

# TBA meeting 7\_12\_23

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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

business, website, post, called, thompson, community, coming, truck, grant, good, golf tournament, month, brian, talked, food, meeting, give, put, mixer, move

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00:00

Oh, okay. Call this meeting to order at 530 All right, so I'm just one shot approval okay yeah



00:33

approval minutes from last month they were on I don't even know if I need to say this anymore. It's digitized. They're available on our website for you to look at if you want to. It's a transcribe. So there's really no need to improve it anymore. really isn't. Can't be It can't be there's nothing you can argue with. It's transcribed. So. quick announcement before we get started, we've made arrangements with Max catering. We all go out. We've been going out to dinner after this quite a bit. And we've been doing like Milltown or drafters a couple of times, but we called Max today they normally close at 8pm. But because they know we're coming, they're willing to stay open later for us. So we're going to try to wrap up as quickly as we can and get there so everybody knows we've been



01:20

doing this to support the local businesses started



01:29

has everybody signed in and put their business card in the box



01:38

and Hi, and by the way, it's nice to see you. Good, how are you? I swiped today now I didn't get to talk to you this morning but Okay, so we're gonna start with 45 second business pitches. Ready to come. Matt, you're up. You got your timer going up your



02:05

mask, your one stop shop for all your signage needs. There's a cool new thing called an NFC tag. It is attached to the shirt. So you have to get a conversation with somebody in your business card and you have to host it. But you know, you talked about what you do. And you can tell them they really don't get the gist of what you do. You say hey, you turn on my website. And you know, they're just not gonna check on your website, that that conversation is basically just ended there and move on with your life. Well, what you can do is be sure to have an NFC tag in it which is linked to your website. So if you're wearing a shirt or you says hey, you know, tap your phone on my shirt, and your website goes up. Now you can see what you actually do. You can go further from there anything like that just new technology. I'm always looking at newer stuff to help my customers get their name out there. My job is to make you famous so I do my best to do so.



03:01

Thank you so you can read your bios for church from you. Yes,



03:05

that's a final



03:15

Hi, I'm Celeste Nelson. From jurati Insurance Services. I'm your claims person I can help you to direct you to the right people to write your policies. Thinking about everything that's going on has drastically right now. Claims companies are crazy. They're insane. They cannot keep up so if you need any help food journey insurance, give me



03:42

16 We've got money awesome.



03:51

David Delphine, thank you. Really what we have going on right now we have a 91 CD promotion going on for 5% interest and you have a checking account with us. So it's pretty good way to make some money right now. So it's not that long term. Only nine months. So put it away. Make some money. Thanks.



04:15

Thanks, David. All right. Let's just double back here and get Chris and Gary and you guys need to sign in and put your business cards in the box. But go ahead and do your your commercial. Oh,



04:28

good evening, Chris Nelson, owner of system solutions of going on LLC. We handle all your computer computer network needs. We do backup for all your data. We have antivirus and it's a business grade new virus that's at a free price. We do everything everything as far as your again, your computer, running your computer running network business commercial. We take care of it. Chris Nelson system solutions your trusted business technology partner. Thank you.



05:11

So everybody's gonna Gary nice



05:17

hearing cattle owner of stomping on



05:33

Phil



05:43

Ostrovsky with sight and sound tech solution yes was in a hot church. Anyway. Churches a good place to be with the church was was really hot.



05:53

That sounds like a different plan anyway.



05:54

I guess we do Wi Fi internet, audio, video anything audio video home theater, security cameras, surveillance systems, smart home. doorbells, smart thermostats. Anything that you need. We can almost anything that you need we can do give us a chance to great work great job and glad to help you with your internet for all the tech that you don't get. Call me sounds actually



06:27

perfect timing. Maximize your time, Bethany.



06:32

Good evening everyone. My name is Bethany turnover I am the owner of liquidation Levy. We're located at 14 River Street and the old mill building tower three second floor. Our hours are Thursday and Friday called the six Saturdays and two five and the rest of the week is by appointment. You can view some items that we have



06:53

via our Facebook



06:55

marketplace group page.



07:00

Ally, Nick



07:03

I haven't posted yet the seven other okay. I'm Ally validating data consulting I hear for all the business needs. Whether you're just looking for some simple advice, strategic designs or how to grow I'm the girly girl. Awesome. Thank



07:18

you, Stephanie.



07:21

Hi, everyone. My name is Stephanie and I own SP digital services. I'm actually presenting so it'd be a little bit more detailed. I know attracts clients in the right place at the right time. Imagine how do you go ahead? Sorry.



07:38

All right, coming from an appointment,



07:42

sign in, put your business card in when you get a chance Kim Europe

 07:48

My name is Kimberly how she I'm only about simply soaps usually find this at the farmers markets and we do cold processed homemade soap from scratch, or coconut oil and olive oil. We do bath bombs lip balm, beard oil, and usually I'm going to community all the time. love what I do and hoping to help other people with their needs. Thank you. And I think I'm

 08:13

speaking later right? So take about a minute I have an alert fatigue. I think they know most of you and for your grassroots social service organization, serving Putnam Thompson, Woodstock and mantra Kira Terrapin, Director of Planning and Development for the town of Thompson, really here for you guys rather than as a member of the Thompson Business Association. Always happy to answer your questions. I have a lot of updates today, so I'll hold most of that but y'all know where to find me.

 08:46

Okay, and then Hiva. Do we miss anybody else? Good. Sorry. That's all right.

 08:51

Linda Marie Roberts and you guys know me from Chase building supply on your helpful Pink Lady. From what color to do or what's happening and going wrong or any of those things that has to do with pain or staying on your grill.

 09:05

Brian Brian, you see, you know, I'm here for you. Somebody already. Yeah, I chair our economic development commission. I own BTech services, but if anybody wants a job, I've been attempting not to work

 09:32

and I think I'm good for now. Sandy

 09:36

Hi I'm Sandy with Kerrigan tech service and treasurer of Business Association. I'm usually say that I have way too much work to do. So I don't ask for work but right I hired a bookkeeper part time not just seasonal, full all year long. So if anybody is a mess with their bookkeeping does nothing but like give their account and a big stack of receipts like film? No, you don't do that.

Yes, so I have somebody full time they can get you in order get you ready for like an audit get you ready for like getting a loan from the bank. It's hard for self employed person to get a mortgage or another kind of loan because they don't have w two form or that the typical paperwork to show the bank. So I can put together a sign profit and loss or business analysis to present to the bank so if you need anything like that, you know. Enjoy.



10:30

Hi, I'm Jody Erickson, owner of European city LLC. I'm here custom website designer of the group. I custom design and develop websites. I optimize them for search visibility, and I provide ongoing support and maintenance and security. So if you need anyone like that, give me a call. Oh, you're a phd.com We're always on the same page.



10:51

All right, my name is Dan Bennett. I'm the owner of VVC solutions where we transform the space you live in to a place you love to be and I've been talking about this a lot lately, but I passed out brochures so you have them now. breaks down the steps of how we capture the existing conditions of your bathroom or kitchen or whatever we're going to renovate. We upload those into our supercomputer and then renovate them in there and then create photorealistic 3d renderings. And now virtual walkthroughs we're actually going to put your VR headset on and you'll walk through your new kitchen or bathroom before you ever have to buy it. So there's anything you know, you can dial in your masterpiece and then once it's the exactly the way you want, it will go to work and we'll make it happen. There's also a QR code on the back of here so if you haven't heard enough of me already, you can catch another video of how it all works. Thank you guys. All right, we're moving on to our 10 minute presentation. You guys are gonna want to move



11:56

now she was here for one of those. Thank you though. So we were just going to want us to chat otherwise



12:22

take a second to warm up and then you'll be good to go.



12:26

I was gonna move this a little closer down so it picks up on the sound a little bit more okay yeah.



12:51

...

Right



13:10

prisoners are involved together



13:53

I'm certainly digital services, and I'm going to show you a little bit insight on what I do. First off, I'd like to thank the Thompson Business Association for being able to present the message a little bit about me I'm a single mom, a veteran a firefighter, a second generation entrepreneur my mom actually was owned a daycare for four years. Previous primerica representative as well. That's actually how I started started as I wanted to try and lead to myself and I fell in love with the digital side. We just kept growing. We help individuals and business create capital capture and capitalize to their fullest potential through cutting edge digital marketing. Most people know marketing. Digital marketing is the use of internet online platforms to promote such as Facebook, Instagram, different things like that. Activities. There was different activities including SEO search social media content creation, SEO itself improves website visibility tenure



15:30

and provides measurable results. The difference between traditional and digital marketing is traditional, its physical, don't have less pinpointed it's more broad. It's limited engagement can't really get the feedback back limited and delayed feedback to analyze and digital marketing is using online channels. more targeted down to address sencos. Some greater interaction like with the likes, shares follows on different platforms. And you can have real time data to analyze if your campaign is going to move traditional marketing and digital marketing or pretty much interlined with promoting having targeted audience utilizing creative content. They both are measurable



16:39

and offer potential for integration. Just like your T shirts go from physical to digital.



16:49

You here's one of the five different digital marketing services that most people think of, such as SEO Pay Per Click social media marketing, content marketing, email marketing but there's even more out there as we digitally offer digital ads through Facebook, Instagram, Google email marketing Google ranking to get higher and Google graphic design. contests were introduced and presented as part of the podcast. Press to be in different press articles. Optimizing through search engine optimization, social media suite such as social media management, engagement, verification, and video editing your videos website design and to create a funnel

why businesses and personalities use digital marketing to build the know like and trust effectiveness with a future showing to build a brand to have a community sell products and services show opportunities to stay informed in front of your competition have high ratings



18:24

little activity so everyone knows that social media is a growing, growing aspect of both business and personality branding. Picking the right one



18:42

for the market for my industry and focusing more on LinkedIn because I want to help professionals. person that might sell soap might want to go on Pinterest. Something that's longer, more interactive with people. But I'm not sure if anyone knows what the black is a new app that's out. Does anyone



19:11

want to shout out threads? Yeah, right, just like the Twitter is to get over



19:17

to Instagram. So it's a tool that might be interesting or another activity from really to search yourself on Google wherever you like. Where the ads go, where are you local, like with the locals in your local area? Or are you on the second page where the best place to hide the bodies and stuff like that. But um so to increase organically, you can actually go and post pictures manually or if you have a vehicle equals to vehicle wherever they are. Or you have some sort of incentive for your clients to post a review or post a picture would also increase your view ability in within an area I did the other side of it the second page. This case 95% of people don't even search past the first first page. So if you're on page two or beyond, you're not going to get any calls or any business. The way you search for companies is the same as other people's search. So try to be more of the outside looking in. Most businesses are leaving money on the table because they're not being seen. They'll have visibility on Facebook on social media or Google. They're not cultivating community like having an email list having to group on Facebook, different things like that. And they're not in front of their competition. I know in this area that's not too too much competition but like in bigger cities, bigger towns. Have there is more competition. They have to try to fight for the good. You can have the best product and service in the world. But if you're not getting in front of your competition, creating the community or maintaining relationships you're not going to grow as relates to relationships. It's kind of like dating. If you're not interacting with your clients and not showing that you really care that service first kind of stuff. They're gonna go to someone else and it's gonna be very hard for them to come back to you. So what can we do to keep clients ahead of the competition? Get ahead. Stay ahead, get them ahead and have strong community of individuals that are ready to buy and refer services for wouldn't be nice to build the community through press and podcast source. So with the press. My team would get you to articles to be able to have a better foundation to build your credibility and make the beat more willing to pay



more since they live podcast was to show your your knowledge show your skills. So how does your company stand? Just think about it for a little bit and how are you getting in front of your your customer? Your competition, creating that community maintaining those relationships? Are you reaching out to people see how they're saying happy birthday anniversaries, different things like that? Any questions?



23:18

I have a question and



23:19

maybe I missed it. Sorry.



23:21

What do you bring on your client? How do you start that process? Like what's the process



23:25

if I wanted to use you for my services you sign up to be with you. How did you go for that? And I missed



23:31

it. No, I didn't. But it all depends. So I was quite heavily one on one with you. Yep. See what you are looking for. See if there's something that I can help with. And also to buy budget. Like anything in life, you want the fastest and cost a little bit more time



24:00

Sarah and Mike if you want to take a second 45 seconds to tell us about your businesses.



24:13

Cleaning Painting Services, virtual residential painting, interior and experience are watching. You need a favorite because



24:28

they make the latest things



24:36

you weren't driving in the convertible. We were we were to put our hat backwards. There was a football stadium



24:43

painting on here for all your cleaning needs. A lot of people don't know this but we do Airbnb turns we're doing that I have nine properties that I turned races right now for Airbnb. because summer is that season so if you have any for someone that has an Airbnb property that needs help turning it we don't want to do it anymore



25:06

okay, thank you.



25:09

Okay, we're gonna move on to Vice President promotions. Jody.



25:13

Let's see. So I have the pitstop, a mixer that listed on the website there's a QR code get registered. You guys have to go it's coming up soon. It's gonna be awesome. We can worry a pool tournament is also up on the website. Registration is also open for that there's a QR code get registered, get in their website visibility. So we're holding steady at 640 plus views. Thompson Business Association is in the league for keyword pitstop hub mixes coming in second end. This is a good one. Local Business Directory is coming up for our website Alright, so that's pretty much all I got. Nothing new. Just get on there. Check out the Events page get registered for some of these events and happy networking.



25:56

Awesome. Thanks No, no, we're getting there.



26:07

Bye. Actually, this is awesome for you. I just felt like a personal vendetta for posting. Yeah. So just real quick if anybody hasn't met Ali yet Ali and her business partner, Nick.



26:25

Okay, he's like



26:28

they are they have taken over the responsibility, the duties of doing the social media promotion for the Thompson Business Association. And Ali is going to be our they're going to be coming in each month to do our live stream. And give us the stats and tell us who is dominating posting in the types of



26:48

jobs. So we'll start with just to let everyone know the concept this association has a physical Facebook page now you can now tag it you can message it you can interact with the outside of the group. So now that is a physical page you can tag which is really exciting. So if you have any fun pictures of our president, please tag him in those photos. So coming in top for our group for posting 20 posts in the month. Is the vital underground sign shops it is it is Vicki she's in Primerica right. primerica next is CBC solutions. Max caterings coming up and for the TBAs new page is coming up in fifth simply soaps is coming up in six. We then have flowers cleaning coming up and seven. Sarah's got I'm not sure per game a little bit.



27:43

Your stats are correct.



27:47

I would have to agree with that because I see your posts every day.



27:51

So then we have our caregiver pack service. Coming up at night is your page today and coming up the 10th is Sarah Kane again. Those are our top 10 contributors guys. I know you posted enough my husband constantly is that literally go to the top is



28:15

the page created there.



28:17

Yes, yes. Okay. So for the group, the way it does is Facebook will categorize how often you guys are posting and commenting as the topic. So if you're posting the same amount as someone else but they have been posting more than you in the previous month it's going to

someone else, but they have been posting more than you in the previous month, it's going to keep ranking them a little bit higher.

 28:32

Are you putting them on the bid? You're just are you posting on your Facebook page or say or?

 28:37

Oh yeah, but then you're sharing with what happens when you share it with CBS because I do that sometimes too. I'll post it in my paid on my page, and then go in as a person and share it to TVA

 28:49

powers matters how you're frequently doing it. So if you like one month post 10 posts, but in the previous month somebody posted 1520 Yeah, both right. The same for one month, you're

 28:59

still going to be lower. Yeah. Okay. I

 29:00

just didn't know if that counted too. Yeah, no. So the more you post, the more it'll show up and the more it'll automatically categorize the data. So when we come in here, it'll actually show based on how much you guys are commenting, posting and liking and engaging. So it's more than just posting so we're gonna go in there and like comment, which I will say vital underground. It's gotta beat me on the comments here, guys. I mean, people start commenting.

 29:24

I have a question. So somebody posted a Killingly. Yard Sale, for example. Yeah. And then the tag TBA will that post count. It's not a postage. So it can't be your tag. It's got to be

 29:39

correct. Yeah, but it could be shared.

 29:42

If you share it into the TVA page then it okay

if you share it into the TPA page then it okay



29:45

go in as Gary kettle and share that



29:49

that's why I'm getting double because I'm doing from slotless



29:54

so that makes me think you Bethany because I know I see you post a lot she does, but if you're not sharing them to the TPA, you're not gonna make it on that list.



30:03

Right away. Don't share on the TGA website is because I couldn't vote I think I would have been barred you only want like 400 postings at any given time that's okay



30:22

gonna see if the rest of us here to sell



30:31

information about and that's okay. I'd love to see.



30:37

You don't have to share them all if you don't want to, but I mean,



30:42

you're already in there doing it.



30:44

You may as well.



30:46

Yeah. Then when you share it. So you've posted when you want to share it and as many as you want. It's just another place to either go 400.



31:04

She will find something



31:05

I promise. Okay, let's move on to thank you, Ali. Let's move on. To Brian Messina with the membership report.



31:15

Just enough I posted something on Facebook. My daughter laughed at me. Oh, it ended up being attached to a comment I made about having COVID Last pockets. Oh no. That's okay. I'm glad you guys are happy with all of this anyway. We have 67 members. So we were we get less than half a year left to get up to where our 100 What what I've been doing it it's not people haven't taken advantage yet. I carry in all of my vehicles, our dear fellow business leader letter from Dan Bennett. And it tells all about us and it's got the QR code and then the Thompson business so Association application



32:10

had it printed out and in my vehicle.



32:14

Well see I in my business all these years. I got two people maybe out of 40 car dealers and maybe 150 People to People would use email. I got a couple of texts. They don't use Facebook. They sometimes advertised carriers like Craigslist, Craigslist now but my business has a use of this tech so I don't need that. But anyway, keep plugging, you know anybody you do business with in the surrounding towns, and within Thompson see if they're interested and point them to the website for nothing else.



32:56

Yeah, so no new businesses this month.



33:00

Well, I have it under TPS, I can tell you. Oh, I did. Yeah. At the EDC meeting last month, which is three weeks ago now. We had a new business but it's an investment club. We have Mark Benoit painting, painting contractor, jacks. It's just the name he's a handyman. And for some reason left for him boys well drilling.

 33:27

Oh, that's right. I remember. Yeah. No, but did anybody ever figure out what that was about? Somebody was gonna call.

 33:34

Yeah, and I I don't know why if they had a different person put on the business or what because we know that's a long established business. May have new businesses next week for EDC. And I always pass them on to Dan who at least attempts to make a call and introduce himself.

 33:54

I'll invite them to listen.

 33:57

I can I can get you their contact information. So that's it for now. I think. Okay, Sandy, you're up

 34:15

So, here is the Treasurer's Report in our main account. We have \$3,757.17 is the one outstanding check to why in line for \$80. And just as an FYI, to date, we've spent 267 \$267.46 towards the mix. Um, oh, so we can more your account currently has \$1,423.78 just as an FYI. Roger boys were with a man around the house called me and said I have a guy who's working for me who'd like to make a donation. Next day another guy showed up with a \$250 check for the weekend warriors. That that was I thought that was pretty cool. Our backup account has 10,000 the weekend warrior backup account has \$10,109.57 in it. Thanksgiving account has \$423.80 and currently the golf tournament account has \$5,195.49 Just as an another FYI. One of my clients reached out to me today and saw the post about needing a truck for the weekend warrior program. So we asked how we could donate so I called Dave and Dave set up a new account for the weekend warriors our truck, truck fund, account and so like the pool tournament, and anything else we specify specifically towards the truck will go in there and we started it with \$500 from the backup account that we can worry about that account. So that's what's going on any questions?

 35:57

I just have a question on his truck to this truck. I ever been in a couple of meetings. So I don't

know if it was discussed or I don't know if there's any minutes I can review but as anybody researched and they probably had to see them up to this point but I just have several questions like one is where's it gonna be store? How much the insurance is going to see? Is it see that we're nonprofit? Are we allowed to have a truck? Oh yeah. Who is not cheaper net just to go read one we're approached by somebody that has a new or franchise and see if they could give us a break on the one time a month that we needed a few times a month.

 36:41

So maintenance that's a loaded question. So storing it I was gonna check with the property management people to see if they let us park there. They do let other vehicles parked there that you're renting me that so I didn't know if that would be a problem. But I will approach them about that. Worst case, I don't even care parks you're in it's in my yard or I talked to somebody else. I don't care. Insurance. I think Jay gave me a quote Jay long had given me a quote and it was not he was adding it as a vehicle on our commercial policy.

 37:10

So it's a separate policy. Yeah,

 37:12

it wasn't very much I think it was basic coverage. We were we just picked on Dave shackling found one and I said hey, how much would it be to insure this? But honestly, I think it was like \$600 or something super, super cheap for the

 37:25

year. Okay, so that a year just for a second on the insurance. Yeah. Yeah. Might have been for six so so that that's a \$2 million liability policy

 37:35

that's separate the from

 37:40

somebody gets an action on the way down to pick up food. I don't want to be on the hook as a TV member, being sued. Because somebody was

 37:48

negligent. Right. He did say that it was part of our policy. He didn't say it was a separate oh,



maybe that's how he was trying to dumb it down.



37:57

And that's cool. Yeah,



37:58

well, well, you know what if we get one? We'll get all the details about the insurance. I can't say that I'm really up to date about any of the coverages but I worked in insurance for 17 years. So I understand that a little bit but and especially the claims end of it, but we will cross that bridge when we get to it. We don't have enough money to buy it. So not even at that point, but rates may change by them. So we were just putting feelers out. Right now.



38:23

To arm Incorporated,



38:25

we are analysing



38:27

you might want to look into that too, because we have special writer for board and we are incorporated. And my understanding is is if you're not incorporated board members can be sued individually and



38:41

to be honest, anybody can be sued, or anything



38:45

catches fire would look into that and incorporating is not



38:48

that. No, that's not a big deal. Right. So we can see where an LLC right now, but will our nonprofit so we know that TVA is an LLC Yeah.



38:59

Weekend Warrior really a separate from the TVA anyway. And I mean, I just I'll just say that I think it would be a wise idea to have a meeting like a separate meeting for the weekend warrior and discuss the whole truck thing and just make sure all the bases are being covered. Yeah, that'd be great.



39:19

If you don't raise the money, enough money to buy a truck what happens to



39:23

the money? Well, what I'd say



39:25

to people that don't make the money for the truck, or is it was it I don't think



39:29

we even got to that part like if we choose to not get one. I don't know. We'll discuss it then. I guess I don't know the end game. I've never thought about giving the money backward or even,



39:39

like renting the Penske Truck for \$250 A trip and then you know, we've missed out on a lot of opportunities to get extra food because we don't have that truck. Well.



39:53

We were getting food at the beginning of the year, the food was twice or twice a month. So where do we get the orderliness the extra? I don't know what truck was a big



40:08

pickup truck that they were using.



40:11

Yeah, so it's like I it's time consuming. I don't have the time to rent the vehicle or I feel like it

rent, so it's like it's time consuming. I don't have the time to rent the vehicle or I feel like it would throw the money out the window. Honestly, I don't have the time to go rent a truck every Tuesday myself. I'm taking an entire day to go do this.

 40:32

But you're right. It's a full day. No, I understand that just so that everybody understands that you've done I've done it and only a handful have done the right it is the entire day this entire day. Not wasted but wasted. Doing this it's not like you go for an hour and you're back doing like this the whole day process. And

 40:50

the thing is, is that if we have our own truck many, many times I have turned down fresh produce other deliveries that they've gotten. They email us if they get something like this that we could like turn around and hand out to the seniors at the senior center on Monday. If we wanted to that we had to say no to what did we say no to just go bananas because we had no one who could go get them and no vehicle to go get them and like it can't fit into my heart like I'm sorry, I'm getting like I'm getting like I'm passionate about this because I do spend a lot a lot a lot of time involved in this program and and just having vehicle there would be having a vehicle would be so much it would make this process a whole lot

 41:33

easier. So I know I said one last time

 41:36

unless you want to do it every month

 41:43

used backstrap

 41:47

for example, we've got a refrigerator and the refrigerator I've heard have a problem. They had me fix

 42:01

it I think definitely should plan a meeting a weekend where you're meeting and just discuss all the logistics.



42:07

I think it's a good idea when we get to that point I was gonna explain that we will be having



42:11

Okay, yeah. Okay. All right. We're moving on. T and you're



42:19

gonna talk about something joyful. I thought this was a joy. We are the service bureau for the towns of Thompson, pomfret, Woodstock, and Putnam. And what that means is that our primary we have to we're charged by the state, we are, are required by the state to engage with those districts to see how we can help students and families do their best and as you know, there's a huge attendance problem in the state of Connecticut right now. I could go into all the reasons for that. And some of them are. Some of our laws or laws are very different than other states, and many districts, all districts in Connecticut and law students completely during the pandemic. I actually have worked with a couple of young men who left the Woodstock district during the pandemic and have not returned and Woodstock lost track of them. And they've been out of school for four years. So they will not be returning to school. Their education ended, one in eighth grade and one in sixth grade and this is not uncommon. This is not uncommon at all. Once a student has left the district. They're lost to the district. So when we became a youth service bureau in 2019, and we tried to look at what being a youth service bureau men, it was really it was just kind of out there. We just really weren't sure, you know, the state had no clear guideline as to exactly what you should do. So we just got out and started engaging kids. And I'm happy to say that we often engage kids who are marginalized kids who just aren't fitting in kids who don't feel they have a place in school and we try to create programs for those kids in order to engage them and then to start to mix them in with the general population of kids. I will tell you that our youth programs are full many of our voluntary youth programs are about drama program. Our hand in hand program for young families is full. Our creative, expressive arts, which means down in Putnam, and all of these are free is full so that kids can come down and kind of work out some of the things that they're dealing with. are okay to be you group is a new group that starting up to support kids who are struggling with who they are in their identity. So that's the good news, our attendance mentoring program that came about and started right here in Thompson. And in the first year, we got 48 kids back to school, and there were 48 kids that weren't school. So we were just like, Yeah, that's great. But that was during the pandemic and that just meant getting them back online. Now. What students are struggling with is students who during the pandemic became very anxious. Many of them do not leave their house. So we might go out in the morning and try to get that student into school. If we get them into school. That's great. If we don't, we might go out again in the afternoon and say, Hey, what's getting in your way can we get you ready for tomorrow morning, let's get your backpack ready. Let's make sure you get a good dinner so that you're going to be there tomorrow and we'll just keep working with them till we get them back. We have a grant through Centerville bay that allows us now to serve the towns all four towns and we will continue to serve all four towns so if we met with Melissa Smith the other day it'll be scaled back a little bit and Thompson because we were using some of the some of the money that they got because they were an opportunity district and that's not

coming through anymore. So we're going to scale it back to what we're giving to the other schools, but we will help whatever students that they need us to help. And we'll reach our capacity. So we have contracts with all the schools. And then the last thing that's really cool about Thompson is that we wrote a grant through Verizon and just got it about two weeks ago and we are going to we are going to be ordering 1000 tulip and daffodil bulbs and every student in the district in the fall with their class or somehow we'll let this trying to figure out how we do it. We're going to go out and plant those bulbs on the hill. That's the where they took down all the trees and tried to beautify that a little bit. And each student will plant one bulb and the message will be we want you to be here with us in the spring to see these bolts. So that's just I think a really nice piece of what we get to do. We do get to do some really fun things for the kids. So I wanted you to know more about that. If you're interested in what we do with youth. We also run a juvenile review board which is a diversionary program and we have 38 open cases right now and these 38 families we're working with. They're referred to us through the police state and local police, through the schools. And these are students who might be in a court system, but we're trying to divert them out and that is also state mandated. We have a volunteer board that meets twice a month and then we have a work program we're going to be working to help have them come out. We're looking for some inside things that need to be done to help the community so that on the days when the word program happens, we could go in and paint a wall of a church or fix something we're trying to give the kids some skills too. So if you have any ideas about that and then the last thing is we do have a mentoring program. We always have a mentoring program and if you're interested in working with a youth one on one, come talk to us. Thank you



47:56

Okay, Tierra you're up.



47:57

So some actual update updates for things which I had organized in my head and gone out of order but the first thing coming up is next one, one week from tonight. Here in the library 630. We are going to be doing a public presentation with the developer for the River Mill updates on where we are in the process. So some of what the challenges are essentially just providing what people have been asking for, which is to know what's going on because a lot of what has been happening is very much in the background because it's not visible. There's an assumption that nothing is happening. So this is what that's going to be about and it's going to include also some discussion of some of the general economic development initiatives outside the mall and it's going to end with a q&a. So it's going to be 630 to eight an hour for the presentation a half hour q&a.



49:05

That's next Thursday here,



49:06

Princeton In one week from tonight It's in place of

Director. In one week from tonight, it's in place of

 49:10

a meeting, etc meeting. So, Brian, you see, you know, we'll be your emcee and he's going to be one of the presenters and the developer. Amy's going to talk a little bit and both the town's Council and the developers Council. We've all got sort of some stuff to share.

 49:29

So that's that. That's open to the public.

 49:32

It is a public engagement.

 49:34

Do we throw do these people to come in here? Do we promote that?

 49:40

I sent out a press release yesterday or the day before? What is today Wednesday. So yesterday, so that will be published in the village here.

 49:51

We can put it on the website. We can have Ali promoted on Facebook. I'll send

 49:54

it to you tomorrow. I'm also going to send it to Winnie tomorrow essentially, you know, villagers have both the first first stab at it. But yes, we do want people here. end I think is trying to arrange to have a live streamed as well. Great. I don't know what kind of capacity they have here for that as opposed to this.

 50:13

We're live streaming right now.

 50:15

11 50:15

Well, there you have it.

50:17

And it did come together sort of very quickly. We've been talking about it for you know, a couple few months but schedules had to align and they finally did. So that will be that. The other thing and we had a call this afternoon between the partners on the 65 main planning project. So as you guys know that is I have a pair of grants both for renovation and planning for the eventual conversion of that town building into a small business support center. The renovation stuff is already out to bid. We should be awarding the roof contract within the next week. Following that will be the hazmat abatement. And then Brian Santos and I are acting effectively GCS on that and we have to decide which piece we're going to pick after that. The other piece of that is the planning project. And that's a separate grant from the USDA. And we talked about the first piece of that that we're going to take action on which is the publishing of an RFP for a permaculture design consultant for the half acre grounds, but also that is attached to 3.2 acres on the backside of Riverside Park, which is currently inaccessible to the public, because that's going to be a public facility. We now have the ability to sort of open that up to the public and we're looking at a food forest to sort of carry that theme over food systems, agriculture, sustainability, and it's going to be pretty exciting. So that RFP is going to be published. All things going well by Monday and then hopefully by mid August, we'll be selecting a consultant on that. Then the next piece of that is going to be the workshop to develop the curriculum for the facility. Our timeframe to start that is going to be sometime in the month of October. So the next part is called and we're going to have is going to be how we want that workshop to look. Brian Messina has been attending calls Dan hasn't been able to because they're you know workday is swinging hammers or whatever it is he does, but certainly want to get TBAs input on how that year long workshop process should look to make sure that we're doing what I've always said it will do serve the needs of the actual small business community, within Thompson startups existing businesses, in addition to some of the extra special focus on agriculture and food system startups. So that's all pretty exciting and then what was the scope and I had related to the presentation next week, I had invited all of our elected officials federal and state level because it's short notice most of them won't be able to make that however, Senator Blumenthal's a did respond to these that he would like to come up and meet at least with me to discuss sort of the small business community needs in the town. I have pitched back to him. Hey, look, the Thompson Business Association meets on the second Wednesday of every month and that is an option for you to come in here. So he hasn't responded to me I can, you know, promise that that will happen. But they've been very Blumenthal's office in particular has been very responsive about sending people up here to do you know, public events and sort of the rah rah stuff and that was his offer and not me asking him so. So I will keep you posted on that. We can schedule that. I think he'd be looking for August or September to do that. Okay, cool. Very cool. And as always, I'm happy to answer any questions. Gary.

54:18

Are you asked for the area that's not available that you want for food or for food for us, is we're gonna have a water source.

54:20

 54:28

Well, the whole thing will eventually have a water source. Yes. As we are moving on, actually, now that you mentioned it because we are going out to bid on that debate. Then, we are already talking about reconnecting the water since it's been winterized. Now, that was not with the intention of serving that community garden, which I know is why you're asking, but once it's hooked up, yes. And then the water is hooked up. So there will be water source at least for as long as that renovations going on. Okay, then for

 54:59

for research. You should look up James. James P. From New Jersey and food forest. He has one in his backyard. It's amazing.

 55:07

Okay, yeah, there's some fantastic projects out there. There's a great one in Atlanta. It's a beautiful one. And JP in the Northeast actually has a good concentration of permaculture, either organizations or professionals. So we're I'm super excited to see what comes back from that bitter question.

 55:30

Can you give a 32nd response on any update with St. Joseph's school building? I can actually hold off on the street that

 55:41

I gotcha. So, St. Joe's was approved. Over it was approved by planning and zoning and they come close to their sale. I don't know at what point they are starting their construction but I know that they are expecting to have those apartments online by the end of 24. Seems like a long time but it goes by very quickly. I have just submitted a grant to D CDs committee Community Investment Fund. Thompson is one of I think 55 eligible communities you get on that list by either being a distressed community or an alliance district. We are an alliance district those those know Welcome to the distressed thing isn't very specific. Cathy's the bottom 25 So we might be 26. If we're 26. We're not distressed, whatever. We are allies district doesn't matter. We're eligible. I just submitted a \$3.9 million request to the state. The main portion of that request, roughly 3.3 million of that is to do a full depth reconstruction of Main Street plus the sidewalks up to where they currently end in front of that old church. The other is to close the renovation funding after 65 million and then the third piece which is kind of a little extra is to renovate Swanson Park and the oddball little memorial that's out here and put on a river mill. These grants are competitive. I can't say that we will or won't get it. I have no idea. What I can tell you is that I sent in a very strong application with letters of support from represented me, both of our state senators, the developer of St. Joseph school, the developer for superior bakery, which has finally closed and they're going to start working on so all of these things are happening now. We're well positioned. We don't get this grant. I'm going to



turn around and send it in the next round. They're opening two rounds, two rounds a year and they do give feedback on the applications. So if there are weaknesses in the application, they're going to tell me what they are and I'm gonna fix it. So lots of potential Awesome.



58:02

Okay, thank you, Kara. I'm Brian, etc report, or was it covered?



58:10

Well, a lot of the DC does have to do with grants. And last month we also had some budget issues which are really not relevant here. Mentioned the new businesses already. We do have a standing agenda item to update on TBA. So people in town, even EDC, anybody who follows EDC or is aware of what the TVA is doing. Everything now, Business of the Year is coming up. And we it we're gonna be under kind of a crunch because next week's EDC meeting is not going to there won't be a regular business meeting. I don't know if I dropped the ball. I was supposed to update the forum on our website and the 2021 forum is still up there. Which would work if you wanted to pull down a form. I printed 10 Up here on the podium. We really need your input. We're looking for businesses. Usually pretty well established. In the town. People who have been active in the town may be active in groups like this. Active and volunteering. Like I tell people when you pick picking a business of the year it's not just oh they had a nice waiter and they brought me my son. That that doesn't that's not what we're looking for. So think about that. I should have the updated one on my way and hopefully this week but again, take one of these things a picture of one of these whatever is comfortable for you. And contact me if you have any questions. Since we're missing next month's meeting we will have to choose at the September meeting



1:00:08

is sorry, I'm gonna cut you off. I gotta quit sorry, is the EDC I mean is the Business of the Year anybody? It's open to the public for people to nominate Jody just volunteered to put it on the website. And we can also put that on Facebook as well.



1:00:22

Okay. Yeah. And you can nominate your officers. I mean, there's nothing wrong with that if you're inclined to do that. Kim say, Well, I like someone else. Some people, maybe they're doing it on behalf of their employees or something, you know, so there could be a reason to do that. I just don't want you to be embarrassed that if you have a good reason to dominate your own business. Okay, so that's the big one for us. Yeah, we have one decider concerning the sidewalk grant for Riverside drivers. It's 90% complete and we talked about last month contractors returning in September to complete two more crosswalks and they're going to attack the Blaine Road intersection which something I've been waiting for. There was nothing else really outstanding. I can cut it there. And we'll learn more for you next month



1:01:33

All right, moving on. You're done. Brian. Sorry. Yeah, no, no. Okay. That Miss he's not here. So when he radio, Chris Nelson, and Bethany are going on next Tuesday. You guys are good with that. And then in August, we have ally signed up. But we still have an open spot in August and beyond. So



1:01:57

August to promote golf tournament. Would that be okay?



1:02:01

Jump on and



1:02:02

then you wouldn't in September, but then you wouldn't in September, so



1:02:06

I guess it would be too late to promote it in September. Right? Because it'd be just like a couple days before the tournament. Oh, yeah.



1:02:15

It's actually after the tournament in September.



1:02:18

Isn't that the third one?



1:02:22

So okay, that's that and now we are a little bit behind schedule. We don't have a lot for special orders to deal with but we have the weekend warrior and the golf tournament report is still to go.



1:02:33

Okay, so I'm just gonna we talked about the truck and then skip that. We purchased two new freezers for weekend warrior we called yesterday had many frozen things and frozen things so

super important right now because that room so we have a commercial sized fridge. We also had a chest freezer. We call J T appliance on the way back from picking up our delivery yesterday to see if they had another add some kind of commercial freezer and stuff. They did not. But they gave us a darn good deal on a stand up a 13 cubic foot stand up and a smaller chest. But they were floor models they gave them to us for \$900 And so we picked them up yesterday. So now we have more freezer space, which is awesome. Um, the we talked about the truck with a pool tournament is coming up. I don't see it on here, but we have a full tournament coming up to help fund for the truck. More importantly, what's going on next week. We have our elderly delivery, the deliveries to our elderly in the community on Thursday and because the mixer is on Tuesday usually would ask for help on Tuesday and Wednesday. But I'm looking for a lot of help on Wednesday because we won't be able to do anything on Tuesday. So I'm looking for a lot of help Wednesday night and if anybody's available during the day on Thursday to get the bags ready for the seniors and I have my goal is to empty now the school's out middle of summer. I want to empty out our headquarters with all our food so I so we can clean it and then start fresh in September. So I have three food distribution events set up on the books right now. On the 24th of July to Monday, from four to five. We're going to be at River Mill Village. I spoke to Christine she's going to get an ice cream truck there at the same time. So I'll need help on that Monday. The 24th. Preferably somebody who has pickup trucks to help me like load up a couple trucks. We're going to be right in front of their community center on that day. We're also doing an event at carriage square. That past Sharon if anybody's worked with us before they pat share and help so she lives at carriage square. So she arranged that one. The one over Yeah, right behind us right here. Yep. So we're gonna do an event there. And then we're also doing an event at Gladys green the Pineview courts on so the the characters on the Tuesday which is the 25th the Pineview courts and Gladys green event is going to be on the 27th and those are going to be from 11 to noon. The ones that the elderly complexes are going to be from 11 to noon. So anybody's available during the day they give a hand that would be awesome. But my goal is to get through as much as we can in July 24 2020. Yes, Sandy Jones was added to the website. I think he did, didn't you? I didn't notice I wasn't sure if you wanted me to post on the events page or I should add Yeah, maybe yeah, you can you can because it doesn't matter. Like where I'm setting up at those communities. But to be perfectly honest, it doesn't matter where the people come from, they can come pick. Yeah, and I made that clear. I think we said that in the flyer. Like just to tell

 1:05:48

me anything like you want volunteer help for those if you just kind of write it up a little a little bit of information about the dates and stuff and then send it over to Ali. It'll go on Facebook and

 1:06:00

yeah, so I'll tell you how many people are looking for for each day and time. Somebody with vehicles? I'll tell you all those beats. Okay. All right. And that's all I have. Awesome. Thank you, Sandy. Yes,

 1:06:14

I have flyers for the pool tournament if anybody wants to hang them anywhere and my bag full time it starts at two but there was also the word neglecting to mention or fill in there. There is a

chicken BBQ dinner available that evening as well. I'm hoping that after tomorrow I'll feel better and be able to get tickets rented this weekend. So we didn't start getting a headcount for that as well because crystal needs headcount for the food part of it as well.



1:06:43

What's the date of the pool tournament?



1:06:46

There'll be served from five to eight, five to seven birthday Well, someone's bringing cake to the next over my birthday but anyways



1:07:04

so yeah, just because you don't have to be associated in the league. Just come out with we'll have fun. We're not doing it based on a skill level. It's a race to three whoever wins three first moves on in the bracket. Just like basketball practice, you win you move on. So you don't have to be associated with league just come shoot. You can shoot like crap and when you get that I'm always happy when I'm playing I stopped so



1:07:29

it's not challenging if you get the nine ball on the snappy when she says, I don't even know what that means. All right.



1:07:39

Once you say something, all right, Chris, you're



1:07:45

so ready to just about two months before the golf tournament, what we were still talking to people about foursomes and we will do that all the way until two weeks, two weeks before that, but right now what we're looking for is gifts like baskets. Note if you know if you have a business, or you can talk to someone else who has a business that they want to promote their business, they can make a basket they can go a gift card, whatever. Just so that we have those drawers and drawers now raffle drawing that's a huge thing for us. Right now we don't have a count we don't have a count on as far as the foursome because they usually within the last month that's when they play status. Really sending a good one yeah and letting us know that so that's what we're looking for. We've been looking at some large prizes missing been working with that and doing a lot of work with that but right now we're there. Like I said, we have a good host less than I talked about all the time. Good feeling as far as again, growing over what

we did last year. So if you can, like I said, especially the gifts the prizes if you can get the discount things about yourself or anybody you know who owns a business, or who just wants to donate.

 1:09:26

Can I just add something? No, we can't go gift bags at the golf tournament Mallesons goodie bag. Yeah, what it gifts, fashion bags. Yeah. So if anybody wants to put their stuff their promo items into the bag. Last year, I did shot glasses that went over big on a golf tournament. Yeah. But if you want to put anything in please let us know. We'll get it into the

 1:09:54

Charlene is asking for those to be in by September 1, so that she has plenty of time to get those packed up and get them moving. So that's something that she's asked for. So does anyone need flyers to sign up for top four songs for sponsorships or anything like that?

 1:10:12

I don't have any place to put them so well no,

 1:10:14

I mean, you know, just sign up your own teams or, or anything like that. So we have plenty of fliers left. We're been leaving them at golf courses. So for men and women, things that are going on and things like that. If you can just get as much information out to people as you possibly can. This is our biggest fundraiser that we do. Our biggest and we've added a couple of new little nuances to the tournament this year with we have our \$10,000 Polo one price and we just added on a little contest for the party contest. And you buy a ticket, you get put into a raffle and you can if you get a 60 foot putt, one person is allowed to get a 60 foot pot and they win it it's \$2,500 So

 1:11:04

there's a few wherever Thompson golf course raceway may own other golf course but yes, they have won in the past. I mean, if you've got fires down,

 1:11:21

yeah counter melody Hills No, we haven't got Harrisville so they've been trying to get them out to debating whether or not I need to get out there. And then let's do it.

 1:11:30

 1:11:36

Okay, cool. One more time. I want to say it because a couple of a few of us weren't here but when I said it in the beginning, we have made special arrangements with Max catering tonight. They're normally only open till 8pm. But knowing that we're going to bring a group of people there that they've they've agreed to stay open later for us. So when the meeting ends, if everybody could just help us get the chairs and everything the tables packed up quickly so we can get out of here. And respect them and their time. That would be awesome. Thank you. Okay, so really not much to this i What's left with this view.

 1:12:09

We need answers. Yeah, okay. So Right. Just for the first one for next week. Yeah, no. Um, so I am have invites am I going to send out to like the quitter bog, or I did already send out to like the quitter Bob vicinity businesses that we don't interact with that often. So I sent those out that the ideas like that I'm sending one to Karen graphic graphics. The other list that you have the three new people, anybody have any ideas anybody businesses that like we may be missing this it stinks because there's no real one generalized mis list of businesses in the area so if Mr. Donahue is calling,

 1:12:47

Mom boys

 1:12:49

Yeah, yeah

 1:12:49

what tool century tool let's let's get some of the people up on the Thompson hill side as well and see if we can get some of those.

 1:12:58

You can take from here Mr. John. Okay. I'm at the meeting. So you right now. You're on Facebook Live. Do you want do you want me to put you on speaker? I do. Are you coming? Okay.

 1:13:21

Okay, so there's one thing that like last month when we did when we are not last month but the month before when we had the mixer? We we we've always just been asking like you guys, I know that for the golf tournament. You want a ton of raffle Bacara drawing baskets. But I think for our mixers what I want to start doing is asking for two baskets because last time when we

did it There ended up being like everybody there had a prize. It was like 12 prizes. And what happens is it's just watered down. And it's like it doesn't even mean anything anymore. So the idea is that if we get two businesses to step up and give a nice door prize basket, then when we give them away, we can emphasize that business and it will have some value to them. So we don't have any for next week. So if anybody would like to step up and do that, that would be great. You said you only want to write two businesses. And that's it for that. The other mixer we because Nick wasn't here for the meeting tonight. I called him yesterday. We're so the three of us are going to get together this week for lunch or something and go over the details but just so everybody knows Donohue landscape and Nick Donohue has graciously decided to take on the entire mixer next time he's going to do it at his location. He's going to supply the drinks, the food, the whole nine yards. So we're gonna get again, we're gonna get the details together for that very shortly and we'll have that for next month's meeting.



1:14:47

Can you give credit to mag for that though? Not sure.



1:14:53

Just one thing that people need to think about when they're doing the mixers and when they're having them on their locations. They need to look at an event policy if there's liquor involved because liquor liability is not covered under the TBAs commercial policy. Okay, so you want to make sure that there's coverage and that nobody gets in any trouble difficulties.



1:15:15

Thank you for that. Well, that's it



1:15:20

we actually got out of here. Does anybody have any announcements they would like to make and then we'll do the drawing for business in the month and we're



1:15:27

done. That's why we don't market your business of the year.



1:15:32

Unless we bought it because we want to do events.



1:15:36

That's why we find out Yeah. Yeah.



1:15:42

Definitely. That was one of the reason that was one of the reasons I'm one of them.



1:16:01

Oh, that works



1:16:08

Oh, damn, we did another one.



1:16:17

policy.



1:16:19

We need a policy do



1:16:20

you really think that either



1:16:31

you're gonna come in so Right, right. Alright, guys, I'm sorry. Guys. We got to get the cheers. Oh, we're not done. Please give me a second. We're not done Do you want your music?



1:17:00

No, you just want somebody to draw card. Your page today? Yay. All right, Jodi. So give that right to Brian. There is no nobody out any announcements they want to make Don's



1:17:18

Remember to come next week here. Next week.





1:17:21

Yes. I will be here. Okay, I'm calling this video meetings journey.



1:17:29

Thank you. I don't have the contact information.