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?

3
00:00:08.550 --> 00:00:11.580
Scott Johnson: I move for approval, Scott Johnson.

4
00:00:12.120 --> 00:00:13.590
Gary Dell'Abate: Was for approvals are the second

5
00:00:13.950 --> 00:00:14.340
Do I have a Second?

6
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.

7
00:00:23.520 --> 00:00:24.150
Scott Johnson.

8
00:00:25.590 --> 00:00:26.160
Rick Loh.

9
Frank DiVincenzo: Kirk, DiVincenzo approves

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

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.

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.

Sue Bodson: Thank you. Thank you.

Joe's iPad: Welcome Sue

Sue Bodson: I'm real excited.

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

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

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.

Joe’s iPad: Period Tom Greco retired.
Gary Dell'Abate: And

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 worked for the Town as a Senior Management Analyst since 2017.

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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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

30
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.

31
Joe's iPad: Couple other things is that we also have on tonight's meeting Sue Snyder, Greg Kramer

32
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

33
Joe's iPad: We pulled off what I think is some of the hardest work we've had to do as a group.

34
Joe's iPad: Not only during the shutdown from

35
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.

36
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.

37
Joe's iPad: Sue, Greg his team Sue's team, Brian Kerzner, did an excellent job. I mean, they worked above and beyond.

38
Joe's iPad: weekends, evenings, whatever it took to get it done. And this is the kind of thing that you know

39
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.

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.

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 off our mark.

Gary Dell’Abate: What does that mean for us?

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

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

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.

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.

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.
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

60
00:06:57.690 --> 00:07:05.610
Joe’s iPad: our four customer service people with some temporary help answered 81,219 emails.

61
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,

63
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

64
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

65
00:08:07.080 --> 00:08:07.530
Gary Dell’Abate: beach?

66
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.

67
00:08:18.780 --> 00:08:27.030
Joe’s iPad: Maybe we’ll give Sue a few minutes to talk about the programs.

68
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.
Joe’s iPad: And we’ll grow into that. Also the Rink is now open.

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 into some kind of normalcy that with the safety protocols and the guidance that’s been put out by the Governor’s Office.

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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.
And we want to engage and participate at some level, so

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

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

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%

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

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

stayed close to home and joined the Griff

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

Joe, can I ask you

A question on
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?

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.

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

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

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 responding to requests of program activities by outside users and clubs and other organizations and

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.

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

Gary Dell'Abate: Shut down quickly again? I'm just trying to think of everything.
Joe’s iPad: Yeah, we thought of everything we can do, our program is designed to do something.

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

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

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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.

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
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.

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?

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

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.

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

The Board of selectmen, Fred

Some of the state representatives, some of the congressional folks.

And they’re all part of the meeting and we meet once a week, right now.

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

Revised guidance.
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?

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

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.

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.

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.

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

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

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.

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.

Gary Dell'Abate: gem for people
Gary Dell'Abate: To use in this environment.

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

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.

Scott Johnson: I like to ask Sue

Scott Johnson: Are you seeing Sue, a

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

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

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.

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

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.
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.

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 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 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.

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.

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.

Scott Johnson: Sure.

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.

Scott Johnson: Um, well, let me
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.

Scott Johnson: I think it is.

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

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.

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.

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

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

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

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

Or not for you.

Scott Johnson: That's it. But it's worked really well.
Scott Johnson: I did have an idea which was

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

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

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.

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

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

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.

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

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.

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
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.

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

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

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.

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.

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

Joe’s iPad: Index.

Gary Dell'Abate: What does that bench cost?

$2,500

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,
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.

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

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 be trying to do fundraising there. I would like us to offer up alternative ways other than benches, because

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

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

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

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.

Sue Baker: Nancy.

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

Joe's iPad: exactly what you said
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

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.

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,

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

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

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.

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

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

Sue Baker: Okay, okay.

Joe’s iPad: Thank you. So, but, yeah, she was just trying to give ideas
Sue Baker: I understand. I just thought I’d answer her now.

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

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.

00:28:11.520 --> 00:28:17.640
Scott Johnson: Did that ever get run by you or ever go through any municipal approvals?

00:28:18.660 --> 00:28:19.710
Joe’s iPad: It didn’t have to go to me.

205
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.

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

00:28:35.220 --> 00:28:37.080
Joe’s iPad: Different, let’s use that word.

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

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.

211
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

212
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

214
00:29:37.710 --> 00:29:40.080
Joe’s iPad: It’s a Town road.

215
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

217
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.

218
00:30:01.020 --> 00:30:01.230
Joe’s iPad: and.

219
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.

220
Scott Johnson: A recent one I know about, is that really pretty bridge on the north of Bruce Park.

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

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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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 want is their input and we want their support on the project so that

Joe’s iPad: You know,

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

Joe's iPad: You know, and we want to make sure that it has some aesthetic value that doesn't detract from it's going to be, it's going to have a walking component and all these other things.

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.

That will be part of my report.

Okay, so another example of that.

And this is where this question originated is from the Chairman of the Historic District Commission.

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.

The Bruce is almost 100 years old.

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.
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.

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

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

Found. Another way to deal with it. So,

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

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

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.

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

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.

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

Now,

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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.

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

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. Al is, which is normal. So you know, we'll report back or Al will report back after that.

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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.

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

Agent Loh: Something like that. Anyway,

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

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

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

Agent Loh: An acronym for the initials.

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

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

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

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

00:38:38.550 --> 00:38:39.900
Gary Dell’Abate: just haven’t agreed to pay them.

00:38:40.560 --> 00:38:40.890
Agent Loh: That is

00:38:41.490 --> 00:38:43.110
Joe’s iPad: One little interim step there so

00:38:44.100 --> 00:38:46.860
Agent Loh: Yeah, and I have some notes here in

00:38:48.540 --> 00:38:52.020
Agent Loh: My next sentence was going to be the next step is

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.

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.

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.

00:39:30.420 --> 00:39:35.700
Agent Loh: That work, that 30% mark will take us

00:39:37.050 --> 00:39:38.520
Agent Loh: And provide to us.
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.

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.

Agent Loh: And

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

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.

Agent Loh: Bill Drake.

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

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

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.

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
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.

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

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

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.

Agent Loh: Be a huge

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

Gary Dell'Abate: Well, I think a new Civic Center and a New hockey rick 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?

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.

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.

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
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.

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

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

Sue Snyder: They should be

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?

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

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

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.

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

Sue Snyder: What you were getting at.
Gary Dell'Abate: It's just checking.

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

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

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

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.

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

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.

Scott Johnson: Sue, how about indoor programs?

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

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

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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

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

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

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.

Sue Snyder: Extra work.

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

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

Sue Snyder: Sounds a lot better than

Gary Dell'Abate: I just

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?
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.

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

00:49:01.620 --> 00:49:07.500
Sue Snyder: People coming from, let's say, another community to watch their kid play hockey against someone from Greenwich and

00:49:01.320 --> 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

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

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.

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

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

00:49:55.230 --> 00:49:56.880
Sue Snyder: It's not easy. It's definitely not
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.

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?

Well,

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

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

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

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.

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.

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.
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.

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

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.

Gary Dell'Abate: Well, I appreciate it

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

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.

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

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

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

Sue Snyder: Yeah, exercise, unless you're more than 12 feet apart, vigorous exercise or strenuous exercise.
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
Nancy Chapin: Discussion perhaps will be about the Weskum bridge replacement and DPW did have a webinar presentation tonight. I thought it was excellent.

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.

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

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

Nancy Chapin: The civic center just to prepare them.

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

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

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

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.

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.
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

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.

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

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.

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.

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

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.

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

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

Nancy Chapin: And
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.

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

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.

00:57:57.120 --> 00:58:03.660
Nancy Chapin: On DPW’S website I raised with Gabriella it looks like your timelines out of date. So she said they're working on it.

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.

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.

00:58:28.800 --> 00:58:30.480
Nancy Chapin: Any questions on anything?

00:58:30.540 --> 00:58:32.130
Joe’s iPad: Great, thanks. Nancy

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
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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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

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

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

01:00:39.990 --> 01:00:40.650
Gary Dell'Abate: Yes, yes.

01:00:41.070 --> 01:00:44.040
Nancy Chapin: I'll be really quick. I see that Brian's on

01:00:45.090 --> 01:01:09.420
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.

01:00:52.530 --> 01:01:09.990
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,

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.

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

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.

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.

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.
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.

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.

Joe’s iPad: A percentage of the user groups to respond to a relatively simple spreadsheet, some of the bigger groups like OGRCC and 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Gary Dell'Abate: Great.
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

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?

Okay. Any unfinished business.

Then I would say that we've had a great meeting. Sue Baker,

It's

Gary Dell'Abate: do you have something to say?

Joe's iPad: If there's a mute button given

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.

Joe's iPad: Thank you. Thank you.

Joe's iPad: Bye.

Thank you.