's iPad: Okay. Good evening everybody. My first order of business is to welcome Blaize Levitan, who's our new staff member during the summer.

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00:01:30.720 --> 00:01:32.970

Joe's iPad: Period Tom Greco retired.

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00:01:33.870 --> 00:01:34.260

Gary Dell'Abate: And

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00:01:34.320 --> 00:01:49.170

Joe's iPad: So Tom left us at the end of August, and I'll tell you a little bit about Blaize's background Blaize has work for the Town as a Senior Management Analyst since 2017

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00:01:50.010 --> 00:01:58.530

Joe's iPad: He has experience working out of the Selectman's Office doing a lot of analytical type work budgeting, you know, working with Ben Branyan to produce

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00:01:58.890 --> 00:02:12.390

Joe's iPad: Various reports for the BET working on various Town projects Blaize comes to us with a very diverse professional background and educational background. He has a Master's Degree in Public Administration.

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00:02:13.920 --> 00:02:21.720

Joe's iPad: A bachelor's in Political Science from the University of Connecticut, he has some great work experience as a Senior Management Analyst for the Town.

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00:02:22.320 --> 00:02:33.420

Joe's iPad: He has a background in emergency management specialist and he has some background in some IT support and specialist. So Blaize has been with us since the beginning of September.

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00:02:33.870 --> 00:02:48.120

Joe's iPad: And he will be taking over Tom's position as the Assistant Director and we're very happy to have him with us. And he's just getting a custom to being in our department. We're still sharing him maybe the today's the last day. I don't know.

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00:02:48.840 --> 00:02:59.520

Joe's iPad: But we've been sharing him with the Selectman's Office to finish some of his work there and making the transition to Parks and Recreation. So Blaize will be part of our team going forward and

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00:03:00.090 --> 00:03:06.930

Joe's iPad: Taking the position as Assistant Director and working in that capacity. So welcome Blaize and

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00:03:07.590 --> 00:03:11.700

Joe's iPad: This is the board of Parks and Recreation and one of these days you'll actually get to meet all these folks are

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00:03:12.210 --> 00:03:21.930

Joe's iPad: Interesting people, they have a great backgrounds and some have been on the board for quite some time and been all been doing great work. So this, is a welcome.

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00:03:22.470 --> 00:03:26.700

Joe's iPad: Couple other things is that we also have on tonight's meeting Sue Snyder, Greg Kramer

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00:03:27.480 --> 00:03:42.060

Joe's iPad: Around the zoom tonight. But one of the things I think that is very important for me to do. And I want to take 30 seconds to do this because I think a huge, huge thank you to every staff member in Parks and Recreation needs to be said because

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00:03:43.290 --> 00:03:47.490

Joe's iPad: We pulled off what I think is some of the hardest work we've had to do as a group.

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00:03:48.600 --> 00:03:50.700

Joe's iPad: Not only during the shutdown from

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00:03:51.750 --> 00:03:59.640

Joe's iPad: March until we reopened Town Hall, but also during the period of time when we got back into Town Hall to today.

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00:04:00.150 --> 00:04:11.460

Joe's iPad: Just trying to keep some of our programs moving at a very limited basis implementing all of the protocols, all the safety measures everything that had to happen.

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00:04:11.910 --> 00:04:20.790

Joe's iPad: Sue, Greg his team Sue's team, Brian Kerzner, did an excellent job. I mean, they worked above and beyond.

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00:04:21.150 --> 00:04:26.430

Joe's iPad: weekends, evenings, whatever it took to get it done. And this is the kind of thing that you know

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00:04:27.180 --> 00:04:34.710

Joe's iPad: tells the truth when you can pull your team together to do this type of exercise. It was it's difficult. There's some of the hardest work, we had to do.

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00:04:35.040 --> 00:04:50.760

Joe's iPad: So I really my hand goes out to everyone and say thank you and I know that there's a great thanks from the Town. We had most of our programs at limited capacity, without any incidents which is amazing. We did not have one COVID outbreak, we did not have one issue.

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00:04:51.930 --> 00:05:02.010

Joe's iPad: And we held some pretty tight standards. So that's it, that's a testament to the folks who managed not only wrote the protocols, but manage the day to day stuff. So thank you everyone from me.

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00:05:02.040 --> 00:05:03.720

Joe's iPad: and I know the Town appreciates it.

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00:05:04.080 --> 00:05:07.440

Scott Johnson: How did that work with the camps, I mean Sue that must have been impossible.

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00:05:07.950 --> 00:05:13.440

Joe's iPad: We'll, give Sue some time, she can give us the rundown on how some of that stuff worked.

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00:05:14.160 --> 00:05:17.220

Gary Dell'Abate: Joe Just really quick, how did we do this season?

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00:05:19.590 --> 00:05:25.560

Gary Dell'Abate: Congratulations for getting it all done and even being able to do it. How did we make out financially?

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00:05:26.190 --> 00:05:33.990

Joe's iPad: Well, what we did was, as we were implementing the new protocols, we were also because everything was at such a reduced rate so

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00:05:35.100 --> 00:05:42.960

Joe's iPad: Overall, and just the bigger picture. We were probably short in our revenue stream about a million dollars.

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00:05:43.470 --> 00:05:54.210

Joe's iPad: But we were also able to give \$600,000 back in operating costs because we didn't hire a full complement of counselors, we didn't hire you know certain things,

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00:05:54.600 --> 00:06:06.930

Joe's iPad: So we were probably, at the end of the day between losing a million dollars in revenue and returning a \$600,000 in operating costs were probably about \$500,000

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00:06:08.130 --> 00:06:08.610

Joe's iPad: off our mark

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00:06:09.030 --> 00:06:09.510

Gary Dell'Abate: What does that

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00:06:12.060 --> 00:06:13.680

Gary Dell'Abate: Mean for us?

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00:06:16.170 --> 00:06:19.140

Gary Dell'Abate: Does it affect us in our next budget cycle?

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00:06:20.130 --> 00:06:23.070

Joe's iPad: Well, I'm sure that's going to be part of the discussion.

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00:06:23.430 --> 00:06:31.680

Joe's iPad: I'm kind of getting some intel from various people that you know they're going to talk about revenue stream, they're going to talk about a head count. They're going to talk about operating costs.

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00:06:32.010 --> 00:06:39.810

Joe's iPad: And it all has to be at some kind of zero, and how many people can you give up. That's why back in May.

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00:06:40.410 --> 00:06:46.260

Joe's iPad: When we had one of our meetings we talked, we started to keep all those statistics about some of the things that we were doing.

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00:06:46.770 --> 00:06:56.880

Joe's iPad: I can tell you one of the statistics that we've been and we still collecting some of the information but interesting since February through September 1

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00:06:57.690 --> 00:07:05.610

Joe's iPad: our four customer service people with some temporary help answered 81,219 emails.

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00:07:06.180 --> 00:07:17.850

Joe's iPad: So, and that was just emails that doesn't include mail it doesn't include phone calls and that doesn't include anybody that's in the supervisory staff, the operations side, myself, Lenore

62

00:07:18.270 --> 00:07:32.940

Joe's iPad: superintendents, that was just four people and some temporary help. So, I mean, I wanted to keep those kind of statistics because when people start to say, well, what did all those people do when they were home we're going to lay it out for him pretty well and say this is what they, you know,

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00:07:34.410 --> 00:07:44.340

Gary Dell'Abate: I also want to ask about, I was down at the beach quite a bit this summer, and I think once people kind of got it, it started rolling, but

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00:07:44.820 --> 00:08:02.160

Gary Dell'Abate: I don't know how other parts of Town are going to handle, I just got my renewal for my parking pass at OG for \$458 and I'm not renewing because I don't think I'm ever taking. I don't see myself needing to take the train in next year. How did we make out at the

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00:08:07.080 --> 00:08:07.530

Gary Dell'Abate: beach?

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00:08:08.250 --> 00:08:18.090

Joe's iPad: So just a couple of other things in my report big shout out to the staff.

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00:08:18.780 --> 00:08:27.030

Joe's iPad: Maybe we'll give Sue a few minutes to talk about the programs.

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00:08:27.360 --> 00:08:35.370

Joe's iPad: We continue to integrate our fall programs with the reopening of the Civic Centers on a limited basis.

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00:08:36.120 --> 00:08:40.890

Joe's iPad: And we'll grow into that. Also the Rink is now open.

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00:08:41.670 --> 00:08:50.430

Joe's iPad: We do have requests for fall sports, we're going to field sports at various levels and Donald is managing that. So we start to integrate our programs back

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00:08:50.790 --> 00:08:57.900

Joe's iPad: Into some kind of normalcy that with the safety protocols and the guidance that's been put out by the by the Governor's Office

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00:08:58.410 --> 00:09:11.760

Joe's iPad: We continue to work that; Sue has become our resident specialist in answering the questions, she reads all the guidance and advises most of us on the do's and do nots and

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00:09:12.390 --> 00:09:20.490

Joe's iPad: we've been lucky. I think we have a pretty cohesive staff and they're really on top of it and we're going to keep pushing.

74

00:09:20.970 --> 00:09:30.120

Joe's iPad: All of us want that back and we're going to keep pushing that as much as we can to keep the program activities going at some type of level and providing service to our residents.

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00:09:30.600 --> 00:09:40.290

Joe's iPad: The folks that want to reach out and get it. It seems to be more and more after the summer programs were implemented and we went through about eight weeks of all that

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00:09:41.010 --> 00:09:46.560

Joe's iPad: Interesting part is that we see that people are a little bit more relaxed in the fall with signing up for some of our programs.

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00:09:46.860 --> 00:09:53.280

Joe's iPad: A little bit more because they maybe feel a little bit more safe and secure with some of the protocols that we built

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00:09:53.910 --> 00:10:04.830

Joe's iPad: Into the program base. So that's good. Good to hear. And it's also good to experience because I think people are feeling a little bit more secure about saying they did a good job.



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00:10:05.100 --> 00:10:10.860

Joe's iPad: And we want to engage and participate at some level, so

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00:10:11.520 --> 00:10:15.690

Joe's iPad: I feel really good about that. And that's a couple of comments that I've heard

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00:10:16.230 --> 00:10:22.500

Joe's iPad: A little bit about the golf course, Scott and I talked about golf a little bit beforehand but the golf course is killing it in the sense that

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00:10:22.860 --> 00:10:31.530

Joe's iPad: We're doing about 225 rounds a day during the week maybe 250 or more on the weekends and the driving range is up probably 20%

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00:10:32.490 --> 00:10:41.340

Joe's iPad: And people have now changed her whole work life, you know, normally right after we get into the fall session.

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00:10:41.700 --> 00:10:56.490

Joe's iPad: That drops off. Well, it's only dropped off, for maybe you know 200 or 220. It's kind of crazy, but people are out there every day playing golf and a lot of them are residents and new people that have

85

00:10:57.660 --> 00:11:00.270

Joe's iPad: stayed close to home and joined the Griff

86

00:11:01.530 --> 00:11:14.340

Joe's iPad: As members and it's very active, the tee sheet is full constantly and that's one of the complaints that we get that there aren't enough tee times for residents to get. So very interesting combination of what we've been doing

87

00:11:15.810 --> 00:11:16.890

Scott Johnson: Joe, can I ask you

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00:11:17.130 --> 00:11:18.450

Scott Johnson: A question on

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00:11:19.710 --> 00:11:34.110

Scott Johnson: how about field permits. So say like fall youth soccer and flag football are those given go ahead by the Department of Health or are they on hold? or what's the story with those guys?

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00:11:34.170 --> 00:11:46.050

Joe's iPad: Well, if they're not outlined in the Governor's guidance, let's just take Greenwich Youth Football, they decided to switch their program from contact and tackle to flag.

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00:11:47.130 --> 00:11:55.410

Joe's iPad: So they've asked for a permit to use field space to engage in a flag program this season.

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00:11:55.950 --> 00:12:01.890

Joe's iPad: They have limited contact and each one of them produced a

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00:12:02.370 --> 00:12:10.560

Joe's iPad: COVID plan of management and how they manage the teams. The coaches, the parents that kind of stuff. And we get to review those and

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00:12:11.040 --> 00:12:21.210

Joe's iPad: upon approval, issue field time to each one of those organizations. So on a limited basis, if falls within the governor's guidance, we've been

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00:12:21.720 --> 00:12:29.670

Joe's iPad: responding to requests of program activities by outside users and clubs and other organizations and

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00:12:30.390 --> 00:12:44.730

Joe's iPad: we review them one at a time. So it takes a little bit. We're asking people to try to get out in front of it. But, we have seen a steady number of groups asking for field space.

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00:12:45.270 --> 00:12:52.650

Gary Dell'Abate: Do you have any kind of a plan or a protocol in case there is a major uptick and everything gets

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00:12:53.700 --> 00:12:57.000

Gary Dell'Abate: Shut down quickly again? I'm just trying to think of everything.

99

00:12:58.710 --> 00:13:03.870

Joe's iPad: Yeah, we thought of everything we can do, our program is designed to do something.

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00:13:04.440 --> 00:13:09.780

Joe's iPad: Because of rosters and stuff to do contact tracing, we would work under the guidance of the Health Department.

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00:13:10.260 --> 00:13:19.590

Joe's iPad: We would see, if we had to shut down what the circumstances were to lead to the shutdown, whether it was a close contact or whether somebody actually contracted

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00:13:20.010 --> 00:13:26.970

Joe's iPad: The virus, whether it's a child, whether it's an adult, a spectator, coach. Those are all the factors that would go into the decision making.

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00:13:27.360 --> 00:13:38.490

Joe's iPad: And obviously, if we start to see a rise and uptick, you know we would probably be looking at some bigger issues than some of the field stuff. You know how

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00:13:39.030 --> 00:13:46.830

Joe's iPad: Going back to some real stringent requirements of how people would operate every single day. So we do keep a count every week.

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00:13:47.400 --> 00:13:53.610

Joe's iPad: The health department produces a count this week in Greenwich, and I can tell you because we just read that today.

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00:13:54.000 --> 00:14:02.550

Joe's iPad: I think I'm right, if I remember the numbers really over the last week. Really it's six additional cases and confirmed COVID cases this week over last week.

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00:14:03.120 --> 00:14:12.000

Joe's iPad: So that's in Greenwich. We are actually very low. People have been very respectful and you know there were a couple of issues along the way.

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00:14:13.380 --> 00:14:24.450

Joe's iPad: But we've been very successful in the Town to get people to participate and cooperate and the numbers show it. So our total we've only had

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00:14:25.980 --> 00:14:41.100

Joe's iPad: 50 COVID related deaths in Greenwich and we're only at 500 COVID cases in Town and one week over the last six additional cases. So it's not very many.

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00:14:41.820 --> 00:14:53.910

Gary Dell'Abate: If it comes to be an issue where there's an uptick the decision on whether to move forward operating come from the Selectman's Office as opposed to the Governor's Office?

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00:14:54.270 --> 00:15:03.090

Joe's iPad: Fred has the local decision we use the guidance of the Governor's Office, but who has the enforcement decision really is the

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00:15:04.320 --> 00:15:13.080

Joe's iPad: Director of Health has the ultimate enforcement issue. And so what happens is that we still have our COVID for Task Force meet once a week.

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00:15:13.410 --> 00:15:26.970

Joe's iPad: This was Fred's task force that in the beginning we were meeting once a day, and now only meeting once a week. But if we had an uptick we would start, we would use that as the Advisory Committee, and that includes you know all the major department heads and

114

00:15:28.830 --> 00:15:31.050

Joe's iPad: The Board of selectmen, Fred

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00:15:32.310 --> 00:15:37.650

Joe's iPad: Some of the state representatives, some of the congressional folks.

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00:15:38.850 --> 00:15:42.690

Joe's iPad: And they're all part of the meeting and we meet once a week, right now.

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00:15:43.500 --> 00:16:00.720

Joe's iPad: Because we're in kind of a good place and just have updates and current events of what's going on and we get the weekly count of how we're doing but that group would go back into more of a heavy advisory group and then we would work through them to issue some of the

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00:16:01.770 --> 00:16:03.030

Joe's iPad: Revised guidance.

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00:16:03.870 --> 00:16:09.840

Gary Dell'Abate: Okay, unless there are questions. Maybe you didn't hear me earlier. How did we make out at the beach this summer?

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00:16:10.770 --> 00:16:13.080

Joe's iPad: Well, what do you mean by how do we make out?

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00:16:15.120 --> 00:16:24.450

Gary Dell'Abate: Obviously we're where we were last year. I was there a lot in like late July and August and it seemed like it made a pretty decent come back.

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00:16:25.410 --> 00:16:41.640

Joe's iPad: Well, the beach had a good come back because you know it was the local activity of the day. Greenwich Point numbers are normally in August the numbers are pretty sparse at the Point we saw great numbers all the way through August and then early September.

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00:16:43.050 --> 00:16:56.220

Joe's iPad: Byram held its own, did about 70- 75% of its normal business, Island beach was a little different, we were running a 50% capacity on the ferry boats.

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00:16:56.940 --> 00:17:01.830

Joe's iPad: It ended up being about 50 or 60% of the normal attendance out at the island, but

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00:17:02.580 --> 00:17:08.910

Joe's iPad: Greenwich Point continues to be the work horse. People alter their day to either go in the morning work in the afternoon.

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00:17:09.270 --> 00:17:22.380

Joe's iPad: Work in the morning, go in the afternoon, and that's going to continue all the way through the good weather here until the fall. We're seeing numbers in the fall that we've never seen before because it's the closest outlet for people to use.

127

00:17:23.400 --> 00:17:32.400

Gary Dell'Abate: Great, it's been great down there. I used it a lot this summer and it's just it looks great and it's still a great

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00:17:32.430 --> 00:17:32.700

Gary Dell'Abate: gem for people

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00:17:33.210 --> 00:17:34.770

Gary Dell'Abate: To use in this environment.

130

00:17:35.490 --> 00:17:40.260

Joe's iPad: Okay, so that's really my report you know if there's any questions we can field them.

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00:17:41.550 --> 00:17:56.250

Joe's iPad: Sue is on the Zoom. If you want to ask her about summer programs and or fall programs and Greg is on here also Brian's on here and Blaize is being a good listener today, so we're all set,

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00:17:56.760 --> 00:17:58.410

Scott Johnson: I like to ask Sue

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00:17:59.670 --> 00:18:00.870

Scott Johnson: Are you seeing Sue, a

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00:18:01.980 --> 00:18:09.870

Scott Johnson: reluctance to sign up for some of the youth Town programs because of COVID nervousness or not so much?

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00:18:11.190 --> 00:18:23.490

Sue Snyder: There's been a little of both. We've had some people that, for example, Camp registration and most of our summer program registration opened April 1

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00:18:24.120 --> 00:18:35.970

Sue Snyder: So we had a lot of people register April 1 because that was the pandemic was still new and I think a lot of people were hoping by summer, everything would be back to normal. So of course we know that didn't happen.

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00:18:38.460 --> 00:18:47.340

Sue Snyder: A lot of people registered in the beginning, and then it stopped and we didn't know kind of in the middle of spring. We didn't even know

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00:18:47.760 --> 00:18:59.820

Sue Snyder: If we could operate any programs or not. But once we got word from the state regarding what could operate. For example, we heard first from the Office of Early Childhood that we could run camp.

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00:19:00.780 --> 00:19:09.750

Sue Snyder: Mainly because camp is considered like a daycare program. And it's an essential service. So once we got the okay that we could run camp.

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00:19:10.200 --> 00:19:19.800

Sue Snyder: I had to learn everything like what we had to do in order to operate camp, for example, at that time, it was only 10 children a group. It was taking temperatures and

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00:19:20.580 --> 00:19:34.470

Sue Snyder: A lot of other issues. So from that point, what I did was I wrote a letter to all of the families of everyone who registered for camp up to that point. And I explained how we wouldn't be changing things

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00:19:35.490 --> 00:19:44.550

Sue Snyder: And told them if they responded by a certain date, you know, let us know if you want to stay in or will give you a full refund.

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00:19:45.300 --> 00:20:04.140

Sue Snyder: Some people backed out and other people said, I think this is great. We really need camp. So we're on board and then we had some people for not just camping or other programs register for them that they've never been with us before but wherever else they normally went

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00:20:05.610 --> 00:20:24.840

Sue Snyder: was shut down. So they came with us. So we had some people you know we did get some new people. We didn't have waitlist for some programs, but that was also because we had to reduce some numbers in our programs. So we filled them to capacity, but it was a much reduced capacity.

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00:20:31.890 --> 00:20:32.190

Scott Johnson: Sure.

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00:20:38.070 --> 00:20:49.110

Gary Dell'Abate: Thank you. I think I'm going to start with the Chairman's report we'll start with Scott, why don't we do the subcommittees and then you can talk about your thing I do want to talk about that now right up front.

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00:20:50.220 --> 00:20:51.360

Scott Johnson: Um, well, let me

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00:20:54.210 --> 00:21:12.660

Scott Johnson: just talk about a couple of things that have come across my desk. One is, I'm not convinced, unless anybody else is, who our BET rep. is. I asked Mike Mason, he originally had Miriam Kreuzer.

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00:21:15.450 --> 00:21:16.620

Scott Johnson: I think it is.

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00:21:16.680 --> 00:21:19.380

Joe's iPad: It's Miriam and Bill Drake.

151

00:21:20.340 --> 00:21:36.270

Scott Johnson: Okay, because Miriam had expressed an interest in the Foundation, which is good. I don't want to get into the Foundation, but we do have to have a meeting by the end of the year.

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00:21:38.160 --> 00:21:46.680

Scott Johnson: And I just for the heck of that I sent everybody the reconciliations statement, Blaize, I don't know if you've been involved that which is kind of an interesting thing to see.

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00:21:48.120 --> 00:21:51.870

Scott Johnson: Remember, it's not a Town agency, but it is something we administer

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00:21:53.670 --> 00:21:57.990

Scott Johnson: By far the most numerous checks are for park benches.

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00:22:00.360 --> 00:22:05.130

Scott Johnson: I do point out, Nancy. We still have \$5,800 for Binney

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00:22:07.740 --> 00:22:10.350

Scott Johnson: So if you have any great ideas for that. Don't, don't forget about that.

157

00:22:11.370 --> 00:22:12.240

Or not for you.

158

00:22:13.500 --> 00:22:17.910

Scott Johnson: That's it. But it's worked really well.

159



00:22:18.570 --> 00:22:20.880

Scott Johnson: I did have an idea which was

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00:22:20.880 --> 00:22:24.180

Scott Johnson: Actually prompted by somebody else, Joe this is just something to think about.

161

00:22:26.160 --> 00:22:31.050

Scott Johnson: Well, first of all, first question is, are we being overdosed on park benches?

162

00:22:31.590 --> 00:22:38.700

Joe's iPad: We get a lot of requests, but we've tried to develop that park bench program which Margaret Cawsey kind of manages that for us.

163

00:22:39.210 --> 00:22:50.520

Joe's iPad: And so we've been out looking for locations. It just what happens is that people are interested, we've done a lot of new benches and some renewals if we can and

164

00:22:51.390 --> 00:22:58.470

Joe's iPad: But people still want to target the hotspots like Greenwich Point, we probably have a bunch of requests for Greenwich Point where we're really looking to

165

00:22:58.800 --> 00:23:10.320

Joe's iPad: Move them to other locations. So we try to come up with other suggestions, Binney Park, Bruce Park. Margaret has put four or five at Byram Park over the last six months.

166

00:23:11.310 --> 00:23:18.210

Joe's iPad: Cos Cob Park, we renewed all the benches that were part of the original park there. They put a lower grade bench in there and

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00:23:18.600 --> 00:23:28.830

Joe's iPad: So we actually, we sold a new bench at the same spot and put the standard teak type bench that we've had at other locations.

168

00:23:29.310 --> 00:23:43.380

Joe's iPad: We went out and scouted some other location. So it's pretty active. I mean, we get people calling all the time. But sometimes we can't satisfy their need because they all want to go to the most popular spots and then we're over saturated

169

00:23:43.950 --> 00:23:57.450

Scott Johnson: So one of the questions that came up is, would it be attractive to substitute, if we are kind of getting overdosed on benches for memorial trees to be planted.

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00:23:58.350 --> 00:24:05.760

Joe's iPad: Well, when we do the tree program we pass those to the Tree Conservancy, because they have a memorial tree program.

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00:24:06.510 --> 00:24:21.480

Joe's iPad: And then we partner with the Conservancy so people call us and say we want to do a memorial tree we put them in touch Joann Messina at the Tree Conservancy. They have it all set up, ready to go. They have the whole inventory of trees and I don't think

172

00:24:22.590 --> 00:24:33.210

Joe's iPad: the department has fostered one of those trees we usually send them to Joann. We work on the backside to pick a location planting those types of things.

173

00:24:33.660 --> 00:24:47.820

Joe's iPad: And they have an index of the trees. We don't plaque all these trees. And people sometimes want that plaque and we don't think that that's a great idea to go out there and plaque every tree because then it really looks like a Memorial Park.

174

00:24:48.900 --> 00:25:04.650

Joe's iPad: So, but they do have an index of all the trees that were planted and all the locations and when, what for the reason they were planted in honor of, memorial gift, those types of things and

175

00:25:05.820 --> 00:25:06.360

Joe's iPad: Index.

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00:25:06.660 --> 00:25:09.060

Gary Dell'Abate: What does that bench cost?

177

00:25:09.900 --> 00:25:11.340

\$2,500

178

00:25:12.360 --> 00:25:27.210

Gary Dell'Abate: I wonder if there's some amenities at Binney Park and other places around Town that aren't benches, that aren't trees that can be offered up somehow for people,

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00:25:28.890 --> 00:25:37.170

Gary Dell'Abate: Even if it's not plaqued. It could be, because my grandfather really loved the outdoors, he'd like to help put a bridge in a park or something like that.

180

00:25:37.860 --> 00:25:47.850

Nancy Chapin: So I was thinking that maybe we all should be thinking. I'm thinking garden beds and, you also have the Chimes Building

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00:25:48.270 --> 00:26:01.230

Nancy Chapin: You know, maybe there could be a brick walkway at the Chimes Building. I'm sure that's another idea. I'm sure they're going to be trying to do fundraising there. I would like us to offer up alternative ways other than benches, because

182

00:26:01.770 --> 00:26:03.540

Nancy Chapin: I do feel it's almost too much.

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00:26:04.800 --> 00:26:07.020

Gary Dell'Abate: Nancy, we should talk about this at a different point. You should

184

00:26:07.410 --> 00:26:11.790

Gary Dell'Abate: Come up with some things that you feel that you need that can be offered up

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00:26:12.420 --> 00:26:23.040

Gary Dell'Abate: That somebody could donate and maybe some maybe not all of them need to be plaque. Maybe somebody would be happy to say that in my grandfather's memory this flower bed is put in Binney Park. I think those would be some nice things.

186

00:26:23.400 --> 00:26:24.750

Sue Baker: Nancy.

187

00:26:24.780 --> 00:26:32.670

Joe's iPad: Back about a whole bunch of years ago, for those of us had been part of the Foundation for a long time. We came up with a wish list of like water fountains and

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00:26:32.730 --> 00:26:33.840

Joe's iPad: exactly what you said

189

00:26:34.200 --> 00:26:47.550

Joe's iPad: flower beds, there was a whole grouping of this that we see if we could get people to shift off the bench issue and get him on to something else that might, be a nice to have and

190

00:26:48.270 --> 00:26:55.110

Joe's iPad: I'm not quite sure why it wasn't overly successful, but we can try it again. I think I even have the list from the last time in my foundation file.

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00:26:55.500 --> 00:27:08.220

Joe's iPad: that says we had various locations where we try to get things implemented. So maybe that's a challenge for over the winter. We could look at something like that and say,

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00:27:08.880 --> 00:27:13.830

Joe's iPad: We have these other sites, but if you don't want to, if you're not interested in a bench and want to do a flower bed or

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00:27:14.520 --> 00:27:18.450

Joe's iPad: You want to do something other something else that might be creative, that might be an asset.

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00:27:18.780 --> 00:27:27.660

Joe's iPad: That is kind of a nice to have that we couldn't budget for that maybe we should do that. So I'll keep that I'll make a little note here. See if we can do something like that over the winter.

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00:27:28.770 --> 00:27:39.990

Sue Baker: Joe are regarding the Chimes building as Nancy suggested that whole project will be the Greenwich Point Conservancy, including the courtyard area.

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00:27:40.140 --> 00:27:42.510

Joe's iPad: I know that, Nancy didn't know that, but I do

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00:27:42.570 --> 00:27:43.410

Sue Baker: Okay, okay.

198

00:27:43.530 --> 00:27:46.110

Joe's iPad: Thank you. So, but, yeah, she was just trying to give ideas

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00:27:46.860 --> 00:27:49.230

Sue Baker: I understand. I just thought I'd answer her now.

200

00:27:49.710 --> 00:27:50.580

Joe's iPad: Okay, thank you.

201

00:27:51.240 --> 00:27:54.540

Scott Johnson: Let me just follow up with a couple of minor things one is

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00:27:56.280 --> 00:27:59.730

Scott Johnson: It kind of the incoming mail file.

203

00:28:00.810 --> 00:28:10.410

Scott Johnson: The Bruce Park bridge. I know we didn't review that, but Joe I know that it's a Department of Public utilities or a DOT project.

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00:28:11.520 --> 00:28:17.640

Scott Johnson: Did that ever get run by you or ever go through any municipal approvals?

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00:28:18.660 --> 00:28:19.710

Joe's iPad: It didn't have to go to me.

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00:28:20.310 --> 00:28:28.170

Scott Johnson: It's just because I know they're exempt, but is it whenever they have a project like that, their custom is not to run it by us.

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00:28:28.500 --> 00:28:33.420

Joe's iPad: Well, I think after that experience. I think Fred has requested that if something that

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00:28:35.220 --> 00:28:37.080

Joe's iPad: Different, let's use that word.

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00:28:38.280 --> 00:28:49.230

Joe's iPad: That, maybe it should get reviewed by like architectural review or something like that. So there's been a lot of conversation about it because it is definitely out of the ordinary and

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00:28:49.890 --> 00:29:05.940

Joe's iPad: and the utility had the authority to offer alternatives. And so I think the learning experience on that side would be to be more collaborative on things like the pedestrian bridge.

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00:29:07.170 --> 00:29:13.380

Joe's iPad: Tonight before this meeting. There was a was some discussion about the Weskum Wood bridge, and Binney Park. I think Nancy was

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00:29:13.830 --> 00:29:27.660

Joe's iPad: Part of it or listening in tonight, maybe, and did make some comments for the Binney Park Committee folks on thoughts about that bridge replacement. But that's a traffic bridge and would have maybe a walking component.

213

00:29:28.920 --> 00:29:37.560

Scott Johnson: See that's maybe a good example. So you could have DOT project. I'm not sure what jurisdiction has but take Weskum Wood bridge for example, is that

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00:29:37.710 --> 00:29:40.080

Joe's iPad: It's a Town road.

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00:29:40.470 --> 00:29:41.430

Scott Johnson: That's a town road, Okay.

216

00:29:41.520 --> 00:29:52.170

Joe's iPad: So it's DPW, DPW is sponsoring replacement will be budgeted there some of the money will come from the state of Connecticut for bridge replacement

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00:29:52.740 --> 00:30:00.300

Joe's iPad: There'll be a grant of some sort, from the state of Connecticut, but the project is 100% designed and shepherded through the process by DPW.

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00:30:01.020 --> 00:30:01.230

Joe's iPad: and.

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00:30:01.290 --> 00:30:16.500

Scott Johnson: I think that the question that came up, which I think is a reasonable one is when there is a, let's just call it a DPW project in the parks like a bridge replacement, that it'd be run by us a little bit if it has any aesthetic impact.

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00:30:17.220 --> 00:30:24.000

Scott Johnson: A recent one I know about, is that really pretty bridge on the north of Bruce Park.

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00:30:24.450 --> 00:30:31.140

Scott Johnson: closed because of structural deficiencies which is fine, but it's a really beautiful bridge architecturally.

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00:30:32.550 --> 00:30:43.380

Scott Johnson: So rather than maybe historically, it just be done in a DPW style, that if you don't run it by somebody so that it can be consistent with the historic nature of the park.

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00:30:43.920 --> 00:30:52.320

Joe's iPad: Interesting you mentioned that, because today, Greg and I attended a meeting with DPW because they are putting together some budget numbers for that bridge.

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00:30:53.160 --> 00:30:59.520

Joe's iPad: Again, they've been working on it. They have more refined number than they did last year at this time for budget submittal

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00:31:00.030 --> 00:31:05.730

Joe's iPad: And they're also talking about some other curbing work and repaving and some sidewalk working in Bruce Park

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00:31:06.270 --> 00:31:16.680

Joe's iPad: And that was one of the comments I made today is that, if the project gets funded, which is \$2.3 million in total.

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00:31:17.280 --> 00:31:28.260

Joe's iPad: Before we get into the heavy design phase, we should have a presentation to the board. What we really want is support. What we really we want is their input and we want their support on the project so that

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00:31:29.520 --> 00:31:29.910

Joe's iPad: You know,

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00:31:30.960 --> 00:31:40.740

Joe's iPad: Especially when we get into the design phase. So we had that conversation today because some of this stuff falls off the radar screen because you know

**230**

**00:31:41.550 --> 00:31:50.400**

**Joe's iPad: Like Weskum Wood bridge runs right through the middle of Binney Park and it is clearly a Town road and is DPW's responsibility.**

**231**

**00:31:50.820 --> 00:31:54.900**

**Joe's iPad: You know, and we want to make sure that it has some aesthetic value that doesn't detract from**

**232**

**00:31:54.900 --> 00:32:03.930**

**Joe's iPad: The park itself. And there are there are going to be some issues with it as far as how wide it's going to be, it's going to have a walking component and all these other things.**

**233**

**00:32:04.260 --> 00:32:16.830**

**Joe's iPad: And luckily Nancy's kind of has both hats on at the time, part of the Binney Park Committee but also part of the Board. So maybe at some point we can get some information from Nancy on what's being proposed.**

**234**

**00:32:17.520 --> 00:32:18.930**

**Nancy Chapin: That will be part of my report.**

**235**

**00:32:19.620 --> 00:32:22.230**

**Scott Johnson: Okay, so another example of that.**

**236**

**00:32:22.260 --> 00:32:30.210**

**Scott Johnson: Nancy or everybody is. And this is where this question originated is from the Chairman of the Historic District Commission.**

**237**

**00:32:30.990 --> 00:32:42.180**

**Scott Johnson: Asking that they review, anything that's, you know, historic district, just for architectural integrity. So that might that might apply to the proposed Bruce Park bridge.**

**238**

**00:32:42.240 --> 00:32:43.890**

**Joe's iPad: The Bruce is almost 100 years old.**

**239**

**00:32:46.590 --> 00:32:50.550**

**Gary Dell'Abate: All right, Joe, how much time do we have in this meeting. I just want to make sure I keep us on track.**



**240**

**00:32:51.750 --> 00:33:00.180**

**Joe's iPad: Well, we've only been at it for roughly half an hour. So I mean it's. We don't have to time him out. But I think everybody would like to keep it to an hour and 15 minutes at the most.**

**241**

**00:33:00.630 --> 00:33:03.570**

**Gary Dell'Abate: I thought, I thought that you are personally a time constraint.**

**242**

**00:33:03.600 --> 00:33:10.200**

**Joe's iPad: Oh, no, no. I've taken care of my situation. Thank you. I had, I had a time schedule that I**

**243**

**00:33:10.710 --> 00:33:12.060**

**Joe's iPad: Found. Another way to deal with it. So,**

**244**

**00:33:12.390 --> 00:33:16.290**

**Gary Dell'Abate: Great. Scott. Do you have more to report on what you were talking about?**

**245**

**00:33:16.920 --> 00:33:24.690**

**Scott Johnson: Let me just touch briefly on Eastern Greenwich Civic Center and then you and Kirk anybody else wants to chime in can**

**246**

**00:33:27.480 --> 00:33:47.580**

**Scott Johnson: Procedurally, you know, we're going to we've been approved for MI by the Board of Selectmen and we go to P&Z on October 6, which is a Zoom meeting at which time plans will be presented for P&Z purposes, which remember is just, you know, FAR.**

**247**

**00:33:49.320 --> 00:34:02.460**

**Scott Johnson: Square Footage analysis, setbacks, all the zoning stuff on clean cycling. I think they often get in traffic circulation, parking spaces that kind of stuff on**

**248**

**00:34:03.240 --> 00:34:18.000**

**Scott Johnson: Down the road. After that, and they'll be comments and they address the comments. And then it goes generally to ARC architects review which AI seems to think might be more like January ish**

**249**

**00:34:18.510 --> 00:34:20.760**

**Joe Sicilikano: Yeah.**

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00:34:21.840 --> 00:34:27.990

Scott Johnson: At some point in that process, he goes back to get more money currently at 30% of your potential fee.

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00:34:28.290 --> 00:34:28.710

Now,

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00:34:29.760 --> 00:34:48.000

Scott Johnson: and as most you guys know our Charter was extended by the First Selectman. And the reason for that is because we had a lot of interest both on the board and off the board to continue with architectural details.

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00:34:49.500 --> 00:34:56.490

Scott Johnson: That doesn't mean we redesign the building. It just means to be involved in both interior and exterior questions that may come up

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00:34:57.120 --> 00:35:07.380

Scott Johnson: But it's really an opportunity to ask the architect what they think about certain things and then there's a number of questions that have come up within the board and outside of the board.

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00:35:09.150 --> 00:35:17.160

Scott Johnson: Lenore was great in helping us post the plans on our website because they were kind of buried in minutes.

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00:35:18.690 --> 00:35:29.280

Scott Johnson: And people had a hard time finding them. I couldn't find them. Well, they were in the Minutes, but I had a hard time finding so now they're just on the website. So anybody who asks, you can just direct them to the website.

257

00:35:29.820 --> 00:35:40.050

Scott Johnson: They're the same plans that were presented at our June meeting. I know we've had, at least I personally had a lot of questions about that.

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00:35:40.770 --> 00:35:46.560

Scott Johnson: And I think one initiative that's going to come up is just have another meeting with the architects.

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00:35:47.130 --> 00:35:56.070

Scott Johnson: And when that should be with the appropriate time for that should be something we'll have to talk about but October 6 is the P&Z mean so

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00:35:56.790 --> 00:36:11.610

Scott Johnson: I know Kirk and I are going to Zoom in on that just to see what's going on. We're not the presenters. AI is, which is normal. So you know, we'll report back or AI will report back after that.

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00:36:13.230 --> 00:36:20.850

Gary Dell'Abate: What Scott is saying is great. We're trying to be more transparent. We want all of us to be very open. We're trying to get

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00:36:21.240 --> 00:36:37.740

Gary Dell'Abate: The plans so that everyone could see them. But, I just ask us as a Board to A: be kind of be cheerleaders for the project and B: if somebody has an issue with something, I'd love to get them in front of Scott, myself or Kirk, as opposed to

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00:36:38.970 --> 00:36:43.350

Gary Dell'Abate: sending a petition around like we're here, we're here to answer any question.

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00:36:43.770 --> 00:36:48.570

Gary Dell'Abate: And, I've had a couple of people who were disappointed that they felt that they weren't

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00:36:48.960 --> 00:36:54.960

Gary Dell'Abate: That they didn't know about the meetings, but we've held a bunch of public meetings. And again, I just want to keep this rolling

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00:36:55.260 --> 00:37:05.670

Gary Dell'Abate: And I want to be able to, should anybody have an issue with something, bring it right to us. We're more than happy to answer it. So, and I thank everybody for their hard work on that.

267

00:37:06.960 --> 00:37:16.380

Gary Dell'Abate: So that kind of covers if we're talking about subcommittee Scott that kind of covered that. So Rick, I'll turn it over to you and you could tell us what's going on with Hamill Rink.

268

00:37:18.150 --> 00:37:20.790

Agent Loh: The good news is we actually have something to report.

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00:37:22.800 --> 00:37:31.320

Agent Loh: Due to the work of Alan Monelli and I can't remember that lady's name in purchasing, but there's a Jocelyn or

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00:37:34.200 --> 00:37:36.690

Agent Loh: Something like that. Anyway,

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00:37:37.920 --> 00:37:47.040

Agent Loh: on September 24 we had a meeting in the Town Hall Meeting Room and we had presentations from five different architectural firms.

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00:37:48.510 --> 00:37:54.900

Agent Loh: A firm has been selected to take us through the 30% design phase.

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00:37:57.630 --> 00:38:03.480

Agent Loh: the group chosen is the SLAM Collaborative SLAM is

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00:38:04.980 --> 00:38:06.540

Agent Loh: An acronym for the initials.

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00:38:08.250 --> 00:38:13.050

Agent Loh: They are the group involved with designing the new rink that is being built at Sacred Heart University.

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00:38:13.560 --> 00:38:16.200

Joe's iPad: Hey Rick, can I interrupt you for a second.

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00:38:16.950 --> 00:38:28.110

Joe's iPad: Yeah, because what we did was that slam was they came out the highest score among the group. And what Al has to do now is go back and negotiate with them to see if they can work within the dollar amount

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00:38:28.620 --> 00:38:29.040

So,

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00:38:30.150 --> 00:38:37.650

Joe's iPad: We haven't selected them yet, but they are high on the list. And if AI can work out the dollars. We're going to make a deal we

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00:38:38.550 --> 00:38:39.900

Gary Dell'Abate: just haven't agreed to pay them.

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00:38:40.560 --> 00:38:40.890

Agent Loh: That is

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00:38:41.490 --> 00:38:43.710

Joe's iPad: One little interim step there so

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00:38:44.100 --> 00:38:46.860

Agent Loh: Yeah, and I have some notes here in

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00:38:48.540 --> 00:38:52.020

Agent Loh: My next sentence was going to be the next step is

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00:38:53.340 --> 00:39:05.070

Agent Loh: The representatives from SLAM will meet with Alan Monelli to go over the boundaries of what we really need going forward. That means financial

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00:39:06.840 --> 00:39:13.230

Agent Loh: Calendar, a number of other things. So we're not quite there yet, SLAM is in first place and put it that way.

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00:39:15.450 --> 00:39:22.470

Agent Loh: We have the most, if not all, of the 30% design fee in our current budget.

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00:39:23.520 --> 00:39:28.470

Agent Loh: So all of this should start to happen here in the, in the next few months.

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00:39:30.420 --> 00:39:35.700

Agent Loh: That work, that 30% mark will take us

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00:39:37.050 --> 00:39:38.520

Agent Loh: And provide to us.

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00:39:40.260 --> 00:39:51.480

Agent Loh: All the designs and the plans, we need to start the Town approval process. So in the last couple months. Here we've taken significant steps on getting this thing going in the right direction.

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00:39:52.350 --> 00:39:59.070

Agent Loh: Sue's been on the committee Joe's been on the committee. They were both in the September 24 meetings with the architects.

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00:40:01.710 --> 00:40:02.250

Agent Loh: And

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00:40:03.810 --> 00:40:08.820

Agent Loh: After quite a bit of time, we are really headed in the right direction here.

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00:40:10.350 --> 00:40:27.810

Joe's iPad: Thanks, to Rick and Tommy McGarrity sat in also even though he's an ex board member. He was there. He's been with us from the beginning. So we can Tom and Gus Lindine from the high school. So we had a kind of a very diverse group of people during the selection process.

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00:40:28.620 --> 00:40:29.130

Agent Loh: Bill Drake.

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00:40:30.150 --> 00:40:33.600

Scott Johnson: Wasn't in the CIP for this? Is there anything or is it way down the road?

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00:40:34.290 --> 00:40:36.630

Joe's iPad: What do you mean, as far as construction?

299

00:40:36.870 --> 00:40:57.120

Joe's iPad: Well, we have to see where it falls now, because it was right in line in the big picture right after the Eastern Civic Center, but we still have a couple of weeks, we only have 30% of the money for the design. We have no other appropriation for the rink.

300

00:40:57.870 --> 00:41:04.860

Joe's iPad: So we can get the 30% we can start the land use process, but we have no money currently in this year's budget for

**301**

**00:41:06.360 --> 00:41:16.770**

**Joe's iPad: For any other work at the rink. So that will be the focus of DPW to budget for the balance of the design work in next year's budget.**

**302**

**00:41:17.820 --> 00:41:22.500**

**Agent Loh: Yeah, it's on paper and budgets, going forward, but it's not available**

**303**

**00:41:22.770 --> 00:41:28.650**

**Joe's iPad: Correct, it's just, no there isn't a dollar appropriation, but it is on paper**

**304**

**00:41:33.450 --> 00:41:41.550**

**Gary Dell'Abate: Great. That sounds like you are right behind the civic center, hopefully we get these done pretty close to each other, it will be awesome for that for the Town.**

**305**

**00:41:43.980 --> 00:41:45.390**

**Agent Loh: Be a huge**

**306**

**00:41:47.940 --> 00:41:51.660**

**Agent Loh: Marketing is the wrong word, but it'd be a huge shot in the arm I think**

**307**

**00:41:52.380 --> 00:42:03.810**

**Gary Dell'Abate: Well, I think a new Civic Center and a New hockey rink are a great attraction to the Town, what we're talking about. Sue, do you feel you covered everything? Do you have more to talk about as far as the field procedure is concerned?**

**308**

**00:42:06.450 --> 00:42:19.140**

**Sue Snyder: As far as fields. I'll just give you a few updates. What's going on for this fall, we do have an increase in both baseball and softball programs.**

**309**

**00:42:20.310 --> 00:42:32.580**

**Sue Snyder: And we also have a quite a few more requests summer and fall for exercise classes I guess some groups that normally participate their programs indoors. They'd rather be outdoors.**

**310**

**00:42:33.900 --> 00:42:51.330**

**Sue Snyder: We did have some interest in new programs a couple of new flag football programs. But since we already have two flag football programs operating. We did not approve any new flag football programs going forward for this fall**

**311**

**00:42:52.410 --> 00:43:06.270**

**Gary Dell'Abate: Sue is the high school football team going to do flag football? I heard that some of the football teams that aren't able to play tackle this year to try to stay in shape. By doing that, do we know anything about that.**

**312**

**00:43:06.840 --> 00:43:14.070**

**Sue Snyder: My understanding is Greenwich is going to have a seven on seven team, which is flag. It's not tackle.**

**313**

**00:43:15.390 --> 00:43:31.680**

**Sue Snyder: But I've also heard today that they could possibly have a tackle football program, starting sometime in late winter. So I don't know anything about that. But at least**

**314**

**00:43:32.760 --> 00:43:33.390**

**Sue Snyder: They should be**

**315**

**00:43:35.670 --> 00:43:41.640**

**Gary Dell'Abate: Sorry, it's just seven on seven whatever they're thinking about doing, is that can affect any of the fields that we need?**

**316**

**00:43:43.140 --> 00:43:52.620**

**Sue Snyder: Well, if it's their fields, they always get first priority on their own fields, so you know any other youth program would then**

**317**

**00:43:53.820 --> 00:44:01.200**

**Sue Snyder: Get it after them based on our priority listing, but they always get their fields first so**

**318**

**00:44:02.430 --> 00:44:13.860**

**Sue Snyder: it's hard to say, but it's not like they're using the fields, any more than they normally would, if anything, probably since they haven't been using them all along for football and they're starting much later.**

**319**

**00:44:15.000 --> 00:44:18.780**

**Sue Snyder: You know, they've been available. I'm not sure if that's**

**320**

**00:44:20.040 --> 00:44:21.030**

**Sue Snyder: What you were getting at.**



**321**

**00:44:21.900 --> 00:44:22.620**

**Gary Dell'Abate: It's just checking.**

**322**

**00:44:23.460 --> 00:44:27.150**

**Sue Snyder: we're okay, we're kind of where we always are since**

**323**

**00:44:28.320 --> 00:44:40.260**

**Sue Snyder: Don has tried to spread some programs out so we don't have as many kids on one field. For example, let's say a flag football program where you might**

**324**

**00:44:40.770 --> 00:44:53.910**

**Sue Snyder: Break up a field into three smaller fields or, soccer program into three smaller fields, that's going to have a lot of not only kids, but also parent spectators on the on the fields and we're trying to get**

**325**

**00:44:55.050 --> 00:45:05.580**

**Sue Snyder: As much so social distancing as possible so Don's trying to spread some of these programs out because although the programs are only supposed to have one parent, guardian per child.**

**326**

**00:45:06.030 --> 00:45:17.400**

**Sue Snyder: As a spectator. They're not really following that, as they should be. And we really can't be policing every program, you know, we have enough to**

**327**

**00:45:17.940 --> 00:45:34.050**

**Sue Snyder: manage our own spectators at our own programs and to, worry about how every other program is managing. So, if we can spread some of these programs out more that will definitely help the situation.**

**328**

**00:45:35.460 --> 00:45:36.540**

**Scott Johnson: Sue, how about indoor programs?**

**329**

**00:45:38.040 --> 00:45:41.490**

**Scott Johnson: Like Civic Center, are we even allowed to do into our programs?**

**330**

**00:45:42.000 --> 00:45:47.940**

**Sue Snyder: Yes, absolutely. but, again, there are strict protocols that we have to follow.**

**331**

00:45:49.770 --> 00:45:59.430

Sue Snyder: And it kind of depends. It depends on if it's a sport. It depends on if it's a private event a public event, all of the state guidelines.

332

00:45:59.910 --> 00:46:14.730

Sue Snyder: They vary based on the activity. So we have to take a look at, for example, not just the building capacity, but we have to take a look at what is the activity.

333

00:46:15.420 --> 00:46:23.820

Sue Snyder: For example, religious services have a different activity than a private social gathering, you know, they would have a much smaller.

334

00:46:24.480 --> 00:46:40.740

Sue Snyder: Limit. When it comes to sports, it's either 50% of the capacity or 25 whichever is lower. So at the rink. For example, we are allowing only 25 people on the ice at any one time.

335

00:46:41.100 --> 00:46:55.710

Sue Snyder: But then in the building. We're also allowed one parent/guardian per child or per skater. So that's how we have to manage it at both the civic centers and at the rink.

336

00:46:56.430 --> 00:47:08.730

Sue Snyder: We're not open to the general public as far as the doors are not unlocked all day long. We're only open for programs. So each program.

337

00:47:09.270 --> 00:47:16.740

Sue Snyder: Would have to have the COVID 19 operation plan that would each have to have a signed agreement with us that they're going to follow all of the

338

00:47:17.220 --> 00:47:24.780

Sue Snyder: Guidelines that I've basically given them all the guidelines. I've given them all the information they have to sign to agree to it.

339

00:47:26.070 --> 00:47:32.940

Sue Snyder: And then we monitor at the door and sometimes depending if it's our program or if it's a private program, we have

340

00:47:33.660 --> 00:47:37.020

Sue Snyder: Let's say if it's at the rink will have one of their

**341**

**00:47:37.530 --> 00:47:45.780**

**Sue Snyder: Personnel, a coach plus one of our staff at the rink door, making sure only the kids who are on the roster of that program are coming in.**

**342**

**00:47:46.050 --> 00:47:53.400**

**Sue Snyder: And making sure there's only one parent/guardian coming in with that skater doing the same thing at the civic centers**

**343**

**00:47:53.760 --> 00:48:08.820**

**Sue Snyder: Every child has to be on the roster or every adult, whatever program. It is they have to be on the roster, if they're not on the roster, they don't come in. And then as soon as the program is over, they get escorted out or they need to immediately leave so it**

**344**

**00:48:08.910 --> 00:48:09.150**

**Is**

**345**

**00:48:10.170 --> 00:48:11.040**

**Sue Snyder: Extra work.**

**346**

**00:48:11.700 --> 00:48:17.190**

**Gary Dell'Abate: Who's the person that is "policing" that like we have someone at the door that's checking?**

**347**

**00:48:17.640 --> 00:48:22.140**

**Sue Snyder: we call it a host, Gary. We don't have security; we call it a host and a hostess.**

**348**

**00:48:22.560 --> 00:48:23.910**

**Sue Snyder: Sounds a lot better than**

**349**

**00:48:25.710 --> 00:48:26.100**

**Gary Dell'Abate: I just**

**350**

**00:48:26.730 --> 00:48:34.170**

**Gary Dell'Abate: I Wonder so far has it all worked out like no and no one's giving anybody a hard time? Everybody's kind of playing by the rules for the most part?**

**351**

**00:48:34.170 --> 00:48:42.960**

Sue Snyder: Are you for real Gary? Of course we're getting a hard time, of course we are. Because people don't like the rules.

352

00:48:43.650 --> 00:48:52.770

Sue Snyder: We've all been going through this much too long. We're all losing our patience. Right. So, no, we're definitely getting a hard time because when you have

353

00:48:53.400 --> 00:49:01.320

Sue Snyder: People coming from, let's say, another community to watch their kid play hockey against someone from Greenwich and

354

00:49:01.620 --> 00:49:07.500

Sue Snyder: Mom and Dad and grandparents came and they brought other kids and we're telling them. No, you can't come in just one

355

00:49:07.920 --> 00:49:17.370

Sue Snyder: Sure we're getting a hard time and sometimes we're getting a hard time from just Greenwich people who everyone has been informed of this or supposedly had been informed that this because

356

00:49:17.790 --> 00:49:24.870

Sue Snyder: We've informed all of the user groups. Everyone who's renting our facility and certainly our own programs we inform everyone

357

00:49:25.230 --> 00:49:31.470

Sue Snyder: They are and then in turn supposed to inform all of the coaches and the participants in their program.

358

00:49:31.920 --> 00:49:44.910

Sue Snyder: And if they're playing an opponent from another community, they're supposed to inform them as well. So whether the communication isn't going all the way down the line, or whether they heard and they just

359

00:49:46.620 --> 00:49:53.880

Sue Snyder: Don't want to abide by the policies, who knows but sure we're getting a hard time but, we're trying and

360

00:49:55.230 --> 00:49:56.880

Sue Snyder: It's not easy. It's definitely not

361

00:49:57.960 --> 00:50:06.300

Gary Dell'Abate: I feel for you guys because I see like even, at a store where a clerk asks somebody who wear a mask. It's not really their job and people don't like to listen.

362

00:50:07.410 --> 00:50:20.910

Gary Dell'Abate: So I appreciate what you guys are doing and fingers crossed and do your best. Do you foresee this becoming more of an issue once it starts getting much colder outside or you just figure people just going to deal with it no matter what?

363

00:50:21.720 --> 00:50:22.380

Well,

364

00:50:24.960 --> 00:50:29.850

Sue Snyder: The one program I think we're going to have an issue with is

365

00:50:31.440 --> 00:50:41.430

Sue Snyder: Pickleball because they've been playing outside all along. And I know that a lot of people do not want to wear masks and because they're outside

366

00:50:42.660 --> 00:50:54.060

Sue Snyder: You know, they feel they don't have to, or they're not being policed. But when we bring our pickleball programs inside, that is going to be a requirement of our program because the

367

00:50:54.600 --> 00:51:06.810

Sue Snyder: Executive order does state that during exercise, the only way you can take the mask off is if you're 12 feet away from someone else.

368

00:51:07.170 --> 00:51:18.600

Sue Snyder: there's no way in playing pickleball or basketball that you're going to be more than 12 feet away from people. So you have to wear a mask. That is the executive order.

369

00:51:19.080 --> 00:51:30.180

Sue Snyder: So we're enforcing for our pickleball programs, once they come inside. Everyone will have to wear a mask. The same thing we're going to do for our youth basketball program.

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00:51:31.320 --> 00:51:40.440

Sue Snyder: We already know we're probably not going to have an adult basketball program because we pretty much know that the men are not going to want to wear a mask.

371

00:51:41.430 --> 00:51:56.340

Sue Snyder: We tried offering our typical volleyball league in for the fall and winter, but we didn't get the demand, because that was one of the restrictions that people have to wear a mask and

372

00:51:57.750 --> 00:52:09.600

Sue Snyder: Unfortunately, as a municipality, we can just look the other way, when they're in our buildings and we have staff and it's our program. We have to enforce them.

373

00:52:10.860 --> 00:52:11.760

Gary Dell'Abate: Well, I appreciate it

374

00:52:12.180 --> 00:52:17.790

Gary Dell'Abate: And again as a board. It's really incumbent upon us to pass the word out to everybody that these

375

00:52:18.330 --> 00:52:31.410

Gary Dell'Abate: Are rules that they're not just made up rules by somebody that it's the town rules and it's the board's rules and that we have to be very supportive. But I appreciate it. I know it can't be easy.

376

00:52:33.150 --> 00:52:38.520

Agent Loh: I got one question. What are the rules on mask for people skating at the rink?

377

00:52:41.040 --> 00:52:43.560

Sue Snyder: Well, again, it's the same for indoors. It's the same

378

00:52:44.430 --> 00:52:46.860

Agent Loh: Okay, so people public skating wear masks.

379

00:52:48.120 --> 00:52:57.510

Sue Snyder: Yeah, exercise, unless you're more than 12 feet apart, vigorous exercise or strenuous exercise.

380

00:52:58.080 --> 00:53:10.860

Sue Snyder: if it's non strenuous exercise like if you're doing yoga or something on the floor, then it would be six feet, but when it's considered, heavy aerobic, strenuous, vigorous exercise.

381

00:53:11.250 --> 00:53:24.810

Sue Snyder: You would have to be 12 feet apart in order for you to take your mask off so with hockey that's one good thing about hockey if everyone's wearing a face shield that's helpful.

382

00:53:26.010 --> 00:53:34.140

Frank DiVincenzo: Sue, just one question. Is there some additional support that you could use that we can help you provide?

383

00:53:38.190 --> 00:53:38.880

Joe's iPad: Some muscle.

384

00:53:39.180 --> 00:53:39.570

Muscle

385

00:53:40.860 --> 00:53:41.280

Frank DiVincenzo: what can

386

00:53:41.760 --> 00:53:44.280

Frank DiVincenzo: a 77 year old guy do for you?

387

00:53:45.060 --> 00:53:45.900

Joe's iPad: We've seen your work.

388

00:53:48.270 --> 00:53:59.820

Gary Dell'Abate: We have to move on, because we are getting a little close on time. So Nancy, I would like you to talk about what's going on with all the things that we're working on at Binney and Tuchman, Please tell us.

389

00:54:01.080 --> 00:54:03.240

Nancy Chapin: Okay. So I'll start with, Binney.

390

00:54:04.380 --> 00:54:07.950

Nancy Chapin: And I think it was touched upon. I think the biggest

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00:54:09.150 --> 00:54:18.990

Nancy Chapin: Discussion perhaps will be about the Weskum bridge replacement and DPW did have a webinar presentation tonight. I thought it was excellent.

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00:54:20.280 --> 00:54:28.860

Nancy Chapin: So it will be up on their website. And as soon as I find it. I will try and forward it to this board or to Lenore to pass it on.

393

00:54:30.210 --> 00:54:36.450

Nancy Chapin: I did raise and I also should just mention that Gabriella Circosta I think I'm pronouncing her name correctly.

394

00:54:36.870 --> 00:54:49.170

Nancy Chapin: She has been extremely helpful forthright in reaching out to us. And so we tried to give her as many comments as we could, prior to the meeting, so we wouldn't sort of blind them kind of like what you're trying to do with

395

00:54:50.220 --> 00:54:57.570

Nancy Chapin: The civic center just to prepare them.

396

00:54:58.560 --> 00:55:04.800

Nancy Chapin: So a couple things that we have raised, I would say the biggest thing is traffic calming

397

00:55:05.280 --> 00:55:17.610

Nancy Chapin: because I think residents are concerned, they're going to widen the bridge. It looks like it's going to be so let's say right now it's 20 feet wide. It's going to be 26 feet wide, plus a footpath

398

00:55:18.120 --> 00:55:22.620

Nancy Chapin: So the concern is cars come rolling down the hill and just keep building up speed where

399

00:55:23.130 --> 00:55:30.570

Nancy Chapin: Prior to widening the bridge, now it's sort of a choke point. So that's one of the things we keep hearing, they're looking at that.

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00:55:31.410 --> 00:55:46.230

Nancy Chapin: They did a really nice presentation. Some things that they're tweaking. So, for example, rather than having guardrails on the bridge. It's going to be a stone curve and it looks from the drawings. It looks actually I was pleasantly surprised.



**401**

**00:55:48.000 --> 00:55:54.690**

**Nancy Chapin: I raised the question, you know, do you have to have the footpath there, you know, could it be, you know, a different crosswalk, but**

**402**

**00:55:55.020 --> 00:56:03.330**

**Nancy Chapin: It does seem like residents and it is the right thing to have that footpath across the bridge and guess it's part of the master plan as well.**

**403**

**00:56:03.900 --> 00:56:11.490**

**Nancy Chapin: So again, not take up all night on it, but I will try and get more information on it. They did talk about**

**404**

**00:56:12.240 --> 00:56:22.680**

**Nancy Chapin: the park will never be closed, they will have to close that bridge for about three months and they'll redirect traffic. They do have a drawing of how they're going to redirect traffic.**

**405**

**00:56:24.780 --> 00:56:39.840**

**Nancy Chapin: And they said they will be aware, if there's any events that their work would impact, they would want to work with the Parks and Recreation Department to know about that. They really don't want their project to impact.**

**406**

**00:56:40.980 --> 00:56:46.830**

**Nancy Chapin: the Parks and Rec. Department. So all in all, they've been very good. It's great that**

**407**

**00:56:47.490 --> 00:56:59.640**

**Nancy Chapin: Greg Kramer is on here because I know he also gave some input, trying to keep. And by the way, just a little shout out to Greg for anyone who hasn't met him yet, you really should. He's very, very smart.**

**408**

**00:57:00.090 --> 00:57:09.600**

**Nancy Chapin: And she's just great to work with as far as Parks and R.ec staff and also I think I've mentioned Darrin, a number of times as well, but he**

**409**

**00:57:12.390 --> 00:57:18.030**

**Nancy Chapin: Tweaked their palate of materials. Just to make sure it's aligned with what we're doing at the park so**

**410**

**00:57:18.780 --> 00:57:28.350**

Nancy Chapin: The loop trail will continue to grow but we have to wait until the bridge is done. So again, the goal is to have a nice running path around the park. Seems like a lot of people are using it.

411

00:57:29.670 --> 00:57:41.880

Nancy Chapin: The patio is done and completed it's just been, as you all know, just a great, great committee to work on just a lot of great things have happened. So any questions or

412

00:57:43.020 --> 00:57:55.590

Nancy Chapin: Anything I can add? Also across the bridge, there is going to be enough space for bike lanes as well. That's part of the widening so I thought that was good too. But the process, the timeline will be updated.

413

00:57:56.760 --> 00:57:57.090

Nancy Chapin: On

414

00:57:57.120 --> 00:58:03.660

Nancy Chapin: DPW'S website I raised with Gabriella it looks like your timelines out of date. So she said they're working on it.

415

00:58:04.020 --> 00:58:12.720

Nancy Chapin: And their presentation will be on it. So, it will, because of the scenic road designation. It's going to have to go before P&Z.

416

00:58:13.860 --> 00:58:27.360

Nancy Chapin: So, they've got a little ways to go. But I would say they've really worked hard, you know the initial proposal that they had, I think, was a much grander scale. I think they've really scaled it back. And it seems to me, they're doing a nice job.

417

00:58:28.800 --> 00:58:30.480

Nancy Chapin: Any questions on anything?

418

00:58:30.540 --> 00:58:32.130

Joe's iPad: Great, thanks. Nancy

419

00:58:32.460 --> 00:58:44.010

Nancy Chapin: OK. And then so briefly on the Pinetum. We've had a couple meetings with Dr. Kramer and Darrin, and a couple of residents were just kind of getting this going

420

00:58:44.460 --> 00:58:52.410

Nancy Chapin: As I shared before you know kind of want to wind down Binney. I also am advocating that it might be a subcommittee of the Board of Parks and Rec.

421

00:58:53.370 --> 00:59:06.030

Nancy Chapin: like we did with Binney and that I also would advocate for some sort of funding and Joe, You touched on a little bit for some sort of a master plan. It's becoming a very popular Park.

422

00:59:07.980 --> 00:59:16.560

Nancy Chapin: And there's a lot of components. There's a lot of stakeholders, but we're going to start small, with a couple of projects.

423

00:59:17.430 --> 00:59:31.290

Nancy Chapin: I'm trying to work towards a process. There's a lot of residents who want to jump in. But I think it's so important to get the process right, like if you're going to do volunteer project you know Greg has a permit.

424

00:59:32.610 --> 00:59:41.100

Nancy Chapin: Greg and Darrin are really great at guiding us overzealous residents who just want to get going.

425

00:59:42.000 --> 00:59:53.640

Nancy Chapin: So we've identified a couple of things. But I'm really looking forward to that. I see Jill Capalbo is on listening and I know she's going to be getting involved in this as well. So should be fun.

426

00:59:54.810 --> 00:59:59.550

Nancy Chapin: Any questions on that? There will be more to come. I guess I should say.

427

01:00:00.270 --> 01:00:13.140

Gary Dell'Abate: Yeah, you know what, hopefully we'll have a new board member coming soon. And hopefully that new board member along with Sue could be part of your subcommittee. I told you I was going to get help and we're getting some help

428

01:00:14.580 --> 01:00:22.680

Gary Dell'Abate: Hopefully, by the next meeting, when we form your new subcommittee, you can have a lot of assists. All right. Thank you, Nancy. Thank you very much.

429

01:00:23.190 --> 01:00:38.760

Gary Dell'Abate: Because we didn't run this Zoom as the way we're supposed to just running in a different way. Does anybody have any new business? And if you do have new business, raise your hand or show yourself and raise your hand and he knew new business.

430

01:00:39.990 --> 01:00:40.650

Gary Dell'Abate: Yes, yes.

431

01:00:41.070 --> 01:00:44.040

Nancy Chapin: I'll be really quick. I see that Brian's on

432

01:00:45.090 --> 01:00:51.930

Nancy Chapin: I just now from not a board member but I had to do a project for my boss I do work with the Marine Division.

433

01:00:52.530 --> 01:01:09.420

Nancy Chapin: They were so amazing. And you know, I also am a user. And I just need to do a little shout out to that Marine Division. I think they're doing remarkably well. Given the circumstances, I know Joe started with how great his staff is. And he's right. So,

434

01:01:09.990 --> 01:01:16.890

Nancy Chapin: I just wanted to say that, and I know I had mentioned that I would be interested in kind of liaison for the Marine Division.

435

01:01:17.310 --> 01:01:26.490

Nancy Chapin: I think we should kind of put it on our agenda where we could talk about the Marine Division, because it is you know we do spend a lot of time talking about fields and

436

01:01:27.510 --> 01:01:35.610

Nancy Chapin: the whole water activity is a lot of users and we should recognize that, too, I think.

437

01:01:38.280 --> 01:01:49.830

Joe's iPad: I think Nancy is correct. And thank you, Nancy for saying that. And maybe at the next meeting, instead of me talking so much we can feature a division, like the Marine Division, give us a little update that would be good.

438

01:01:50.850 --> 01:01:58.710

Joe's iPad: Also, one thing that we didn't mention tonight, but we should. We are in the final throes of getting the comprehensive field report.

**439**

**01:01:59.580 --> 01:02:11.040**

**Joe's iPad: That we hired Weston & Sampson to do. I know I've been talking about this for months but we engaged with the stakeholders to provide information.**

**440**

**01:02:11.730 --> 01:02:23.280**

**Joe's iPad: About their groups and hours necessary and practices and all kinds of other stuff and interesting factor, it took us over five weeks to get**

**441**

**01:02:23.940 --> 01:02:33.300**

**Joe's iPad: A percentage of the user groups to respond to a relatively simple spreadsheet, some of the bigger groups like OGRCC and**

**442**

**01:02:33.810 --> 01:02:50.010**

**Joe's iPad: lacrosse were on it, but some of the other groups were just non responsive and it's kind of interesting because these are the groups that complain the most and, here's their opportunity to talk about what they need to support their group.**

**443**

**01:02:51.120 --> 01:03:00.810**

**Joe's iPad: And so what we're going to do and is we're going to outline in the report, a short addendum that's going to identify the user groups that we engaged with**

**444**

**01:03:01.230 --> 01:03:08.130**

**Joe's iPad: The ones that really responded and the ones that didn't respond because somewhere along the line, we have to put the back chatter to rest.**

**445**

**01:03:08.430 --> 01:03:20.040**

**Joe's iPad: It's been an issue for a number of years, people just want to say what they want to say when it's convenient, but when you ask them to kind of put up and give us the information that they need, what they need.**

**446**

**01:03:21.240 --> 01:03:37.740**

**Joe's iPad: They were reluctant or just didn't care enough to do it. so we're almost done. And we'll have a draft report shortly. And our goal is to try to take that draft report and to acknowledge it and then flip it into some budget dollars for the next year's request.**

**447**

**01:03:38.760 --> 01:03:39.180**

**Gary Dell'Abate: Great.**

**448**

01:03:40.560 --> 01:03:49.710

Gary Dell'Abate: I want to thank Fred for stopping by. Fred, thanks for coming to our meeting. I know you used to be the head of

449

01:03:50.550 --> 01:04:01.140

Gary Dell'Abate: This Board. I appreciate it. As I said before, is there any public comment. If there is either raise your hand or show yourself and raise your hand, any public comment?

450

01:04:04.530 --> 01:04:06.600

Gary Dell'Abate: Okay. Any unfinished business.

451

01:04:10.350 --> 01:04:15.030

Gary Dell'Abate: Then I would say that we've had a great meeting. Sue Baker,

452

01:04:15.510 --> 01:04:15.990

It's

453

01:04:18.840 --> 01:04:21.090

Gary Dell'Abate: do you have something to say?

454

01:04:21.480 --> 01:04:22.650

Joe's iPad: If there's a mute button given

455

01:04:24.300 --> 01:04:34.200

Gary Dell'Abate: Sue are you trying to say something? because you're muted. No. Okay. Thanks everybody for coming. Have a great evening and I appreciate everybody's time. Thank you.

456

01:04:34.440 --> 01:04:35.910

Joe's iPad: Thank you. Thank you.

457

01:04:36.090 --> 01:04:36.420

kirkschubert: Bye.

458

01:04:36.600 --> 01:04:37.890

Joe's iPad: Thank you.