

**MINUTES
REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 15, 2021**

**RECEIVED
MAR 22 2021
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
DARIEN CT.**

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Representative Town Meeting was called to order at 8 p.m. by the Moderator, Seth Morton. This was a virtual meeting.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were present:

From District I, there were 17 members present, 0 absent.
From District II, there were 14 members present, 2 absent.
From District III, there were 15 members present, 1 absent.
From District IV, there were 14 members present, 2 absent.
From District V, there were 12 members present, 5 absent.
From District VI, there were 16 members present, 1 absent.

The absentees from District II were: Bohnsack, Thorne.
The absentee from District III was: Woodbury.
The absentees from District IV were: Millar, Raymond.
The absentees from District V were: Fiveson, Kelly, Moller, Pesce-Gray, Wheeler.
The absentee from District VI was: Wurm.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

**** THE AGENDA WAS ACCEPTED BY UNIVERSAL CONSENT.**

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 22, 2021 REGULAR MEETING

**** ADELE CONNIFF, DISTRICT III, MOVED APPROVAL.
** MARK ADILETTA, DISTRICT V, SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED BY POLL VOTE WITH 99% IN FAVOR, 1% ABSTENTION.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Moderator said that RTM member requests for hard copies of the BOF-approved Budget must be received in the Town Clerk's Office by April 1st.

RTM
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Clara Sartori, District II, spoke, on behalf of the League of Women Voters, of a program being held at the Library on April 5th from 7:00 to 8:30 (attached).

PRESENTATIONS

DAVID KNAUF, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH DARIEN – UPDATE ON COVID-19 AND VACCINES

Mr. Knauf gave a slide presentation (attached). Regarding Geno Auriemma, he said they cannot let their guard down; they are not out of the woods yet.

Patti Bumgardner, District I, recommended that they put the 877 number more prominently on their website. Mr. Knauf said they can improve the prominence of that number.

WAYNE FOX, TOWN COUNSEL – FOIA QUESTIONS REGARDING E-MAIL

Attorney Fox spoke about the connection between the use of the town email address and a private email address of an RTM member. He further indicated that the town is seeing many more FOI requests from plaintiffs who seek information prior to initiating a lawsuit and individuals who may be unhappy or annoyed with the town over a given matter and file extensive FOI requests. It is his opinion that it is much easier for the individual member and for the town to have all of these emails in one place as opposed to a member being issued a subpoena to comply with a request or a directive from the FOI Commission.

He recommends that the RTM members use the town email address when dealing with any town matters.

Edward Washecka, District III, asked how someone would deal with FOIA requests. Do Town officials get training in what is or is not subject to an FOI request? Attorney Fox said any requests that come to the First Selectman's Office would then be directed to him. We take these requests very seriously in terms of balancing the requirements of the statute and the rights of individuals. He and the First Selectman have spoken about making a presentation to the RTM on the requirements of FOI. He has suggested that Tom Hennick, the FOI Public Relations Officer, is most willing to make a presentation to the Town and that is a very worthwhile seminar.

Michael Wheeler, District II, said he has emails that come onto his I-Phone – does that make them discoverable? Attorney Fox said any such emails would be discoverable.

William Cusack, District II, asked if the Town is able to view his email if he sends it out on the Town website. Attorney Fox said he does not believe that Town officials should be able to read individual emails.

James Cameron, District IV, asked about the dangers of committees discussing information. Attorney Fox said if individual members are exchanging emails about items such as discussing scheduling that that is not a problem. If in fact members are discussing Town business those emails carry the potential of violating the statutes.

RTM

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Frank Adelman, District VI, raised the question about keeping his town business as part of his private email but in a segregated G-mail. Attorney Fox indicated that it would be better to use the town account for any town business. Under Frank's suggestion, one would still be exposing your private email to the possibility of inspection or being subjected to a subpoena.

21-7

CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL OF \$9,200 TO PURCHASE CONCESSION EQUIPMENT FOR WEED AND PEAR TREE POINT BEACHES

**** ADELE CONNIFF, DISTRICT III, CHAIRMAN OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE, MOVED:**

WHEREAS, the Town of Darien's Parks and Recreation Department is currently utilizing concession equipment at both Pear Tree Point Beach and Weed Beach; and

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2021, said equipment was assessed at the fair market value of \$12,850.00 and was deemed to be well maintained and in good condition; and

WHEREAS, the current owner has agreed to sell the concession equipment to the Town for \$9,200.00; and

WHEREAS, the appropriation has been reviewed and approved by the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Representative Town Meeting hereby approves and authorizes this special appropriation in the amount of Nine Thousand Two Hundred Dollars and 00/100 (\$9,200.00) from fund balance for the purchase of the existing concession equipment at Pear Tree Point Beach and Weed Beach.

**** THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY PATTI BUMGARDNER, DISTRICT I.**

Adele Conniff, District III, Chairman of the Parks & Recreation Committee, read the Committee report (attached).

Jack Davis, District III, Chairman of the Finance & Budget Committee, read the Committee report (attached).

Clara Sartori, District II, asked who was going to maintain the equipment. Pam Gery, Director of Parks & Recreation, responded that the Town would maintain the equipment.

James Cameron, District IV, said that the Pear Tree renovation is on hold and asked what the implication of buying used equipment would be if it would eventually be replaced. Pam Geary said that was a great question. The equipment at Pear Tree is of a smaller amount than the

equipment at Weed Beach, so it would still be a good value. Lorene Bora, Chair of the Parks & Recreation Commission, said they could also store this equipment and reuse it.

**** ITEM 21-7 CARRIED ON A POLL VOTE OF 99% IN FAVOR, 1% ABSTAINING.**

21-8

CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON AMENDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN TOWN OF DARIEN AND CT GREEN BANK FOR BILLING AND COLLECTING C-PACE TAX ASSESSMENTS

**** JACK DAVIS, DISTRICT III, CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE, MOVED:**

WHEREAS, Connecticut General Statutes §16a-40g established a program, known as the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) Program, to facilitate loan financing for clean energy improvements to commercial properties by utilizing a state or local assessment mechanism to provide security for repayment of the loans; and

WHEREAS, the Act authorizes the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority (the "Authority"), a public instrumentality and political subdivision of the State charged with implementing the C-PACE program on behalf of the State, to enter into a written agreement with participating municipalities pursuant to which the municipality may agree to assess, collect, remit and assign, benefit assessments to the Authority in return for energy improvements for benefited property owners within the municipality and for costs reasonably incurred by the municipality in performing such duties; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the C-PACE statute, Connecticut Green Bank is the Program Administrator of the C-PACE Program and any other things that establish the Program Guidelines for the C-PACE Program; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut Green Bank has recently amended the C-PACE Guidelines to permit billing and collections of all C-PACE Program Benefit Assessment Liens by the Connecticut Green Bank; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut Green Bank and the Town desire to release the Town of certain billing and collections obligations under the C-PACE Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the initial C-PACE Agreement required the approval of the legislative body of the Town of Darien to enter into the agreement and consequently, the approval of the municipality's legislative body to amend the agreement.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Representative Town Meeting of the Town of Darien approves the proposed amendment and authorizes the First Selectman of the Town of Darien to execute and deliver the C-PACE Partial Release Agreement substantially, in the form of the proposed Amendment attached hereto and made a part hereof for the purposes provided therein, together with such other documents as she may determine to be necessary and appropriate to complete the Amendment.

C-PACE PARTIAL RELEASE AGREEMENT

THIS C-PACE PARTIAL RELEASE AGREEMENT (the "Agreement") is made and entered into as of the ____ day of _____, 2021 (the "Effective Date"), by and between

[TOWN NAME], **CONNECTICUT**, a municipal corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Connecticut (the "Municipality"), and the **CONNECTICUT GREEN BANK, F/K/A CLEAN ENERGY FINANCE AND INVESTMENT AUTHORITY**, a quasi-public agency of the State of Connecticut, having its business address at 845 Brook Street, Rocky Hill, Connecticut 06067 (the "Green Bank").

RECITALS

WHEREAS, Municipality and Green Bank entered into that certain Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy ("C-PACE") Agreement dated [Date] (the "C-PACE Agreement") pursuant to section 16a-40g of the Connecticut General Statutes (the "C-PACE Statute") associated with the administration of the clean energy program authorized under the C-PACE Statute (the "C-PACE Program").

WHEREAS, pursuant to the C-PACE Statute, Green Bank is the statewide administrator of the C-PACE Program and, among other things, establishes the program guidelines for the C- PACE Program (the "C-PACE Guidelines");

WHEREAS, Green Bank has recently amended the C-PACE Guidelines to permit billing and collection of all C-PACE Program benefit assessment liens by the Green Bank;

WHEREAS, Green Bank and Municipality desire to release the Municipality of certain billing and collections obligations under the C-PACE Agreement to facilitate the billing and collection of benefit assessment liens by Green Bank, in accordance with the C-PACE Guidelines.

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements set forth herein, it is hereby agreed as follows:

1. **Defined Terms.** All capitalized terms used in this Agreement and not otherwise defined shall have the respective meanings set forth in the C-PACE Agreement.
2. **Release of Certain Billing and Collection Obligations.** As of the [Date], Green Bank shall be deemed to have released Municipality from liability for all billing and collection covenants and obligations set forth in Section 3(e) and Section 3(f)(l) of the C-PACE Agreement with respect to any Benefit Assessment Liens recorded by the Municipality prior to and after the Effective Date (the "Released Obligations"). Such Released Obligations shall not, however, include the obligation of Municipality to pay to Green Bank any funds received, due to error or any other reason, which

Municipality knows or has reason to believe are associated with a Benefit Assessment Lien, no later than thirty days after the month that such funds are received.

- 3 Release of Annual Fee Obligation.** After the Municipality receives the Annual Fee for the fiscal year 2021, Municipality shall be deemed to have released Green Bank from the obligation to make any future Annual Fee payment to Municipality. Such release shall not, however, include the obligation of Green Bank to cover the Municipality's out of pocket costs and expenses in discharging its duties under the C-PACE Agreement in accordance with Section 3(g) thereof.
- 4 Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original, and all of which together shall constitute but one and the same instrument.
- 5 Amendment and Waivers.** Any amendment to or waiver of any provision of this Agreement must be in writing and mutually agreed to by the Green Bank and the Municipality.
- 6 Entire Agreement.** This instrument constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes all previous discussions, understandings and agreements between the parties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Municipality and Green Bank have each caused this Agreement to be executed and delivered as of the date indicated above:

[TOWN NAME]

By: _____
[Name, Title]

CONNECTICUT GREEN BANK

By: _____
Bryan T. Garcia,
President

**** THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JENNIFER SCHWARTZ, DISTRICT I.**

Jack Davis, District III, Chairman of the Finance & Budget Committee, read the Committee report (attached).

**** ITEM 21-8 CARRIED ON A POLL VOTE OF 98% IN FAVOR, 2% ABSTENTIONS.**

**** LISA YARNELL, DISTRICT III, MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** CHERYL RUSSELL, DISTRICT II, SECONDED.**

**** MOTION CARRIED ON A POLL VOTE OF 97% IN FAVOR, 3% OPPOSED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Telesco Blois
Telesco Secretarial Services

APPENDIX – March 15, 2021

NVR – no vote registered

<u>DISTRICT I</u>	<u>(21-7)</u>	<u>(21-8)</u>
Baldwin, Sarah	yes	yes
Barsanti	yes	yes
Barthold	yes	abstain
Brakman	yes	yes
Bumgardner	yes	yes
Butler	yes	yes
Conologue	yes	yes
Keane	yes	yes
Kelly, Colin	yes	yes
Lublin	yes	yes
McNicoll	yes	yes
Mecsery	yes	yes
Mitchell, Holly	yes	yes
Schneider	yes	yes
Schwartz	yes	yes
Von Stuelpnagel	yes	yes
Wong	yes	yes

<u>DISTRICT II</u>	<u>(21-7)</u>	<u>(21-8)</u>
Bacon	yes	NVR
Bohnsack	absent	absent
Casolo	yes	yes
Cusack	yes	yes
Handler, M.	yes	yes
Handler, S.	yes	yes
Howe	yes	yes
Lyons	yes	yes
McNally	yes	yes
Mix	yes	yes
Russell	yes	yes
Sartori	yes	yes
Thorne	absent	absent
Tie	yes	yes
Wheeler, Mike	yes	yes
Wilson	yes	yes

<u>DISTRICT III</u>	<u>(21-7)</u>	<u>(21-8)</u>
Conniff	yes	yes
Cortese	yes	yes
Davis, Jack	yes	yes
Giordano	yes	yes
Golus	yes	yes
Lane	yes	yes
Marousek	yes	yes
McGoey	yes	yes
Minnick	yes	yes
Mitchell, Sue-Ellen	yes	yes
Moore	yes	yes
Morton	Does Not Vote	
Washecka	yes	yes
Woodbury	absent	absent
Yarnell	yes	yes
Zimmerman	yes	yes

<u>DISTRICT IV</u>	<u>(21-7)</u>	<u>(21-8)</u>
Banks	NVR	yes
Bhat	NVR	NVR
Branca	yes	yes
Cameron	yes	yes
Castles	yes	yes
Domittner	yes	yes
Fiore	yes	yes
Heitz	yes	yes
Kanigan	yes	yes
Kemp	yes	yes
Miceli	yes	yes
Millar	absent	absent
Obin	yes	yes
Rayhill	yes	yes
Raymond	absent	absent
Savage	yes	yes

<u>DISTRICT V</u>	<u>(21-7)</u>	<u>(21-8)</u>
Adiletta	yes	NVR
Bayne, C.	yes	yes
Bayne, D.	yes	yes
Duffy	yes	yes
Fiveson	absent	absent
Kelly, Lindsay	absent	absent
Kilcourse	abstain	abstain
McLachlin	yes	yes
Moller	absent	absent
Patrick	yes	yes
Pesce-Gray	absent	absent
Platt	yes	yes
Reed	yes	yes
Sherwood	yes	NVR
Smith	yes	yes
Wade	yes	yes
Wheeler, Sean	absent	absent

<u>DISTRICT VI</u>	<u>(21-7)</u>	<u>(21-8)</u>
Adelman	yes	yes
Baldwin, Barry	yes	yes
Chickles	yes	yes
Grogan	yes	yes
Jijon-Caamano	yes	yes
Lauritzen	yes	yes
Lucas	yes	yes
Luz	yes	yes
Madson	yes	yes
Orphanos	yes	yes
Poli	yes	yes
Silsby	yes	yes
Taylor	yes	yes
Van Loan	yes	yes
Vogt	yes	yes
Werner	yes	yes
Wurm	absent	absent


RTM Announcement

The League of Women Voters of Darien is pleased to join the Darien Library and the Fairfield County Community Foundation in cosponsoring a series of discussions on the Future of Fairfield County: Darien. The online series via Zoom will begin on Monday April 5 at 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Each discussion will focus on the future of Darien within Fairfield County and will include expert forward looking analysis on demographics and statistics in each of several areas. Most importantly, the series will focus on what the community would like to see in the future of their hometown.

The April 5 program will focus on the long-range economic outlook in the area, as well as the impact on environmental sustainability, and equity. During the discussion, the attendees will identify key issues to examine in a follow up session on April 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Please visit the Darien Library event page to access additional information and the registration link. <https://www.darienlibrary.org/event/4906>

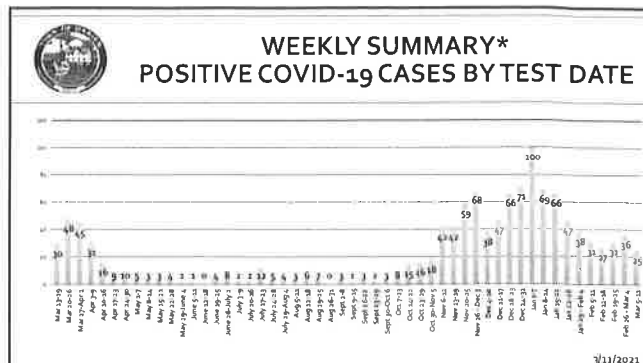



CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

DARIEN HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Date of Report: March 11, 2021
David Knauf, REHS, MS, MPH
Director of Health

*Data contained in this report may differ slightly from that reported by the State due to the use of different date ranges.





IMPORTANT REFERENCES:

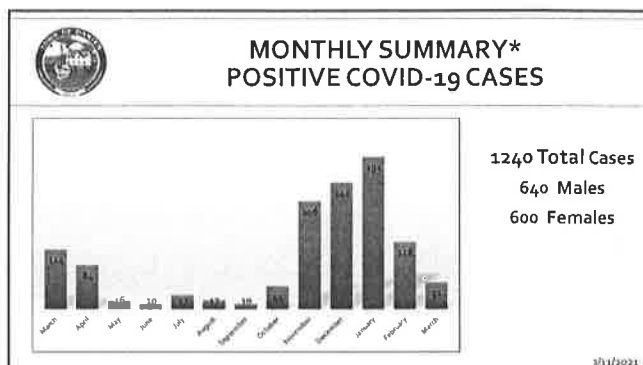
State Vaccine Program: Eligibility, access, and support –

- Are you eligible to receive vaccine? <https://portal.ct.gov/vaccine-portal/COVID-19-Vaccination-Phases>
- Where you can get vaccine? <https://portal.ct.gov/vaccine-portal/COVID-19-Vaccination-Scheduling-Options>

In accordance with State guidance, the Darien Health Department is currently referring those over 55 years old to the State website listed above to secure appointments until teacher vaccinations have been completed.

Darien Public School Portal:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/e/2PACX:1vSGfWkoIzX1CaIKr_ja6_ESZTbxAcuMAHmbCO1amkopiFWk65Abv_q7nMf6Q3Gp6fYnKSF0dwjow/pub?start=true&loop=true&delayms=3000&slide=id.p

3/11/2021

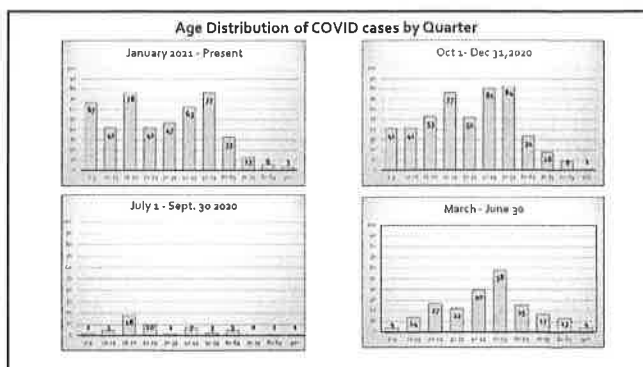


DARIEN IS OFFERING VACCINE IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE PRIORITIES
VACCINATIONS ARE AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
CURRENTLY FOCUSING ON EDUCATORS AND CHILD CARE PROVIDERS:

PRE-K-12 TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS, CUSTODIAL STAFF, FOOD SERVICE PROVIDERS, SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS AND CHILDCARE PROVIDERS AS WELL AS IN-SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF.

*Phase 1A eligibility includes healthcare providers, medical first responders & residents of assisted living facilities
*Phase 2B eligibility includes anyone over 65 years old. Effective March 1, eligibility was extended to those over 55 and teachers.

Clinic Date	1 st Dose (Moderna)	2 nd Dose (Moderna)	Johnson & Johnson
4/30	110		
1/16, 1/17	330		
2/3	100		
2/9, 2/10	330		
2/16, 2/17	167	113	
2/21, 2/24	65	315	
3/1, 3/4	70	100	20
3/5, 6, 9, 10	790	380	110
TOTALS	1910	810	140



HOSPITALIZATIONS & DEATHS BY MONTH

	Hospitalizations	Deaths
March	4	2
April	9	3
May	3	0
October	1	0
November	3	0
December	5	2
January	5	1
February	1	0
March		
Totals:	31	9

Note: All hospitalized patients were admitted due to COVID-related illness. Several patients needing hospitalization have had pre-existing medical conditions and were found to be COVID positive when tested upon admission.

3/11/2021

SUMMARY OF TEST RESULTS FROM DARIEN DRIVE THRU CLINIC

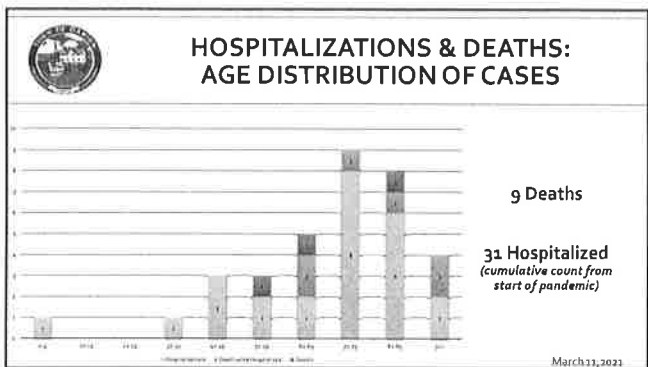
For your convenience, a drive-thru COVID-19 testing clinic has been established at Leroy West Parking Lot, 59 Leroy Avenue, Darien, CT.

Testing is by appointment only, no doctor's order is needed. Appointments can be made through www.everpointhealth.com. You do not need to be a Darien resident to be tested.

Date	# Tests	Darien Residents Tested	Positive Results Darien
March 10 date	135	76	3
February	1413	80	10
January	2289	1300	21
December	2151	1261	19
November	1,212	598	14
October	399	237	1
September	166	101	0
August	400	276	0
July	394	210	5
Total	7912	3857	81

Coronavirus Testing Locations:
 The State of Connecticut has partnered with United Way/211 to develop and maintain a public testing database. This database can be viewed here www.211.ct.gov/covidtesting. The purpose of this database is to provide accurate information on the locations of public testing facilities; users are able to search for the closest testing location based on their address.

3/11/2021



TOTAL COVID TESTS BY MONTH DARIEN RESIDENTS, ALL TEST FACILITIES

	Total # Tests	# Positive	Rate
March 2020	295	144	54.9%
April	535	84	15.7%
May	846	16	1.9%
June	1,093	10	0.9%
July	1,417	27	1.9%
August	1,520	17	0.9%
September	1,073	10	0.9%
October	1,977	46	2.3%
November	5,905	206	3.5%
December	6554	242	3.7%
January 2021	8401	291	3.4%
February	6592	128	1.9%
March (to 3/11)	1230	51	4.1%

3/11/2021

3/15/2021 RTM Parks & Recreation Report to the RTM

(21-7) CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL OF \$9,200 TO PURCHASE CONCESSION EQUIPMENT FOR WEED AND PEAR TREE POINT BEACHES

Why purchase the concession equipment at Pear Tree Point and Weed Beaches?

Concessions at our beaches have been run by a local vendor that owns most of the equipment. In recent years the town charged the vendor rent, (\$3,000 at Weed and \$2,000 at Pear Tree), until then the town received no monies from the concession business. The Parks & Recreation Commission believes the concession business is a valuable asset of the town and could be generating much more revenue for the town. The best way to raise revenue levels is by competition. Unfortunately, in the past, with one vendor having the advantage of owning the equipment, the town has only received one bidder when the concession contracts have gone out to bid. Other bidders were discouraged because they would need to purchase their own equipment to provide service. Additionally, last summer when COVID restrictions were eased, the concession service at the beaches should have been resumed. Unfortunately our concession vendor was unable to offer the service for personal reasons, unrelated to COVID. Because we did not own the equipment, we were unable to bring in another vendor. Our ever resourceful Parks & Recreation Department managed to have two local restaurants offer food on a limited basis, a few days a week. They cooked outside and were allowed the temporary, limited use of refrigeration. This experience underscores the lack of control when the town does not own the equipment.

Recent RTM history with purchasing concession equipment:

In the 2020-2021 budget cycle, as part of the RFCNRE, Parks & Recreation requested funds for purchasing new and used concession equipment at Weed Beach. The RTM voted at their June 8, 2020 budget meeting to defer the bulk of this request (\$25,000), leaving \$5,000 in the budget for the hiring of a concession consultant to evaluate the beach equipment needs of the town.

Concession equipment purchase process since June 2020:

In July 2020 Profitable Food Facilities Worldwide was hired to analyze the current food operation at Weed Beach, Pear Tree Point Beach and McGuane Park. (Parks & Recreation has been asked to take over concession operations at McGuane by the Darien Little League.) The evaluation included analysis of potential for success, efficiency, menus, standards of operation, service, kitchen design as well as current equipment value and quality. A consumer survey conducted by the Parks & Recreation Department in conjunction with the consultant received 975 responses and showed there was interest in more menu variety and healthy choices as well as the top favorite, ice cream. The consultant recommended purchasing old equipment from the current vendor (estimated value: \$3,000 for both beaches) as well as purchasing new and was enthusiastic about the business possibilities at our beaches and McGuane Park.

Our contract for running the beach concessions expired at the end of the 2020 summer season. In October discussions were held with the concession equipment owner regarding possible equipment removal, purchase by the town and/or donation to the town. By December the concessionaire chose a combination of donating and selling to the town, providing an itemized in-

ventory of his equipment, (estimated value: \$10,900), plus a list of donations. In January an independent concession equipment evaluation was done by BTU Systems finding the fair used market value at \$12,850 . If bought new, the concession equipment would cost \$32,575. A proposal by the town of \$9,200 to purchase all of the concession equipment has been made and accepted by the equipment owner. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the purchase on 2/8 as did the Board of Finance on 2/23. Our RTM Parks & Recreation Committee voted on 2/24 with 14 of 15 members present, to approve the purchase with 13 in favor and 1 opposed. The dissenting member wished to have a better understanding of the reason for the purchase and to be sure the money spent was as little as possible. All that remains is for the RTM to approve the expenditure of \$9,200 for purchase of the existing concession equipment at Weed and Pear Tree Point Beaches.

Summer 2021:

I am sure we are all looking forward to a less stressful summer than last summer! You can be sure that the town along with the Parks & Recreation Department has been busy working to be ready to provide those summer activities that we all enjoy. As this equipment purchase request has been working its way through the town approval process, the town has issued an invitation to bid on the complete operation of the seasonal food and beverage concessions at Weed Beach, Pear Tree Point Beach and McGuane Park with a contract length of one year and an option of three possible one year extensions. All bidders were required to tour the facilities before submitting a bid. Minimum hours of operation were set by the Parks & Recreation Department at all three venues in the bid document as well as the requirement to report monthly sales and pay a percentage of gross sales (a minimum of 5% required) for the opportunity to vend. The town received two bids which were opened on 2/17. References have been checked and the town is ready to sign the concessionaire contracts, should the RTM vote to purchase the current concession equipment for \$9,200 this evening. We hope for your support with this purchase.

Adele Conniff
RTM Parks & Recreation Committee Chairman

21-7 Consideration and action on approval of \$9,200 to purchase concession equipment for Weed and Pear Tree Point Beaches

March 15, 2021

I am Jack Davis, Chair of the RTM Finance and Budget Committee.

Usually, an amount this small might not come before the RTM. The BOF might have chosen to pay for this transaction by using the BOF Contingency or the RFCNRE Reserve – both of which the BOF could effectuate without RTM approval. However, the BOF chose to refer this to the RTM. As such, the source of payment will be the Town's General Fund which does require RTM approval.

Last budget cycle's original request to fund Weed Beach concession stand equipment acquisition was for \$30,000. The BOS split that request into two parts - \$5,000 to review the equipment requirements and the remaining \$25,000 to acquire needed equipment. The RTM cut the latter amount of \$25,000 predicated on the concept that it was undefined with the comment to return to the RTM when there was greater clarity. In addition, the purchase of concession equipment for Weed Beach could only be defined as a "quality of life" purchase as there was no real ROI.

The P&R Commission and department has now come back with the detail requested. Not only is the purchase of equipment for Weed Beach, it now includes Pear Tree Point concession equipment – and the cost is only \$9200 – far less than the original estimate and for two concession stands. Add to the revised proposed revenue sharing which now has a one-year payback including maintenance – this is a great deal. The Commission, department and town admin should be commended for this proposed deal. For information purposes, there is maintenance in the proposed FY22 budget.

P&R did their part in coming with a detailed plan, we should support this and keep our promise. The Finance & Budget committee met on March 4th and unanimously approved the acquisition of this equipment and recommends the same to the full RTM.

Respectfully submitted

Jack Davis

RTM Finance & Budget Chair

(21-8) Consideration and action on Amending Agreement between Town of Darien and CT Green Bank for billing and collecting C-PACE tax assessments

March 15, 2021

I am Jack Davis, Chair of the RTM Finance & Budget committee.

I move 21-8 Consideration and action on amending agreement between the Town of Darien and the CT Green Bank for billing and collecting C-PACE tax assessments. Do I have a second?

If there are no objections, I waive the reading of the resolution

In 2014, the town entered an agreement with the CT Green Bank for the collection of C-Pace tax assessments. At that time, the Bank required the legislative body to approve – not the BOS. Thus, any amendment requires the same approval – only the RTM and not the BOS.

The CT Green Bank provides financial incentives and tax credits to investors that finance in green applications for both businesses and households. Initially the investors thought it best for the Towns to collect their C-PACE tax assessments. Now the investors prefer to have their funds delivered to them quicker and thus taking the middlemen the towns out of the process facilitates that action.

Connecticut adopted the C-Pace policy in 2012 and was the 26th state to adopt it. C-PACE is a policy that allows property owners to finance clean energy improvements on their property; those improvements will be senior to any existing mortgage of the property to keep costs down and that financing will be for the usage life of the measure. The collection of these loans comes through real estate tax collection.

In discussion with our Tax Collector, Kathy Larkins, all eight (8) of the C-PACE collections currently processed by Darien are up to date. The transition will occur prior to the next tax cycle July 1st. Darien was compensated \$500 for these services. Our tax collector, Kathy Larkins, anticipates a smooth transition.

It should be noted that Town Counsel, Wayne Fox and Kathy Larkins have reviewed the amendment and have no issues with the proposed document.

The RTM Finance & Budget committee met and unanimously approved this resolution and recommends the same to the full RTM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Davis

RTM Finance & Budget committee chair