

TBA meeting 11/10/2022


Wed, Nov 09, 2022 5:27PM 1:07:08


SUMMARY KEYWORDS


business, people, edc, year, tva, meeting, restaurant, food, day, building, golf tournament, long, month, minutes, good, website, spots, questions, paid, schedule


SPEAKERS


Daniel Bennett

 Daniel Bennett 00:00
because I literally have no luck. All right, how's everybody doing? Thanks for coming. Approval minutes from last month. I already told most of you, but we don't really have minutes. We had them do the same thing we're doing now we're taking them with audio. There was nobody to transcribe them. So I do have a copy of it's 37 pages long if anybody wants to look at it, or you can listen to the audio, it's on the website. But other than that, we don't really have minutes to improve. So

 00:37
case everybody signed in and put their business card in the box. Okay, so let's, let's start out with the 45 second business pitches.

 Daniel Bennett 00:55
of you are thinking, man, it'd be real to get to businesses. I don't even remember

 01:02
how many years I've been in business but a long time. As you may have heard, the Feds just went up on their rates again. So it's not helping real estate industry at all. So that's what's happening. Am I out and framing

 01:18
stuff on sunshine shop? Went out of this business, framing turning all of their customers which I love. Okay, cool. wasn't for that it wouldn't have any income



01:28

everybody there's a sign in sheet right here and a business card box. Joanne we're taking minutes with the audio i We did the same thing last month. I don't know if



01:49

you no argument here



02:05

from San Diego performances



02:14

so we can carry on so as you aren't



02:16

sure absolutely. Sorry. So I'm Celeste Nelson. I won't get to Ronnie Insurance Services. I can help you with your customer service needs. I can also assist you if you have a claim. I am the claims person in the office. You have an accident, a fire anything traumatic in your life going on. I'm there to help you to make a nice transition to help you. maneuver your way through the whole process. Awesome.



02:46

Eva Marie Roberts Chase building supply everything paint. You can imagine without even come down to the Manage right.



03:02

We got it all banking.



03:06

Stephanie and I sp digital services support anywhere from digital ads all the way to graphics. It's a delivery service. You want it all right.



03:22

Tier 10 directory planning built into the countertop so that you're here to help you guys whatever they need, answer whatever questions I can why just today I made up an answer for David. Very good. Even more confident that you guys own that piece. Okay. But that's just makes public events parceled out. Right. So anyway, if you have any questions, I'm happy to provide an actual answer or make one up that sounds credible.



03:52

All right, Joanne. source



03:59

system solutions of any LLC. I take care of commercial residential networks computers from basically Western all the way down to Norwich. Mouth is way up here. 1020 Riverside Drive. All right,



04:20

Sandy. Chris is also known as like a superhero. I'll just have to tell you, we



04:25

just heard that you guys were working together at five o'clock this morning.



04:29

Actually, I was panicking at five but I tend to demand at makeup. I



04:36

may have an answer, but I kind of like sort of assaulted. I was pretty good but he was like right on call. I couldn't take my life. If they weren't who's gonna fix it? My name is David what else I'm the treasurer of Thomson Business Association and the owner of carry this type of service.



04:55

And that's Brian Eno, B Tech Services be Cliff music Chair of EDC. Everything EDC.



05:08

gov is a full service website design development company do everything above the fold. So I do

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D

Daniel Bennett 05:27

And I'm Dan Bennett, the owner of PVC solutions where we transform the space you live into a place you love to be in. And we're I'm working pretty much daily with Jody right now doing a lot of updates to our website and we're so we're creating a whole learning center now so you can go on the website and get answers real ones. And also pretty exciting that we're it's a lot more work than either one of us, I think thought about in the beginning but we're going to be very soon we're going to be adding calculators on for every service that we offer, you're gonna be able to go in there, move the sliders around to see you know there will be like home value, size of the room and the quality of the finish and then it will spit out a rough estimate for your project right there on the website so you can get the information you need without even having to call. That's about it. Okay, Jody, you're



06:28

okay, so I don't actually have a VP of Marketing record. I've actually been absent for the past couple of meetings on I just found out last week I actually have a bad gallbladder. So I'm getting a scan tomorrow and hopefully a surgery scheduled soon thereafter to get it out. Then we'll be back to my old chipper self again and I'll get those reports going in. So I'm sorry.



06:49

Oh no, you're good. I saw a man does this the minutes on the website. You dad recently added that or that's been there for a while. It's been a while anyway, the audio files up there too. And

D

Daniel Bennett 07:00

yeah, right. When I clicked on it on the email, it went to that page and I didn't realize you had that page on the page. You mean Yeah. Oh, yeah. On the website. Oh, okay. Cool. So that if anybody doesn't know that on the TVA Connect website, you can find the minutes for all the meetings. So and the ones from last month are there. It's an audio file and so you just have to listen to the whole meeting, but



07:23

okay, Brian. Okay, got a couple of things. To put forward to you guys. One is that turn live is doing a snack box project. They're going down snack boxes at strategic locations within the school to help feed kids who maybe didn't get a good breakfast or something or need a boost during the day or you know, whatever the reason, right now they're they're conversing about whether it had fruit in it which may not hold up very well. But what I thought of is we had been looking for food projects to sponsor so if that's something that we think we want to help with,



08:12

I like a little like the little library boxes that the idea



08:16

Yeah, it's gonna be a little box is the mic was does the shop, the shop teacher? There, they're in design. They've got a couple to choose from. They're looking to get it going sometime early next year, I think. But if, if we're interested in that, where we have money and we're looking for food related projects, I can get a direct contact. All right. And



08:44

so this mic has just begun the boxes. That's what's going on. Okay.



08:48

How many are they looking at me?



08:50

I don't know. Okay,



08:52

well, if you get more details in when I was in school, you can have snacks. I know they start to lunchtime start to eat at home.



08:59


I have a break. It's a great idea. I think it's going to be somewhat distracting, but it's there into it there. Yeah, they have special days, I think once a month when they they have kind of a development day. So sorry, participated in that. And the last one. One other thing is they want to start a culinary department and they're looking for somebody to teach. So somebody you know, has experience even if it's a minimum of three years at a restaurant, they may not be certified but the school could certify them. So if you know anybody, again, let me know and I'll get the direct contact with that



09:48

Kai's for they use. They have a private chef can come in and she has local I think she calls her coffee co. ordinated by grace

come coordinated by grace.

 09:59

Oh, yeah,

 10:01

she was just at the brewery,

 10:03

possibly be a great candidate for that because her time was around. She's not tied to a restaurant yet. So I think it would be a great resource.

 10:12

She's She's a Yeah, we'd like to see if I can find her and make sure that they haven't found anybody but they were still looking. When I was there.

 10:26

I have a woman that I work with her husband was a chef for many years but has decided to be a stay at home dad with their new baby. Maybe like something tomorrow or maybe

 10:40

the last thing is they still have the pathways going on, which is where people go in and talk to the kids about well real life businesses and different work skills. And Dan has gotten I've gotten they're always the kids are interested in people in the trades right now. So it's plumbers, electricians. If you know anybody that's interested in that let me know. And I think that's that's it businesses know and then we'll know that we still have 54 businesses registered on the website, just above all the pricing stuff and that would be under EDC reports. Oh, yeah. Actually a couple more things when you when you put your business card in the body it has to be your

 11:43

kitchen or the bathroom.

 11:46

Don't you can't write your name and someone else's because I have nothing to bring to Marina

put on the sign, which means I have to look up the information and tell Marie what to put on the side and there was a suggestion that we kind of monitor and don't have somebody win, win very often. Well, if somebody just won last month, and they're going to be on there again. Yeah, the suggestion would be to put it back in the box or something like that. Good. And we it's just something where Marie had noticed that stump be gone, was on there just very recently.

 12:28

I will just pass it on to the next person if I want to.

 12:32

Yeah, but you know that she suggested maybe six months and I said well it's a small groups, but we I wanted to bring it up.

 12:40

Because we could do six months. I mean, there's enough of us to spread it out. Yeah. Like you said,

 12:45

this was the incentive to be here, right. So if you speak he doesn't know that I'm sure she does. But that's yeah, that's what happened. But I do agree with you though. As far as being repetitious, it's the opportunity there. But hopefully, if we don't have to make it into a formal but I think we might have to make it like a 90 day or three month. four month or whatever. Yeah,

 13:13


yeah. Like I said, I wanted to throw it out there. No, he's been in mind. And right now we don't. I can look back in the minutes and get a list. I don't have one right now. But


 13:22


why didn't you say that part again? I'm


 13:23


sorry. What do you what did she say? Well, stumpy, God has just one recently to put on the townhall site. So when well first of all, he didn't have his own card. He had your card, I


 13:36
think and put his All right. Yeah.


 13:39
And then she said, Oh, well, you know, he just won recently. So I had his information. So she was able to put that up. But she said, You know, I mean for the looking at the sign you'll you don't want to see the same thing or even think that it's the same thing. You'd say, Oh, that was just up there. Maybe didn't change the sign. Yeah, so there's just different

 14:02
things. So that's what the six month thing was. Yeah, you can't you can't win


 14:05
enough people here to put a six month write

 14:09
say you can't read again, if you

 14:13
have one meeting. They only have six people, but I'm like, so

 14:16
yeah, but it's like I said it's a suggestion. See what we think and go from there. Yeah, because I don't want to make lots of rules, but it makes sense not to be very repetitive. And to give somebody else a chance, right. Okay, no, I'm done until we get to economic development.

 14:37
Okay, so Sandy Europe. Um, all right.

 14:40
So here's the chart if anybody wants to call me either up here sorry. This like in the main account, we have \$3,320.49. The check for 20 is outstanding. This was just put in the box. We

can worry your account we now have \$5,718.99 last month if you were here if you remember we had written the second check to get our nonprofit status. They they sent us a tight I was like wow, it looks like your refund check later. This is a real official check. So anyway, we got our \$275 back. I had transferred over \$6,000 from the overflow account to give the human horse enough money to start buying food for schools back in session. And we started working with a subcommittee to extend the program to the senior citizens. That's why it was late. I was stuffing envelopes right before Charlie's house right before I got here. The backup account has 10,003 9921 the Thanksgiving account has 631 30 All we've paid for out of that account so far was an add in shoppers guy to run for two weeks. We still have to pay for our food. No everything's gone up so chances are remains that all last year but sure was his old board rate. They're making this stuffing for us but they're ordering the turkeys and like potatoes like a lot of food for us. So we're gonna get it from a vendor but like one of the vendors we get the large quantities but I didn't get that bill yet. So I don't know how much that's gonna be. And then the golf tournament Council has the same money at 330 1009 2054 Dave we have two sides. Two more slides still to get made the two that were missing. I sent a right after the golf tournament. I set David an email to make those signs for us. And then I never heard back from him and I honestly once said somebody when I pass it along, it's somebody else's responsibility and I don't like Greg the follow up but I followed up and he said, Oh my god, I can't find your email. Now. He says I'm so sorry. That was just this week. So I sent it back over to him. So I don't want to close out the golf tournament account until I have all the expenses paid. And I'm just OCD about that. So once that's the last bill that's out there. And so once that's paid then I'll transfer everything but the \$500 into the backup account. And members any questions at the boring Treasurer's Report? Okay,



17:22

I'm Tara.



17:26

So the big news is that we got a second grant to fund for developments with small business sector over 65 paying the prior federal award was for \$240,000 thereto is you know, and I came back from vacation to fries in my inbox and notice that the Fed has also given us 124,000 To shave for the development of the business plan maintenance plan and curricular programming. So what that means is the way I wrote the grant is I have four organizational partners, teeth being one of them. Connecticut rural, conservation and development, which is an agricultural advocacy group of which I am on the council is a member of large and Eastern Connecticut conservation district to work on the development of this in addition to having input from TDA EDC Thompson AGOA. The concept that I pitched to affairs per se what I've been talking about all along, having a focus on food system and small agricultural startups, not as an exclusive focus, but as the main focus to draw people in because that's where we're situated. We're situated in a rural area. And because those kinds of careers are things that you can access with limited higher education, right. So it's, it's a good fit for our physical region and also our educational profile, what we've got going on. So each of those four organizations has a different expertise to contribute to the development of the facility. Fatigue obviously can hook us up in the long run with a clientele right to potentially take advantage of the program that would be offered in basic business skills or in food system. Business Development, also allowed us to access their professional kitchen the Connecticut rcmd has experience developing things

like agricultural Commons and do outreach to veterans for farmers, young farmers, so to try to pull them in ECCD Eastern Connecticut Conservation District their specific expertise is going to be helping to develop the landscape plan for the adjacent 3.2 acres, which I've targeted as a free food forest public park developed on permaculture principles. I can talk for an hour about that except behind the building that's behind so Riverside Park is a 14 acre parcel 3.2 acres of that abuts the back end of 65 Bay and is currently inaccessible to the public. It's lousy with invasive species. So the long term plans attempt to develop that landscape plan which will clear the invasives replacing with high food value edible native species essentially SFR that would be free food access. Right so my bush blueberry Yeah. So but that's all the planning and then we're gonna say oh in Turkey type of planning and policy group. One of my predecessors as planner for the town of Thompson is George's kowski. He's done a lot of work to develop plans when he used to work for CME engineering. Now he's out on his own so he's going to help me put together the public engagement process because I what I pitched was essentially a year long Charette like we did with the brand new study, like get get the interested people in come in to really you know, meet regularly designed this curriculum so that it meets the actual needs of the community, not just whatever I cook up in my head. Yeah, right, because I can cook stuff up in my head all the time. That doesn't mean it needs community needs. So that's what's being funded. So now we have the architecture engineering funded, we've got the rental funded, we've got the program development funded. There will be one more round of funding that I go after. That's for implementation. To get it off the ground before it becomes self sustaining. But for the next 18 months to two years, that's what we're going to be looking at. So as it ramps up. I'm going to be coming back to back to you guys going, you know who wants to be involved, how you want to be involved, and we'll have to develop a schedule. Now I just got this notification. I haven't seen a grant agreement yet. So I'm sure it'll be a couple of months before we can even get that piece rolling but



22:22

excellent. News.



22:27

I just hired, officially hired today, the architecture firm. So they have to do their work first, and then I can't remember what performance period I put on that. And then once we have that on hand, we'll go out to bid for construction. And we'll get as much renovation as \$240,000 will pay for because that's what the Fed gave us and as that is happening, there's nothing stopping that programming piece from going so that you know they can activate it in rapid succession right right.



23:06

If it doesn't go down or they just fix it.



23:09

It says the red dot demo. The most ecological structure is one that you don't put in a landfill. I've been in there many, many times it's in rough shape but I looked at houses in shape that

I've been in there many, many times it's in rough shape, but I looked at houses in shape that rough to move into right so yeah eminently fixable with enough willpower and and enough funding and now we have a lot a lot of both. Yeah. This This couldn't be done. Go Yeah. Did



23:47

they lie? So tea? Yeah, we skipped tea by accident. I'm sorry. You're up Joanne.



23:52

So for us this time, thanksgiving for Christmas. My organization's really appreciate that. So if you know folks that are in need of holiday meal or Christmas toys for children or family.



24:11

Okay. Anything that you guys can put up on the website or Facebook you're looking for stuff for events coming up? Okay, cool. Back to Brian EDC.



24:27

Okay, ADC as Sandy had already asked me Should we No no, no businesses that I reported last month. Our discussion was community day wrap up. General what what we thought how it meant if you guys have any input to that, who went to community day? What did you think? What do you fix that? And that was good. Because I mean, the comments I was getting people were pretty happy considering it was a rain date. It was Columbus Day weekend, which wouldn't usually be Columbus Day weekend. So generally they were happy with what they got. Even though we might have had more. Walk through and spectators if it was damaged in a weekend. We had a blast. Yeah. Yeah.



25:23

I just send them out. For more pumpkins. Right.



25:28

until seven Yeah.



25:31

This room at set from six to eight. Yeah.



25:42



questions today? By about 230 really seem to die out. So I don't know if there's any consideration to shortening it or maybe bringing in an event to keep it going. Something



25:57

different. Yeah. And then 230 was when the band started, I believe, which was pretty good, but there weren't many people listening



26:06

to wait. That's when they were starting. I was like they're starting out like I was getting ready to pack up almost so we were already getting we already have way off. All of our giveaways were pretty much gone. And it was just wind it down. By the time the fan really started stuff. I don't know. I don't know maybe if they would. You played earlier you know probably would have a better crowd there. I don't know how it works.



26:32

Kids come into our booth at four. We weren't they would still Yeah, the way



26:39

pumpkins were. Yeah, the food and the vendors. We're still getting traffic somewhat. But yeah, I mean, every year we talk about the length. This year we have moved it back to 11 and move it up to a letter so that people could get kind of acclimated before the presentation for an issue. We did have an issue this year with scheduling because one of the things that are canceled and Brian leniency has done a schedule, you know, 1211 and 1213 and people will go and buy that and it got moved up by 10 minutes. So even even Mae Flexer had missed her cue because she was taking her time going by the schedule. So I had suggested that we just say presentation started at noon. And just be there because my kids came up said when you present the Business of the Year



27:41

in terms of the length of the event or anything this morning to actually sell something. You don't want your window to be too short because then they don't have an opportunity to profit for being they're expected to have enough time to sell enough stuff. Cash cashback and I think that's particularly true trust. You don't charge that much for the practice of yours. But even even for a craft vendor like it wouldn't be worth it for me as crap vendor to go to a show that was two hours long, right.



28:13

But when I was walking out at three it was no stretch

but when I was walking out at three, it was no stretch.

 28:20

Well, I'll bring it up. I mean, like I said, we always there already was a meeting, discussing community day but yeah, we always talk about what went wrong. What can we change? What could what didn't go well, so we can substitute. So yeah, I made a note and we'll see what

 28:40

I think that next year I'll probably get my own space because I just put up my tracks display kit and my Andersen windows stuff outside the TBA tent. And I got four leads that day just by having that stuff there and people ask me questions about it. So

 28:56

yeah, and remember that any of you if you don't want to set up you can bring flyers and business cards to the TVA table and you can stand there and not stand there. One thing I suggested to Brian, because I've been getting some feedback. And we've talked about getting restaurants involved with TVA because we bring back one of the food competitions. Oh, yeah. We used to have the pizza. Everybody in casual made pizza was there and you got a little piece and you voted. We could have all the restaurants participate in say a chili cook off may not be their specialty, but it gets them involved. Maybe we'll get some businesses in the TBA and put some more stuff on the field. And the more stuff we are on the field, maybe the more participation from the town. That's so that was one of my suggestions.

 29:55

And that's a great suggestion. I like food.

 29:58

Well what's that? Started?

 30:03

I'm doing good.

 30:06

Yeah, it wasn't on the schedule for EDC.



30:09

26 pounds I've lost in six



30:10

weeks. Yeah, we talked about 65. Man, we were working on putting in a bike repair station because we have all the bike and hiking trails and things. And we gave up the funds for that because the town is having a bit of a shortfall. We haven't picked a location yet anyway, so we'll pick that up next year. And the other thing we did agree to funding jointly with trails Thompson Rec and Historical Society to fund a PA system because we've been borrowing now that gives us the opportunity to do two more things on the field business expo. May be set up again in the food truck. The foodie Fest will just say once. So EDC agreed to participate in that we're all kicking in 400 bucks get a PA system which could benefit the TVA to some Okay, now I'm good. All right.



31:15

I'm winning radio report. This is not here. I just looked here on my calendar and I don't, David something chap chap. Delaine. Do you know about



31:32

cleanup guy so he you know, oh,



31:35

chimney cleaning DC is clean out? Okay.



31:39

You signed up like a while ago but for this one?



31:41

Yeah. Oh, cool. And um, and I signed up apparently, but I didn't even remember that. So I just looked like Okay, I'm getting ready next week.



31:51

Sure. It looks like there's one available spot still for November 15. So if anybody wants to sign up, jump online, TV and connect.com. So



32:01

he just said that there was



32:02

on there. I think when my calendar says David and Daniel Bennett oh really shouldn't be on my calendar without Yeah, me. You know what I



32:16

mean? I don't remember that. So that's weird. Oh, unless it just says my name is my account. Okay. Do we have openings? Yeah, we do have an old one. I just have my name on there because it's my it's my Calendly account.



32:38

Oh, well, then why don't you put yourself on that calendar.



32:41

Well, I don't really need to go on Wednesday. I mean, I will if nobody else or anybody else who hasn't gone out.



32:48

You know what I can go on? Because I'll talk about the expansion and we can worry program and I'll talk about Thanksgiving dinner. Okay, that's all like here's you. Okay. Click on it. Thank you



33:19

I really did. That's also a good testament to his service calls at 10 minutes to six in the morning.



33:25

I did get answered. I was crying for 40 minutes. I said okay, I'm I haven't really did. Oh, nevermind.



Daniel Bennett 33:25



Daniel Bennett 33:35

So she's doing that will i The weekend warrior. Bob knew indoor if I text him earlier this week, or it must have been last week actually. And asked him if he was going to if he had a report or if he was going to come and he said yeah, I'll see you guys on Monday night. So I replied that it wasn't on Monday. It was on Wednesday at the library and he never replied to that. So he didn't give me



34:01

a report on Monday night for our meeting. Oh, is



34:04

that what he was? Expansion on the program?



34:07

Oh,



34:08

I that's what the confusion was. I get it. He was probably like What do you mean? It's not?



34:15

Monday? He didn't say he was coming here.



34:17

Oh, you did? Okay. Um, so



34:22

it's not a touchscreen. Can we get a touchscreen Chris, please, Chris, make it a touchscreen. So



34:31

ever sign up Chris



34:32

and Celeste, do you guys have anything before the golf tournament right now?

 34:39

No, as far as I mean, next year, it's the same as what this group is.

 34:45

The TVA Okay, somehow rather you weren't on the schedule.

 34:50

I don't know how

 34:51

I I was talking to him when I went in and scheduled for like six months.

 34:57

I know. And I somehow that's okay, I took

 35:00

over they have another room. So I just wanted to make sure to get you on the schedule. Okay. So I have no one was here.

 35:12

All we're doing right now is rare. It's the third son of a third Friday again. Next year. We're gonna make sure that Mike knows that and

 35:25

it's kind of early for that for right now.

 35:30

We already have the contracts. So it's September 15. September 15. Yeah. Yeah, so we have the contract already and things booked in. Okay.



35:45

Meetings will start in January to be done by standing water meeting starting January. Starting January 1 Gulf meeting. Yeah. Be there or be square.



Daniel Bennett 36:03

Cool. All right. So moving on to special orders. So I just wanted to get back to what my original vision and goal was for the TVA when I took over I've been here for almost a year and I've been really busy. So you know, I've I haven't been able to put as much effort into it is I really want to, but I still have the you know, I still am going to do that. And so the the it's actually Gary as Bray from when he radio who said this to me when I was talking to him a couple of weeks ago, that



36:38

it would be a good legacy for us to turn this business association into



Daniel Bennett 36:47

you to get it so we have a better system in place and that when you know whatever you like like the Putnam Business Association every two years, they change the ministry, they change administration. So Gary, Gary's just about done with the President for his two year term. And what they do is they move off so like the president is done. And then the vice president moves up the president and they move up the line and they bring somebody new in at the bottom so we don't have to follow that system. But I want to get to where we do have a system in place to update the administration, either once a year or every two years. And so because I don't want the same thing to happen that happened to the last administration, where they did it for what was it Sandy, five, six years straight, and nobody wanted to take it from you guys.



37:41

So then everybody just kept staying in their position because nobody wants to do it



37:45

right. And it got people were just like Secretary is done. With this




37:49

thing. People doing the same things.

 37:51

And I had done it for five or six years before that,

 Daniel Bennett 37:54

right. So I don't want that to happen. I don't want to see the same thing happen. I want to I want to get it to a point where people are eager to want to take a leadership role because they see the value in it for their business. And, and we move on like that. So I just wanted to touch upon that. Again. I really appreciate everything. I know a lot of people put in a lot of effort to this. And I really appreciate everybody's work and I want to I want to I'm going to really start diving into making that happen.

 38:29

With the general membership, we do reach out through email and whatnot. This would probably be a good sounding, to let them know that this is needed to be if you're attending that may be your presence might be needed to serve. Yeah, you know, and because of the longevity of the group. You don't so if you can't make it now, but if you can start thinking about it right off the whole gentleman was it 7585

 39:01

members? Oh, no, we're at 50 I'm sorry. 54.

 39:06

Yeah. So I mean, you know, yeah, earlier, the better right? And just keep it as repetitive because, you know, keep that out there. So it's not just that once or twice, you know, just like our regular correspondence. In other words, say hey, by the way, just as a reminder, you know, right.

 39:26

Yeah, yeah. So, you reminded me of another thing is we need a secretary. We don't have a secretary. I know everybody's busy. And there's only a handful of people here, two handfuls of people, but if anybody knows we would like to take that position on or anybody knows somebody else that might be interested in it. We would appreciate the help finding somebody to do that. So nobody jumped.

 40:00

I told dad I have a counselor to car club for 30 years. One meeting I had somebody take notes.

In 30 years. I would be presiding chairing the meeting. And taking notes at the same time. People don't jump on that I've



40:18

stretched myself too thin.



40:20

That's That's what that's why I did bench and people are busy. We know that but it would be nice if somebody you know actually wanted to do it.



40:32

What would it entail? I mean, just taking the minutes, right? We were in a club where the Secretary was doing a newsletter and she wished she would just like flat out all the time and that club just totally fell apart.



40:45

Yeah, well, there isn't



40:46

even like the email blast and stuff through MailChimp. So yeah, that part's good.



40:50

Right there is no



40:52

way you're gonna get the minutes well, then the last thing so just just a reminder for everybody who's on the mailing list if there's ever a time when you don't get the email blast about meetings or about anything in general from TVA, always check your spam folder, just in case and if it's landing in spam, even if it's sporadically, just make sure that you take that email and add it to your Safe Senders List Otherwise, it'll keep on sporadically ending up in your spam box and junk folder. So just add us to your safe sender list and it'll it'll work it'll be fun.



Daniel Bennett 41:25

So the second thing on the on the list is code of conduct. We started talking about this last

month, because we were talking about a vetting process for new members. And, and so in, there was a lot of opposition to that. And it was a lot of good point about that. And so then what was brought up instead was creating a code of conduct. So I have reached out to the TV or the PBA and Gary again, for some support for this and I haven't set up a meeting with him yet, but I'm just gonna want to talk to them and see what they have. in place. And, and we'll make that happen. I didn't I put it on the list because I didn't know if anybody else had had any input or wanted to put any input into that this month. And please, should



42:12

we also add that to the website too. It would be



42:14

part of the bylaws and then so then it would be on the website. Yeah. What's that, you know, BNI does have a code of conduct to



42:29

is when everybody wants to belong goes, Oh, right. Steal news, or I need to go by that by



Daniel Bennett 42:39

that kind. That's a good that's a good thing to look at, for sure. Right. What we're talking about, like writing a code of conduct into the bylaws, that just protects everybody from from that. I don't know. We don't really need to get into the details of what happened but there was an incident between two members of the TVA were one of them was purposely



43:02

going after the other one. It was It wasn't a good situation. It's not something that somebody should do. You're a member of this organization. You shouldn't be given somebody else a hard time and didn't doesn't. Again, I don't want to go into the details of the crap but it was it's not it's not a cool situation. So



43:19

what's the sixth sentence that you were talking about?



43:23

Basically, when someone new joins wouldn't be in the stand up, everybody stands up to me. In front of in front of the group. They've read the six things that they will lie they don't they'll be



43:41

like I will follow up on the referral. I will follow up on the referrals that I receive



43:47

and they will do things to bring the group down.



43:51

I get sworn in and you stand in front of the room with your right hand up and they read off the six things and you repeat the whole group repeats but you you're getting sworn in and you're agreeing to the code of conduct. Yeah,



44:04

it was just, I mean, not not to directly word for word, just, you know,



44:10

it's a good thing to look at. I hadn't thought about that. Yeah, so. Um, the fall and winter mixer



44:30

while I was waiting for you to get back to me with the restaurant conversation, and



44:39

I haven't had time to do any of it. So



44:44

alright, so I was we were we had this idea. Now. I'm not sure what we'll do. So you haven't called anybody? I have not seen them. So the idea was to have like invite restaurants and maybe like retail vendors or some type of retail vendors, whether it be crafters or anything else to a winter like walk in the park or somewhere and set up like tents and have foods from each restaurant and we were going to offer a discounted rate for them to have their spot and if you paid that rate, whether it be I don't know I was thinking like \$40 that goddamn like one year's membership to TVA and that will draw them like restaurants and vending people we don't have like that, like businesses we have. But anyway, I was I had some damn list of restaurants

because I wanted to see who would want to participate. And I'm like I said earlier I'm like terrible at follow. up so never even asked him if he did it. I just passed it on later for him to fall back on and I did not

 45:43

I did send you an email back saying that I was very busy and I was I did I did reply to your email with I said thank you very much. I appreciate it. I sent it to like a month ago. Yeah, like a few weeks ago at least Yeah, I look I have the list right here in my briefcase. I carry it with me every day.

 46:04

Yes, put together. I even call people to make sure it was missing anybody but anyway. Yes. All right. So do we have any other ideas I do want us to get together for even like some kind of something. Anybody have any ideas for Missy and I spoke about maybe drafters upstairs now we're running out of time so we're not we could do it never

 46:25

really running out of time because there's always more time ahead of you. I mean, I guess what I what I'm getting at is if you wanted to do something with restaurants. January is the slowest times right for anybody so you might not hit holiday right which I feel like this that was where you wanted to go. Places are busy. Yeah, right. And anybody if you're talking about including craft vendors, anybody who said he could have booked a year out any app to their well booked by them, but then a lot of artists do their restaurant weeks in January, February March because they are the slowest time of the year for restaurant. So you could probably organize something using the rafters banquet hall in January if everybody was interested in that.

 47:13

I'd have to do it early because I get I get on hopefully hopefully can't break this. So

 47:21

so the question is who in this group is good at that outreach if it's not dad and if it's not you and really like

 47:29

I don't I really don't mind calling I've just been really busy.

 47:35



47:35

So here's the drafters using their spot might be a great idea. So I can call it just book it so they have open his book get and get the list of invite of local businesses from Marina and then spent another day to their mailings to find



47:53

would it be worth talking to Crystal and rafters and saying, Would you donate the use of the hall? And you'd be a member for a year of the TBA?



48:05

Absolutely, but I that's conversation I don't like having like I'm not good at like listening to stuff so so somebody else can do.



48:14

I'll call I promise I



48:16

will and look it and



48:20

I will call and asked to quit. I will call and ask the question for I will I will make that hat



48:25

I will call him I don't mind calling and booking the hump that I don't mind and then once we have the time the day I can fly with it, Marina will happen and we'll fly with it and just make another like we did in the spring like our expo in the spring. We'll do it in the winter instead. But I don't want to like I don't want to ask her to give it to us for free.



48:47

I will ask that question. I will get to it this week,



48:50

I promise. But it's not really asking her for free. It's offering her a TVA membership because she's not a member yet. So it's a great way to get her involved in the TBA as well.

 49:01

All those words will never come out in practice so no, I'm not going to make a phone call and I am not a sales person. I'm not going to ask you for money or any of that. You never asked I will happily decorate for Christmas. Speaking to students who can't while they're preparing for it, but I bet they'll want to do it around here. I don't know if you've seen it. East Coast they do East Coast powerwashing and no, it's not great. Wait runs it. He's expanding. He's going to start. So when his season ends as well, it should have ended before November but they're going to start hanging just for flights. That's their business.

 49:59

They're going to go oh that's a there's good money in there. Yeah,

 50:05

yeah. So so I'm gonna be like one of the houses he's gonna decorate it for because I do his bookkeeping and stuff. So he's gonna decorate the house make up a sign. I think he said he wants to call it something silly like Uncle Eddie like from Christmas vacation what's

 50:21

nice,

 50:22

and then put up a sign in I loved her sign in the yard saying they decorated and then that might get the next house.

 50:32

They do the holiday likes Thrive around that they did a couple of years ago directing sure you get

 50:38

it well. Oh, yeah. Then safety. Yeah.

 50:42

Doing that again this year. They were they were just did that during the year when they

doing that again this year. They were they were just did that during the year when they couldn't do like



50:46

other stuff, but it surely



50:52

gets people out. It gets young families out there



50:58

continuing to do that, because it's really no effort, extra effort for me. So yeah,



51:02

as far as I know, they're doing it again because they they've mentioned my discipline and saying well, you know, they they can't win every year that he was gonna disqualify me so the other one was that to me,



51:17

he said he's going to do is take like Like, he's gonna measure lights for your house, and then box them up. So next year, he has your lights already mixed or it's based on what your hour is, like. Alright, anyway, that was really cool.



51:34

I should also mention that I forgot to mention it. Before. Not exactly a new business in town, but it was confirmed for me. Yesterday, yesterday afternoon or just early this morning. Superior bakery is coming up officially coming on the market. So



51:50


it's banging around in there. They've been mannequins. Yeah,





51:54

well, they stripped it. It's just a cement box. Space currently that was like it is going on. You know, the commercial probably was dead and whatever it is. So if you do know anybody who's looking for space, big space that is going to be available. What I've actually already put them in


touch with three different interested parties, but any one of them could, you know, go through or fall through.


 52:22
What's up with the picadillo parman days close?


 52:28
Oh, yeah, they were open about six months.


 52:30
That's how it was making your list of vendors out there. Okay. That was the old


 52:38
KUNDO Piccadilly

 52:44
Italian place Yeah, yeah. Oh, but JC stayed open the longest

 52:56
it's a crime

 53:01
No, no traffic.

 53:04
Just no good place for an eating right. The candidate functions there. And they don't know what the owner is not doing anything to the

 53:14
team for sure. Oh, yeah, especially for food.



53:19

They complain about this semester was going on sidewalks but look at



53:26

that looks really good. I saw it. I think it was just yesterday. The first time I drove through and saw it all finished. That looks great. And it looks like real



53:44

estate only quality just to go on a driveway, which essentially comes right to the edge of the building. Yeah, so we told them two years ago, they were the most fun. And we, in part as part of the plan gave them some offset spots on the sides four or five. So on the opposite side of Ross and



54:04

oh yeah, that's good.



54:05

But they got very anxious and unhappy when the construction was going on. And they started going back about how dare you take the parking away. So those two spots are not legal spots. We agree to leave that in that condition temporarily so that the owners of the building could pursue a potential lease in the right of way with the state. Oh, we already know the state is not going to give it to you what's mine. So I have to say that I disagree with the state's assessments on this just but based on their traffic studies and their standards, even those two spots, they don't like the way they pulled out. Now they're looking at it on a piece of paper on a plan. Sometimes it does look different when you're on the ground. And I think that if they looked at another ground, they might feel differently about it but they've been very clear. They do not have no interest in those spots. Be in there. So come spring. Yep, no, we didn't have to continue that patio area over there. And I'm sure that you know we'll get some



55:08

flack about this is today's like it's so small on the back



55:12

is but people gravitate could do something to help themselves, which would be to pay them strike their parking lot, because as long as it's not striped people will continue to park it efficiently. Yeah, and they could put a sign saying overflow parking on Market Street, even

down here. You would if you were in Putnam center, and you couldn't Yeah, sure. In front, of course. What is it there 858. Mark in front of them. easily walk from this far. Yeah, to get to it. It's just that we have not been as a community accustomed to doing that. Yeah, like when he gets that patio area up in the nice weather. Right, that is going to be more income generating for him than those two parking spots would ever be, too. So he directed people to overflow parking at this underutilized lot at the new place. And unlike extreme, he could easily expand his capacity as he had all those



56:15

additional parking areas.



56:18

Because I don't know he does. We may have had some very heated discussions with them. Where I was accused of personally trying to seek their business.



56:27

I'm sure yeah, like he was just



56:29

angry. Yeah, I know. I'm gonna take this stuff with for what it's worth. Yeah. And the other thing is, although it's still many years out, this is going to be 300 units. They're not going to need to park anywhere. All they're going to have to do is walk and all of the things that we just did, expanding the seating capacity and making a more walkable area in the long run is going to be more Yeah, but people get anxious when



56:55

things are right. Right. And I know that they understand



56:57

it but the way they



57:02

when they were preparing it did a lot of work. And they lost business. Nobody. They couldn't get in there. Right. Like I felt that



57:09

we all knew it was gonna be a problem. And unfortunately, because it's outdoor construction, it's not like in time into their slow season because they're slow seasons, the middle of winter like everybody else. They can't do paving and he poured concrete that so it had to be during relatively high volume time. There was no way around it. And I was very sympathetic to the fact that it was impacting the business but the long term impact will be so much more than that. You know, and that's to the curb appeal matters. The curb appeal. There's going to be so much yeah, yeah, it



57:42

looks amazing. Yeah.



57:45

We are EDC, agreed. Go in there and talk to Dan let them know we're there. Let them know that we're telling people that the place is open and you have alternatives.



57:56

Yeah, like oh eight there like I more than we were



58:01

doing to support him to let him know that he's been supportive. Yeah.



58:07

I have a question. Do we have any training or any information on vaporization come down to



58:15

that last email that Chris Android I think we're both copied on which is that they are working on a contract I think it was to share a tower Navy with the state police actually, which is a world in which they I believe that was whatever it was because it's a couple of months now since they were saying that that is also about a year out. And they he didn't have anything better to say to me other than the temporary fix that everybody already knew about which doesn't really address the problem, right? But at least it is a finite period of time. So is it great? No, but do we have any leverage to do anything about it? Probably not really.



58:55

About the sharing of the power?



58:57

Yeah, well, that was the last one.



59:01

Was that but I just I



59:02

could go back and check. Yeah, the other one was to to get your signal in your building? Was the suggestion we got useless? Yeah, but that's useless. If you're somebody like me or dad or you're on the road well that you don't can't get calls. You gotta be in your building. So big deal. That's everywhere. Right? That was



59:26

your business as well. What do you mean? Well, you're exposing your business because now you're letting people use your guests. One's job. So you know, you're leaving yourself with an exposure of people taking advantage. Or finding another way to break into your other things?



59:47

Well, the answers don't work out well, so there wouldn't be. Well, the enhancers don't work that well. It just helps you maybe use your phone in your house. My daughter has used one in Dudley up by Nichols. But the neighbors it's not strong enough so the neighbors can use it. So here we really wouldn't make a difference as far as intrusion



1:00:12

is separated because the guests in the regular networks with separating, can connect and now that that's a good reason. Why something just like your email or anything, you should change your password. You should also change password on the guests. Every once in a while. So okay,



1:00:37

to Verizon recently for something with my phone, they're like, Oh, well, do you guys ever in Thomson, I'm like, yeah, don't talk to me about



1:00:47

that. And they're like all they're working on and I said, Listen, I've heard that for the last six months from you, because you've talked to us about it in the springtime people working on something and that there's going to be a fix. I'm like, so can you give me a date? Can you can you give me a time? He gave me a name. And I said find out what his number. He said I can't do that. I've been fired. Now my problem you gave me the name. You know, you gave me the name.



1:01:13

Yeah, my beef is that the signal used to be better. It was never great, but it was better and they changed something.



1:01:21

Yep. went up by a few.



1:01:23

But it went to five. That would make it worse.



1:01:28

If you're if your watch on 5g commercials, no matter what company it is, the round the open. They're not between buildings. They're not that you know in downtown New York City or Boston or Chicago or something like that. They're out in if they are in a big city. It's like in a park somewhere. Because once you start hitting metal in concrete and stuff like that line just falls apart. I didn't realize



1:01:53

that, you know, because that's one of the issues with 5g is that you need so many of the stations or whatever. Sorry. Good. So is there any announcements? No, but I have a question.



1:02:11

Okay. Tom said no cleanup community cleanup on the 26th.



1:02:19

That's got to be the the volunteer group. So the Thompson COVID is owned by the Congregational Church. That is not owned by the town. Okay. Common misconception which is an understandable one it looks like this. But it's not I mean so they have a volunteer societv

an understandable one, it looks like this. But it's not I mean, so they have a volunteer society that does the the maintenance of it, I think, Nick Wu is on that. I think he's doing they're rolling now. So yeah, they're dependent on on your labor. DPW has nothing to do with that. So whatever that date is, I'm sure.

 1:02:58

Yeah, I saw it on Facebook and I thought it was tied to TBA. So I was like, Oh, I'll volunteer. And then I

 1:03:06

was noticing I wasn't finding in places. And then I was like, this is another Thompson.

 1:03:13

It does say thanks business on here.

 1:03:17

I wonder, why didn't how can they always have a history out there?

 1:03:22

Because they work with rep to

 1:03:25

do it. Well, yeah. Years ago, I was on the commission with a HealthEast very fun, app. Common.

 1:03:36

Church gives them permission to do it. Yeah, I mean, it's beneficial for the church. It's beneficial, correct, and they allow them to do it.

 1:03:43

I wanted to tell us

 1:03:47

.....

my experience with people asking the congregational church if they can use the comment and it is limited and I'm very friendly with them is that they get wicked nervous about anything that shrinks a lot of traffic up there. And it is particularly sensitive for them right now because their relationship with the base of house without getting into too much is not good. So they are not happy about the traffic coming in to the events at the base of house. And the one time I contacted them, which is when we first did ferry fest. The original organizer originally wanted to do it up there. And, you know, I was trying to help sort of navigate that conversation and they were like, No, no way too many people never small enough, you might be able to convince them

 1:04:37

that you have hundreds of cancer DS to read. I don't know. I've just been doing it so long as far as everywhere and

 1:04:44

I'm just telling you my experience with trying to organize a new thing is that they don't like and they do. They do the tax sale up there to raising money from the tax sale. So that changes their motivation.

 1:04:54

But this is very different. But tax sale days crazy.

 1:04:58

Yeah. So and it is actually a problematic area for any type of parking because maps up there now for the tax sale that day and that is not a great place to have people like holding on basketball. Oh, just not like given the fact that they also have a fraught relationship with the basin house. I would be very surprised because we don't go ahead contact them but I would be very surprised. If they would be willing to have new things

 1:05:28

happening there.

 1:05:29

Do you would think they'd have a good relationship with a mason house where there might be potentially weddings? True and events there? Yeah, that's that's fine. The nose off your face.

 1:05:30

11 1:05:55

Yeah. I know the reason that it's fraught and I'm not going to get into it here because it could be unflattering to one or more of the parties involved. But that relationship is not going to be healed anytime soon. So sad.

1:05:56

So they're going to clean it.

1:06:02

Does anybody else have any announcements they would like to make or any more questions

1:06:07

or so early? We are

1:06:18

the featured business come on. I didn't do that on purpose. I can pick me that's why I didn't do

1:06:39

that. You got that you pass and I will call this meeting to order at 630. I mean this just sorta Yeah.

1:06:55

We're going out. To start with your medical stuff to

1:07:03

deal with. So tomorrow morning at 7:45am I have to go through