

Meeting Transcript: COVID-19 and Our Beaches Metropolitan Beaches Commission

Wednesday, May 20, 2020 | 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



Commission Chairs: Rep. RoseLee Vincent and Sen. Brendan Crighton

Attendees: Rep. Adrian Madaro, Paul Nutting, Mike Murphy, Susan Hamilton, Keith Mahoney, Antonio Barletta, Bob Tucker, Carol Haney, Rep. David Biele, Cindy Theodore, Jason McCann, Dan Kenary, Bruce Berman, Andrea Pessolano, Chris Marchi, Chris Mancini, Barbara Bishop, Erin Walsh, Nick Gove, Ricky Serino

Bruce Berman 00:0

Without much more fuss, if you don't mind. And I believe we have one new commissioner with us or joining us shortly. Keith, are you with us?

Keith Mahoney 00:10

Yes, I am. Good morning, everybody.

Bruce Berman 00:12

I'd like to welcome Commissioner Mahoney who's replacing Paul Grogan from the Boston Foundation as commissioner for the nonprofits. The Boston Foundation has been with us since the beginning. And they continue to be an asset, an ally, to all of us that are in this community. And I want to thank them for that. Without any more fuss, I'm going to turn it over to Rep. Vincent and Brendan Crighton to say hello.

Chris Mancini 00:47

I just want to say right before that, sorry to interrupt, I just want to thank everyone for joining us. And we've got most folks' names here. I do have two phone numbers that I just wanted to get an identification or a role call on. If you're calling in by phone, Representative Biele, we've got you, but if you're calling by phone, can you just say hello and say who you are?

Nick Gove 01:12

Nick Gove is here.

Chris Mancini 01:14

Thanks, Nick.

Bruce Berman 01:16

Thank you so much, Nick.

Chris Mancini 01:19

And one other number, 617-895-6742? Someone else just joined, so if you just joined us, would you mind saying hello and introducing yourself by phone?

Erin Walsh 01:39

Hi, this is Erin Walsh from Representative Dan Hunt's office.

Chris Mancini 01:44

Hi, Erin, thanks so much.

Cindy Theodore 01:48

Hi, everybody. Cindy Theodore from East Boston.

Chris Mancini 01:52

Oh, hi, Cindy. Thanks so much for joining us.

Bruce Berman 01:56

Nick before I turn it over to the chairs, would you like to speak briefly after, or shall we wait till later on in the meeting?

Nick Gove 02:11

Yeah, no, we can wait till later on, we can try to help answer any questions that folks have.

Bruce Berman 02:16

That's great. Thanks for being with us. And also, again, thanks to Commissioner Hamilton, for being with us. Senator Crighton.

Brendan Crighton 02:26

Thank you, Bruce, and, Chris. Thanks, everyone for joining. It's great to see everyone. It's been a long time. Obviously, it's easy to get down in the dumps during these difficult times. But it's great to come together around an issue that we're all passionate about, so thank you for taking the time. And also just want to say I hope everyone's safe and their families are well. But in terms of the beaches, I think you're probably hearing from your constituents, we're hearing from ours. Anyone that has a coastal community are certainly going to be dealing with many issues as we approach the summer season. And you know, the past week with the guidance coming out around how beaches will function on DCR properties, we thought this would be a great opportunity to get together. Also, just a quick shout out. I know it was already called out, Keith Mahoney, welcome aboard. It's been great working with you on many issues over the past decade or so. You're going to be a great addition here. So thank you for joining us. You know, from my end of things, it's, you know, I don't need to go into my particular concerns because we want to open it up to everyone. But over on the Senate side, you know, we've been elevating issues up to the leadership level, which, you know, it ended up being a conversation with the administration to try to improve regulations also, through our legislative processes to improve policy. But the Beaches Commission I think can serve as a voice for all of us dealing with very similar issues, issues that we deal with every year, whether it's maintenance, cleanliness, you know, for my district, the algae, which, you know, certainly takes up a good chunk of our beach now, which will be even more problematic in terms of access if we're trying to limit, you know, if we're trying to promote social distancing. So, anyways, we're here to hear everyone's thoughts and to hopefully give some recommendations to the administration and some feedback, which, you know, I thank DCR greatly,

they reached out right away and kind of solicited this type of information. So with that, thank you, everyone. I look forward to hearing your thoughts and I'll turn it over to my wonderful co chair RoseLee Vincent.

RoseLee Vincent 04:50

Good morning, everyone. As we all know, during this really difficult time, our beaches probably will become more important than ever, so I think getting down and finding out what's going to make it work during this difficult time is going to be important. And I too would be remiss if I didn't welcome our new Commissioner Keith Mahoney, so welcome aboard. We look forward to working with you. And I think I just want to hear what everyone else has to say and what's going to make their beaches work. I think all of our beaches are different, and yet alike, but I think, I think we need to treat each beach individually because I think we each have different needs. And I think especially during this time, it's going to be interesting to see what's going to work on each individual beach. So I'm looking forward to hearing from everyone. Thank you.

Bruce Berman 05:51

I'm gonna make a suggestion, because I think linearly, and I'm going to say let's start in the north and go from Nahant to Nantasket, and ask each of the representatives of the elected officials and also the community members to share their impression about both, you know what ... Listen, having had a frank discussion, and I'm not speaking for DCR, we all know what the general ground rules across all these beaches are, right? Wear a mask. Don't gather with anybody but your household and in no circumstances over 10 people. Practice social distance. Use common sense and respect. That said, there's a lot of details that are different as Representative Vincent and Senator Crighton, have both acknowledged on every beach. And so I'm sure that each of the commissioners or many of them will have some specific questions for Nick and for Susan about their beach. And I want to thank you for are being here and willing to answer them. And when this is done, we're going to write it up. We're going to share it with you quickly to make sure that what you felt and said was accurately reflected. And then we're going to give it to DCR. Because they've been very responsive to local officials and, and to the public on this. And, and hopefully we can continue to keep these spectacular, urban natural resources open. At the end, I'm also going to ask Chris to talk a little bit about Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's messaging and I think it might be, after we go through once, a good idea to ask Nick or Susan, to tell us what we can expect this weekend as well. Okay.

Brendan Crighton 07:50

I defer to my neighbor and friend Bob Tucker from Lynn Shore Drive. Bob, do you have anything you want to share?

Bob Tucker 08:00

While I'm very satisfied with what the local DCR staff is doing here, as always, they've done a great job. They're out, even though the trash receptacles, as you know, are covered over, they're out there every day, picking up whatever may be left on the ground, not that much. From my viewpoint here on Lynn Shore Drive, I would say about 90% of the people that are walking or utilizing the beach, on sidewalks are following wearing a mask or following the six feet on distancing as best as they can. I don't know what's ... right now they have the trash barrels going from all along Lynn Shore Drive and in the parking spaces on street parking spaces blocked off. Now with the question of the beaches opening up. I don't

know what DCR is planning on doing, if they're going to allow parking again, on Lynn Shore Drive. If they don't, it's going to increase as you know, Brendan, is going to increase off street parking on the side streets of the Lynn Shore Drive or where residents park. Next question is as the weather gets warmer is the algae program going to continue? Right now it hasn't been bad at all. But we're coming into June, July, August with the hot summer months. So that's a question I have the DCR. And are the trash receptacles going to be permanently covered over where folks can't use it. And with more people come into the beach, I don't know if that's going to be problematic or not. From the Friends of Lynn and Nahant Beach perspective, you know, we've canceled obviously, the concerts for the season, we cancelled any cleanups, we canceled any other programs that we have, basically for the remainder of the year. So we're not going to, matter of fact, we're not even gonna have meetings because we meet in someone's home. So all our activities, including meetings are, are postponed and we'll see what 2021 brings.

Brendan Crighton 10:25

Thanks, Bob. And I'll just, you know, build off that quickly. I already kind of spoke a bit on it. I guess my concerns are more around enforcement of the policy moving forward. Obviously, Lynn's been one of the hardest hit cities in the Commonwealth consistently top five with COVID cases. And certainly, our residents always enjoy a good day at the beach and I suspect it will be crowded. They're probably starting this weekend. You know, I just don't, I don't know how we're going to, you know, enforce whether it be the masks or people keeping space or not gathering in crowds of 10 or more, and I don't know that DCR has the workforce to do that. I don't know, you know, the state police involved, these are just things to think about. I don't expect folks to have an answer, and hopefully it won't be a problem. But I suspect, you know, it's always a crowded beach. And even if you cut down on the parking lots, like Bob said, people are going to park in the neighborhoods and, you know, we're gonna have our hands full, I guess, you know, I think communicating throughout the process, you know, will certainly be a big part on how we approach these. I know Mayor McGee certainly has, the mayor of Lynn, has concerns on this as well. So, you know, we'll keep that open chain of communication with DCR. But interested to hear anybody's thoughts on that.

Bruce Berman 11:43

May I suggest, just Nick or Susan, would you like to answer Bob's questions now for us, if you can? About algae and also...

Susan Hamilton 11:56

I can take a stab and Nick can jump in but, basically our plan for going into this weekend is to remain the same as it is now for Lynn and Nahant. So parking spaces blocked off and the Nahant parking lot closed for parking in the hopes of reducing capacity. You know, we've taken great care in working on a plan since this started, and most recently looking at the governor's guidelines that were released this week to come up with plans covering Memorial Day weekend. And not only looking at the public and what's available to the public, but also the safety of our staff. So we're trying to you know, walk a fine line and balance all of those elements. But for Lynn and Nahant, and Nahant Beach in particular, the plan is to remain the same as it is today. In regards to algae, we should have the staffing in place to continue that program this summer, I don't anticipate there to be any change on that. So that will be going forward this summer, as we have done the past couple years and beyond, so that shouldn't be an

issue. But obviously, Bob, if there's a hiccup, just let me know. And I'm happy to follow back up with the staff on that. That's kind of our plan in a nutshell for Lynn and Nahant.

Bob Tucker 13:25

Well, could I ask a question, or am I still muted? Just one follow up. So for the Memorial Day weekend, I understand that and going forward on closing off the parking lot in Nahant and and not allowing on street parking on Lynn Shore Drive on the beach side. Is that going to continue through the summer? I mean, I think it has reduced some of the capacity of the number of people walking and running along Lynn Shore Drive, but I don't know. You know, once the hot weather comes, with capacity, but that's the question is, is that going to be a permanent decision? I don't have a feeling either way. I'm just, would like to know when people, you know, email me, ask me some questions on it.

Susan Hamilton 14:13

Yeah, I would say it's our plan through the weekend. And that's about all we can commit right at the moment. Oh, certainly we'll be, you know, referring to, you know, the guidelines coming out from the governor, and depending on what phase of the reopening process we're in, that may influence generally what our plans are going forward. But I think we'll certainly be working closely with you and with the local officials as we go forward beyond Memorial Day as to what our plans should be, generally for these beaches.

Bob Tucker 14:44

Okay. All right. Thank you, Susan.

Bruce Berman 14:46

Just a quick comment, if you don't mind. Thanks, Susan. And from my perspective, not opening, the parking lots, or making whatever the changes on Memorial Day weekend, is a sensible and measured approach to this. Having read the guidelines, I know you've got to probably have a bunch of geometrists and mathematicians doing calculations to figure out how many cars you're going to allow in, in phase one and stuff like that. And I know that you'll continue to communicate well with us and with the commissioners to the public to let us know. I just want to make a comment that Senator Crighton mentioned to me in our conversation, and I don't think he's changed his mind. We want this to work, because these outstanding blue and green spaces are critical recreational outlets, for our communities. And so we want to keep the beaches open. And we want to do whatever we can to help that. That includes aligning our messages with yours. And also, you listening to us. I'm going to ask Chris at the end to speak briefly about Save the Harbor's plans for messaging over this weekend, which are pretty straightforward. Sorry. Um, so that was Lynn, and Nahant. So guess what's next coming down? I bet it's Revere.

RoseLee Vincent 16:11

Beautiful beach of Revere. America's first public beach, might I add?

Carol Haney 16:17

Oh, I knew you'd get in with that. It's so good to see everyone, or at least sort of see you. But I have one question before I get into Revere Beach. But to you, Susan, do you have an idea of when the beaches are going to open again? I heard June 13. Is that correct?

Susan Hamilton 16:42

The beaches are technically open now. So I guess I need to know exactly what you're referring to.

Carol Haney 16:49

The removal of the barrels, the opening of the bathrooms and all that kind of stuff.

Susan Hamilton 16:54

Yeah, the bathrooms, and the rest of the facilities there. That, I think, as I said, we have a plan going through this weekend, and we'll keep working with you and the municipalities and the legislators. I think we'll evaluate how things go this weekend and then move forward from there and determine trash and restrooms as we go forward. So I think we'd like to provide some additional services but in a measured way. So I think we're, I think, well, we'll move towards that. But I think our first test will be this weekend and then kind of moving forward.

Carol Haney 17:28

Okay, is there additional staff put on to help monitor these situations?

Susan Hamilton 17:38

We haven't to date requested or changed our staffing plans at our facilities for the summer to do just, you know, that particular item but we generally have staff available to do, you know, cleaning the bathrooms and dealing with trash. And I think we'll monitor to see if we need additional staff for different elements of things this summer as we go forward, but right now, we're not planning on additional elements. You know, I believe the senator had asked about enforcement, I think in regards to that, we do rely heavily on the state police and other law enforcement entities to help us out with that. And we're doing our best to provide guidance to our staff, but also, you know, also taking into account their safety and not having them be in a position of being, you know, confronting the public. So I think our mode right now is just educational and informational, with signage, as much signage as we can as opposed to getting that face to face contact with folks on the beach right now because we're still in that phase one cautious stage and our staff safety is key here to keep them safe.

Carol Haney 18:54

Okay, well, now I'll get to Revere Beach. The Revere Beach Partnership had met, this way, and had come up with some suggestions for the reopening of Revere Beach. And I would like to just read these to you so that you can have them on record. Okay. They think that they want to publicize this, all of the guidelines, through the use of billboards, PSAs, Revere's 311 messaging, social media, we're suggesting maybe high school students handing out flyers with information because it's very important that the teenagers and the youngsters in the city get involved in the beach and all the signage at the beach itself, and in addition to the above communication, we were thinking that you should maybe place additional hand washing stations along the beach, to have beach monitors to ensure that the guidelines are followed, to maybe reroute traffic on weekends, from Elliott Circle to the DCR turnaround, which would allow more space for people to socially distance. And we think that you should continue to the closed parking at this point in time. There should be no lounging or beach games on the beach. Masks must be worn unless you're in your space, groups limited to 10 or less. And we are suggesting at this point in time that all public facilities are closed, that there are no public trash cans,

and safety standards for beach restaurants, including social distancing is enforced. So those are the recommendations from the Revere Beach Partnership. Just wanted to share them with you all.

Susan Hamilton 20:58

Thank you, Carol. I mean, some of the items are part of the governor's order and guidelines like masks. So certainly some of those are already built in right now. So yep, understood. Thank you.

Carol Haney 21:12

Thank you. RoseLee, did you want to say something for Revere? Or Rick?

RoseLee Vincent 21:17

You said it very well for all of us in Revere, Carol. So thank you. That's why you are an ace commissioner.

Ricky Serino 21:26

Ditto, thank you, Carol.

Bruce Berman 21:32

At the risk of getting in trouble with Representative Vincent, if you don't mind. You know, there's been some discussion, and there's some discussion in the guidance about parking statewide. I know that every community is different and I know that DCR is very cognizant of that as well. I also know that the MBTA lot in in Revere, you know, has plenty of space, that there are other places to park. There seemed to be a consensus among electeds and others that I spoke to that they're not in a hurry to have parking open up on the boulevard.

RoseLee Vincent 22:15

Absolutely. As far as the city of Revere, like Lynn, we're one of the hotspots with COVID and our beaches get overpopulated or I don't know if you want to say overpopulated, but those populations swell so drastically. And we have so many ways of getting to Revere Beach and there's so many parking lots. We have the MBTA parking garage that holds something like I believe, and maybe Susan or Nick may have that number, but I think it holds at least 1,500 cars. We have parking all along Ocean Ave. We have parking lots are available for parking. So keeping the parking the way it is, is really important. I know that I spoke with the mayor of the city regarding the parking, and he's in total agreement that keeping the parking restrictions as they currently are would be very beneficial to the city of Revere, especially during this COVID crisis. So parking, or the lack of parking right now is really important for the safety of the people that I represent. So I'm very grateful to the governor and to DCR for taking such a bold step at the very beginning with the parking and it's absolutely helped. So thank you, and I hope it continues for a while.

Bruce Berman 23:54

Thank you, Representative Vincent. Commissioner Gutro, are you still with us? Doug, are you with us?

24:06

He messaged that he had to leave.

Bruce Berman 24:08

Yeah, I noticed that. He may have a few particular suggestions about Quincy, which I will communicate directly to you, Nick and Susan, after the meeting and I'll also make sure are reflected in the meeting notes. But if you're there, let us know and we'll take you out of order because we know you have to jump. So that's Revere. Guess what's next: Winthrop by the sea.

Barbara Bishop 24:34

Winthrop by the sea. Well, I've just been told over the weekend that one of the largest after school summer programs has been canceled for the year. So I don't know what all those kids are going to be doing. I imagine a lot of them will be spending their days at the beach. We have more than one beach, the other main beach is Yirrell Beach, which is the town beach, and a lot of swimmers go there because it's a better beach to swim at than Winthrop Beach, but I don't know. I think one of our biggest challenges is how to deal with the enforcement or lack of for dog poop on the sidewalk, if I may be so indelicate. I'd like to suggest that we have put in place a memorandum of understanding between the town and DCR. At one point in the past they had one, in the last few years I guess they let it expire and they never renewed it. But it would allow Winthrop police to issue violation tickets for people who let their dogs poop on the sidewalk or on the beach or bring their dogs on the beach. I think it's a real public health issue for a lot of people. There's just so much dog poop. I don't know what we're going to be doing this summer. Usually at the end of the summer, we have a movie night on the beach. And that's at the end of August when it gets darker earlier. So I don't know if we'll be able to have that or not. But that's an expensive event to hold and I was wondering if anybody else who does that might have some suggestions for a less expensive event if anybody has move night on the beach. So that's about it. Do we have lifeguards yet, Susan?

Susan Hamilton 26:48

We are in the process of recruiting guards right now. They aren't going to be starting this weekend. Obviously like everyone else we've been, you know, there hasn't been any place for them to train or to test or to get certified. Everyone, YMCAs across the state, you know, we're all kind of scrambling now to make sure they've got the certification and testing up to speed. So our plan is to hire lifeguards this summer, we might just be delayed based on the process.

Barbara Bishop 27:24

I just have one question, one other question for you. Are there any policies or restrictions or whatever relative to surfers or wind surfers or paddle boarders that we should know?

Susan Hamilton 27:44

I'll have to look at the guidelines in regards to beaches. I don't believe there's actual restrictions to some of those activities right now in phase one, but I think we'd have to get back to you on that. There are obviously, with group activities on the beach, soccer, volleyball, things like that are a no right now. Where they can social distance when surfing, they may be allowed, but I just need to circle back with you on that.

RoseLee Vincent 28:17

I'd like to say something on Barbara's dog poop observation. On Revere Beach as well, the enforcement of dogs on the beach continues to be nonexistent. I can look out my window and because

of all the apartments that are here and the condos, we have dog walkers. I can look out at any given time and see a dog walker on the beach now with three or four or five dogs at once. Now you know that they're not picking up and I think it really is getting to be a health hazard and a real crisis with the dog feces all over the sidewalks and all over the beach. I would love to see more enforcement and even if DCR just goes down with the little John Deeres and just says please, you're not supposed to be on the beach and please, you know, pick up after your dog but it is getting totally out of hand. So, I just wanted to jump in on that. Sorry, Barbara.

Barbara Bishop 29:37

No, that's okay. I have a quick question about that. If DCR issues a fine, does DCR get to keep the fine?

Susan Hamilton 29:48

Good question. I don't know off the top of my head, to be honest. I don't know.

Barbara Bishop 29:54

That might be an incentive to...

Bruce Berman 30:01

I want to point out that all of us, from experience, know just about exactly, excluding lifeguards, how many DCR staffers are on a beach. And, and also acknowledge that they have a lot of stuff to do this year that's much more complicated. So I suspect that avoiding and protecting their staff, avoiding face to face with the public, whether it's over poop or personal protective gear is a high priority in phase one, Barbara. So they would be very amenable to a discussion that says, is there a piece of what you do that we can pick up and just while you mentioned revenue, just want to observe that in its wisdom, the legislature and the Commonwealth has, you know, made DCR's budget largely funded by stuff that we're not doing right now. Golf just opened up, parking lots are closed, revenues are down. And so this is going to be a challenge not just this year, but next year. So creative ways that we can help the agency accomplish its goals and our shared goals, I think that would be something that we should underscore. That's the way I'd look at it. In the past, there might have been jurisdiction issues. Those can be resolved if people want to get it done. So that was very good point, Barbara, and thanks for that. So next, I believe we move to a slightly more urban, but fabulously valuable part of Boston, which is just across the pond from me, and that would be East Boston.

Adrian Madaro 31:54

Thank you, Bruce. Good afternoon, everyone. It's so good to see so many of your faces, except for Brendan Crighton, I could have done without seeing his face today. Just kidding. So, in all seriousness, thank you for bringing us together despite the fact that the statehouse is closed and we can't meet in person, the work should still go on. I think the biggest thing I'm hearing in East Boston really is trash. So obviously DCR has implemented a policy on all their properties, where they're basically covering trash cans, flipping them upside down, and encouraging people to take out whatever they take in. And while that may sound great, in theory, it is not, you know, working in practice, but I was on a call yesterday with DCR and they informed me that they will be revisiting that policy and making some tweaks to increase cleanup efforts because that was certainly an issue not only at Constitution Beach but also at Belle Isle Marsh in my community. So we should see some improvements with the trash

issues. Beyond that, while I understand the need to close the parking facilities to help encourage physical distancing, what that means for my community is that on, you know, any weekend where there's been nice weather, cars have been really covering all of the streets adjacent to the beach, which are residential streets in East Boston. And these are folks, you know, many of whom are not from East Boston. So I think collectively, this is probably going to be an issue for anyone, particularly those of us who have urban beaches. So maybe as a group, this is something that we just want to advocate to DCR about and make sure that they're in communication with local law enforcement and what have you, because those will be quality of life issues that our constituents will deal with on the ground since folks can't park directly at the beach. Chris?

Chris Marchi 33:48

Thank you, Adrian. I think that's a really important point. In East Boston, I think all the points that have been made so far in their own way apply to most beaches and in East Boston. With the location of Constitution Beach, buried in the urban fabric and the residential areas we've already seen in past years without the COVID problem, overflow parking issues, and then indirect issues that are also related to that. Namely, things like people bringing, you know, cases of soda or beer with them to the beach, emptying out coolers onto the street in residential neighborhoods, on their way to the train station. You know what I mean? So there's overflow trash and parking issues. And so I think, as Adrian said, I think it would be fabulous to just sort of brainstorm with this group or to, to see if anybody else is worried about those kind of issues and see what we can do in terms of maybe working with the municipalities and the DCR together to recognize the indirect impacts of the closure of the parking lots.

Adrian Madaro 34:56

Thank you Chris. The only other thing I would add is that I think we as a body, need to help DCR message out physical distancing, particularly those of us who have, you know, densely populated communities, like East Boston, you know, the beach is one of our only outlets to get recreation, open space. So naturally people are going to flock there and physical distancing is going to be a reality for the foreseeable future, just like masks in public will be. And, you know, DCR, I think, you know, with the limited resources they have, it's really important that we as well are promoting those same messages to our constituents and helping DCR message that, you know, to keep everyone safe.

Chris Marchi 35:42

Adrian, one more than thought, I just want to echo what Carol said, especially, regarding the potential need for monitoring. I know that we haven't really gone there in response to COVID yet in open spaces, but in New York they have park monitors. And again, I'm not suggesting that we have the resources to do this. I'm just saying that the idea Carol brought up of recommending monitors, I think at Constitution Beach, which really has a sort of MBTA Blue Line catchment, as well as their sort of regional draw with our constituencies, could really use a little extra support in terms of whether that be signage, or even a volunteer effort or even paid, some kind of monitoring to help with the COVID.

Adrian Madaro 36:35

Thank you. Cindy, did you want to add anything from East Boston? I didn't see your face so I almost forgot. But I want to make sure you have a moment.

Cindy Theodore 36:49

I'm still in [unintelligible] and I don't have the face view. So no, I think you just summed it up. Well, those are the same things that I've been hearing. Working in the health center and serving the community as well, they do talk a lot about the trash and it's funny. Also, we've had patients that we encouraged to go for walks in the beach, and they the number one thing they said are the dog poops that are there. So I think anything we can do around helping and cleaning up would probably be good not just for, you know, their wellbeing but also to help people kind of get out, although they're practicing social distancing, but being able not to be cooped up in the house, but being able to be out there and and feel safe. But you summed it up well, thank you Adrian.

Adrian Madaro 37:44

Thank you, Cindy. That's all we have for East Boston folks, but it does sound like we may need to create a dog poop subcommittee and Chris has volunteered to chair that subcommittee. So with that, we can move forward.

Chris Mancini 37:56

Commissioner Madaro, thank you for saying all that and I just wanted to thank Cindy, thank you so much for joining the Save the Harbor board recently, it's been particularly invaluable, you know, with that connection to East Boston and in light of the health crisis having your expertise on the board. And Commissioner Madaro, I just wanted to thank you for what you said on supporting DCR in getting that messaging out locally. On that note, Save the Harbor is, we've put together some messaging on social distancing. You know, it's going to be common information, but we're premiering that via Facebook tomorrow with a video and we have a press release going out. So, as that comes up, you'll see posts about that, letting folks know. So please, share that, in the spirit of social distancing, when you get to a beach, if there's no parking available, part of that process of saying, well, there's not room on the beach in that case, you know, I've got to make some sacrifices, I've got to find another place to go today. So, you know, look for that tomorrow at 10am. And if there's nothing else, in East Boston, I think we move on to South Boston.

David Biele 39:17

Good morning, everybody. It's good to hear your voices. Just want to I guess reiterate a lot of what's already been said on this call, particularly on the trash pickup. That's one of the questions that we're getting most frequently from residents who are out, going for walks alongside the DCR properties. And I know, you know, I've been in touch with DCR on that, appreciate all their their hard work, but I just wanted to, you know, let everybody know that that's a common refrain in my district as well. The other concern that that we are hearing a lot about is passive uses versus active uses, you know, understanding the need to go for a walk, you know, and have, you know, some level of activity. The concern comes when active turns to passive. I was driving around over the weekend making some deliveries and noticed, you know, we are starting to see groups congregate on the beaches. And as weather gets warmer, I know that that's going to be a question of, you know, messaging, enforcements. I know, M Street Beach in South Boston, you know, has seen a lot of visitors in recent years, you know, so, just reiterating a lot of the points that have already been made around how do we message, what's the game plan on enforcement, I know DCR has done a great job trying to discourage that kind of activity, taking parking away for the time being along the beachside fronts in the district, and that's been met with, you know, good feedback from residents in the community who appreciate efforts to try to promote good healthy behavior with everything going on. So, you know, it's a lot of what's already been

brought up on this call, you know, and appreciate the opportunity to give some feedback here. And I just look forward to working with the group partnering with DCR on making sure that we're doing the right thing, you know, for our beaches, also for our residents during these difficult times. So that's it on my end, and thank you, everybody for the time. It's good to hear your voices. And we'll get through this working together.

Bruce Berman 41:39

Thank you so much for that, Representative Biele. I just want to just acknowledge that that Commissioner Barletta has joined us, I see him in the upper right hand corner and invite him to unmute his video and say, as well as from a perspective of being former DCR. You're still muted, now you're not, you're fine.

Antonio Barletta 42:13

Thank you. Sorry for jumping on late. You know, just like everybody else. It's just really, really busy at the moment and I'm going to catch up with Bruce afterwards for anything that I missed. We've had great communication with DCR about what's going on with the beaches around us. And so I appreciate them for communicating with us. And I know with Mayor McGee as well, as far as the causeway goes and Lynn Shore Drive. So I just, you know, appreciate all that communication and would you like to an update as far as we're thinking about here in Nahant with our beaches?

Bruce Berman 43:05

Yes.

Antonio Barletta 43:07

So, you know, honestly, it's going to be 80 degrees on Friday, right? So, you know, we know that people are going to go to the beach. We have our parking lots in town closed, and we're going to keep them closed so long as the DCR lot on the on the causeway is closed. So we anticipate that to stay closed throughout the weekend. However, I do have, you know, we put together, we've gotten signs made with the guidelines that were sent out by EOEEA, about you know, no more than 10 people in a group. Keeping 12 feet apart from groups. Having a mask on when you can't be six feet apart from other people, those sorts of things, no active games. And we're going to be putting those out starting Friday. We're also roping off entrances and exits, areas where, you know, over the years, people tend to put down a blanket or a seat or a tent or something pretty close to the entrance and exits of those beaches. So we're gonna rope those areas off a little bit so that when people do want to go to the beach or leave the beach, they're not forced to be within someone else's space. And we're getting our bathrooms prepared as well with hand sanitizer, cleaning program and, and things of that nature. So, it's, it's a tough one because, you know, we're not gonna, as far as public messaging goes, I'm going to explain to people you know, here in Nahant we've had, you know, our per capita numbers pretty high, but that's because we're so small, but we have had, you know, a new case pop up almost every day, last week, one a day. So, you know, the message to the public is really that we're not encouraging people to go to the beach, but we understand people may go and we want to be prepared for that, you know, the last thing we want to see is a restart of the last two months. So we just went through so I think that's the way we're approaching it, is we understand people are going to go, if they're going to go we want them to follow the guidelines that EOEEA put out. But we're going to keep the parking lots

closed and try not to encourage people to go. But the harsh reality is people are gonna end up at the beach.

Bruce Berman 45:45

Thank you, Commissioner. We were in South Boston about to move to Dorchester, and I do want to acknowledge that **Nita Holder [sp?]** from Senator Collins' office is here. Thanks for being with us **Nita [sp?]**. And also, someone from Representative Hunt's office is here as well. Is there anything you want to say to us? If not, I'm going to turn it over to Commissioner from Dorchester, Paul Nutting. Thanks for being with us. Who I might point out has just bought a very fast boat, so you may see him off your beach.

Paul Nutting 46:23

Yeah, and that was gonna be a personal question that I was gonna start with. Nick or Susan: That boat ramp on Morrissey Boulevard. When's that opening?

Susan Hamilton 46:40

I don't know. Good question.

Paul Nutting 46:44

Okay, hopefully soon, because that was my plan to use my little Zodiac in and out of that spot. Anyway, I did have a couple of comments. First of all, we need to congratulate our Commissioner Dan Hunt because he just had his first child a couple of weeks ago, Daniel Jr. So Erin, pass along our greetings to him on that. We've been having issues with dogs on the beach but we've always had those issues because our beach is kind of a neighborhood beach. So the people from Savin Hill, bring their dogs out to the beach and let them roam free. I know in other communities such as Hull, you know, once that date comes in May, nobody brings their dog on the beach and I wish there could be more enforcement like that. But I also understand a lot of the discussion today has revolved around people's behavior. And it's very difficult to monitor and enforce people's behavior. Because, you know, as has been said, you don't want to be getting in confrontations with people. So I think that the public education campaigns that Save the Harbor/Save the Bay has undertaken, I think the tweeting that DCR has been doing as far as capacity at different parks has been really useful. So I think public information and sort of public, or what would you call it, peer to peer monitoring of behavior, might be something that hopefully starts to occur more and more. So those are the sort of the behavior issues I want to talk about. One of the things that a lot of people have been talking about, and I certainly understand why the parking along these major thoroughfares that are contiguous to the beaches have been closed down. But I've always considered Dorchester beaches, sort of as beaches for everybody to come to. Unlike places like Cohasset, or Hingham, or Marshfield, where you need to have a town parking permit to go to their beach. And I feel that a lot of people who want to come as a family can't come unless there's a vehicle involved. And I hope that, you know, there's some loosening of restrictions, or, frankly, I think now might be a good opportunity for DCR to look at what we've been talking about for some of our other hearings, as far as instituting some sort of fee for the parking in the places that it's free now, and maybe that would help to minimize, you know, crowds of parking if there was some sort of fee. So those are really the only issues I wanted to bring up.

Bruce Berman 50:00

Paul, I want to just thank you very much for that. And I know that Susan and Nick and DCR are looking at every beach and every parking lot, you know, on a case by case basis, so it's important to get that feedback. I also want to acknowledge that Dan Kenary, Commissioner Kenary from Harpoon is with us. Is that right, Dan?

Dan Kenary 50:21

So that's correct, Bruce. Thank you. Nice to be here. Sorry, I was late.

Bruce Berman 50:25

And I just want to say that at least three of the people that are on this call took part in the virtual 5K, and I cheered them all on, but they still wouldn't bring me any of their swag. Okay. So thank you guys for finding a way to make that happen. If you don't mind, Chairman Creighton, you think that we might just ask, you know, Keith and perhaps Dan, who don't represent a community but represent constituencies in one case, all the residents of the region, the Boston Foundation, and the other, everybody who loves beer and the beach. I think Doug Gutro from Quincy is not here and then that means we'll probably be doing Nantasket and then have a little time for some other updates. So Keith, or Dan, want to say a few words?

Keith Mahoney 51:22

Sure. Thank you, Bruce. So, you know, the Boston Foundation during this time has really been focused on some of the supports for the nonprofit sector. We created a COVID relief fund that brought in I think we're at about 8 million with that. We're also working with the mayor of Boston as well as Gov. Baker on the statewide fund. One of the things that we're shifting to is how we think about summer for youth in Greater Boston and what sort of opportunities they'll be. That's why some of the, you know, I've been listening very closely to those of you who represent the beaches and how that's going to be used by children who don't have other scheduled activities that may be canceled. So I think as we start thinking about the summer, we're looking at what nonprofits we can be supporting for activities that are, you know, advancing school kids and trying to reverse some of the summer learning loss, that's been compounded by people being out of school for so long. So I'm very interested in hearing more about what people are seeing in their communities and happy to take any questions about what the foundation is doing with our funds at this time offline. But nice to be with everybody and I appreciate seeing so many lovely beach backgrounds this morning.

Dan Kenary 53:08

Bruce, by the way, that is us swimming in Boston Harbor here behind the brewery a few summers ago. We call it Harpoon Beach. I don't think it's an authorized location or the beers that we were holding while we're doing it, but you'll forgive those. You know, we're just confronting a loss of about 35% of our business and trying to kind of keep our heads afloat through this as an employee-owned company, and, at the same time working with the distilleries to make hand sanitizer, we ran a very successful virtual Five Mile Road Race this weekend, we had almost 3,500 runners from nine countries and 40 states and raised over \$100,000 for ALS research, and trying to keep things going here and maintain a sense of community as we face, you know, an absolutely unprecedented challenge like everybody else on this call, so happy to think of sunny days on the beach.

Bruce Berman 54:02

Dan, Dan, thanks for that. Thanks for all that Harpoon has done for Save the Harbor and for the beaches programs that we've run. A couple years ago, the Commonwealth had a revenue shortfall, it's likely we're going to have a revenue shortfall again, that year, we maintain the Better Beaches program because of the support of Harpoon at the Harpoon Shamrock Splash and because of the support of the Boston Foundation, so I want to thank both of them for that. And, and also for being with us today. Your perspectives are invaluable. I mean, we you know, DCR's revenue, 30% of it comes from recurring revenue, and those revenues are down and the Commonwealth revenues are down. You know, there's an old saying, we may have come over on different ships, but we're on one boat now. So, anything that we can do to help you, including reaffirming our commitment to drink your fabulous beer.

Dan Kenary 55:02

Yes, thank you.

Bruce Berman 55:06

To the Boston Foundation, okay, to manage. Those are important things. I think that if we're done with Dorchester for now, and recognizing that, you know, we do know a little bit about the plans for Quincy. I don't know if it's announced, but I understand that parking is going to be open on Quincy Shore Drive. Is that right, Susan?

Susan Hamilton 55:34

Yes. Our plan is to reopen Quincy Shore Drive for this weekend so presumably, for Saturday, could even be a little earlier, but Saturday, yep.

Bruce Berman 55:44

In that regard, may I just ask a question, a personal question, about a South Boston institution. Is it possible that I'll be able to ask Bridget Ryan from my office to walk down to Sullivan's and get me a hot dog in the not too distant future?

Susan Hamilton 56:00

Yes. Yeah, yeah, we believe that they will be opening for takeout. And we're looking to support them on the trash issues that kind of come with that. So looking at a dumpster to be placed close to that to alleviate some of the trash issues down there.

Bruce Berman 56:23

What, a dumpster on the beach? No, no, kidding.

Paul Nutting 56:31

Does that mean that the Day Boulevard closure is going to end?

Bruce Berman 56:36

No, it does not know. As I said, Bridget will ride down for you and pick it up and bring it to you, Paul. Okay. Okay, I guess, I don't know. Sullivan's pretty much relies on people driving there. But, okay.

Chris Mancini 56:50

I want to take a pause and recognize that Andrea Pessolano from Senator Keenan's office is here. Hi.

Andrea Pessolano 56:57

Yeah, we'd love to hear more information about Quincy Shore Drive opening. Our comment was just that as you know, parking's been limiting. There's been a lot of excess street parking. The city's been handling that and changing some of the resident signage. But any details about Quincy Shore Drive opening would be appreciated.

Susan Hamilton 57:25

Okay, yeah, I think I had just said what the plan was, okay. Yeah. We have been working with the city of Quincy and we are going to be lifting the parking restrictions along, specifically related to Wollaston Beach.

Andrea Pessolano 57:39

Okay.

Bruce Berman 57:42

Thanks, Susan. And also it's good to see you Andrea, our best to the senator, okay, who I know can't be with us today. You know, what goes around comes around. I believe that we have two representatives from Hull today. Jason McCann who is a long time commissioner. And Joan Meschino, who couldn't be with us, actually asked Andrea Patton, who is, as I understand, a policy fellow in her office, and who was Better Beaches coordinator for Save the Harbor/Save the Bay before that, to jump in on her behalf. Jason, how are things in Hull?

Jason McCann 58:26

They're good. The beach is nice. The weather's nice. No, I mean, I think things are good. I think that the safety guidance, Susan, from the DCR is great. It's very clear. I've heard good things about it. There are good ways to get it out. And if there are other ways that I could get it out. That's great. So I think the safety guidance is very, very clear. I mean, I think our biggest concern down here, so for Monday, to be clear, all the DCR labs are going to be open 50% at Nantasket Beach, is that right?

Susan Hamilton 59:00

No, our understanding is that working down with the community that that we will keep the parking restrictions in place through Monday, through the holiday.

Jason McCann 59:10

Okay, so that changes a bit-

Susan Hamilton 59:12

Perhaps beyond but at least our plan is only you know, through Monday.

Jason McCann 59:16

Through Monday. Okay. And so, um, I mean, I think a couple thoughts come to mind as that plan changes and it gets warmer. Definitely, you know, having a plan in place for you know, if the lots do open up a certain percentage, you know, how are we alerting people that they're full and where are we telling them to go because the town, I expect, is going to keep its restrictions for no parking for anybody

who doesn't have a town sticker. So the same kind of issues that came up with other towns on parking on side streets and that type of thing. And something that came up as I was listening to other people talk, I mean, I definitely appreciate that, you know, for DCR staff or state police officers kind of confronting people in person about, you know, violating the safety standards puts them at risk. I wonder, I'm not sure if other places have done this, but whether it's the state police or certain DCR staff to have, this may sound a little silly but, have megaphones so that, you know, when crowds get too tight in certain areas without having to get close to kind of say, you know, this, you know, this area, you're getting kind of close to each other, how about putting on your masks or spreading out because, you know, one of the things I think specific to Nantasket Beach, more and more people visit here, and as many know, once the high tide is here, people have to come off that beach and spill over somewhere and if that if they can't really stay in the lots and we don't have, you know, really don't have the green space to kind of take all those people. You know, there's going to be some real safety issues. So if there isn't some kind of way to enforce it that keeps everybody safe and reminds people, you know, look, you know, you gotta create some room, you got to put on your mask. Just a suggestion.

Bruce Berman 61:06

Commissioner McCann, you just came up with a brilliant idea. And Save the Harbor/Save the Bay will be going on Amazon today and buying megaphones for each volunteer community in the beachfront communities so that you can get messages out without getting into face to face.

RoseLee Vincent 61:31

Can you give me one, too, Bruce, so I can call them out from my balcony?

Bruce Berman 61:35

Yes, from the balcony. That's a great idea, Jason.

Jason McCann 61:43

I know it's a little bit, yeah, it is a little silly, but it is something I get concerned about. I'm of the mind that I want people from out of town to use our state resource that we have here. There are a lot of people who don't have a beach-

Chris Mancini 62:07

Yeah, we're getting a little background noise.

Jason McCann 62:19

But anyway, the only other thing as a suggestion too, is specific to us. So the part of Nantasket Ave between the entrance and exit of the main lot as that's evaluated for opening, as part of that evaluation, I know this might involve the DOT, closure of parts or all of that section of Nantasket Ave as a way to create more open space for pedestrians coming off the beach, potentially for use by some of the restaurants for outdoor seating as they look to reopen. So that was a suggestion from one of my selectpeople, because there's that long stretch you know, Susan, right between the entrance and exit of the main lot where, you know, you can only get in one way and you can only get out one way. Is there a way to kind of route people so that we can close that big section and create more public space to spread out? Andrea, I don't know if you had anything else to add from from Joan's office. But that's, that's all my thoughts. Thanks for listening.

Bruce Berman 63:21

Andrea, before you go, we need to carefully scribe it, so don't speak quickly.

Andrea Pessolano 63:26

I'm taking all my notes. No, good to see everybody. No additional comments from the representative. Jason hit everything great. So thanks, Jason. If there are any comments that she has, in response to the notes, we'll get some requests to save the harbor to include them. But thanks for the report, Commissioner. Good to see you all.

Mike Murphy 63:49

Hey, Bruce, can I just add something?

Bruce Berman 63:52

Who's speaking?

Mike Murphy 63:54

It's Mike Murphy from Senator O'Connor's office.

Bruce Berman 63:56

Mike, I'm so sorry. Mike was first.

Mike Murphy 64:00

I've been quiet the whole time.

Bruce Berman 64:03

He was the first and of course, I'm so sorry. The first shall be last.

Mike Murphy 64:08

You can see my face turning red on the screen. No, I just had to come, we've been getting quite a few emails about the trash barrels down at Nantasket Beach specifically. I'm guessing that until further notice there'll be no trash barrels available down there, right?

Susan Hamilton 64:27

Sorry, I'm unmuting. I think, we're still discussing that this week in terms of trash at a number of our coastal beaches. So that's on the agenda. I'm not sure where we will end up before Saturday but we are talking about it. So, noted.

Mike Murphy 64:46

Thank you very much.

Bruce Berman 64:51

You know, it's interesting, some themes emerged. I don't know if Brendan's with us I know he had to pop, but-

RoseLee Vincent 64:59

Can I jump in for one second, Bruce, this is RoseLee Vincent?

Bruce Berman 65:06

Yes, absolutely, RoseLee.

RoseLee Vincent 65:08

Okay, so Susan and Nick, quick question that just came to mind. I've been thinking of it for a while and I don't know whether or not you've already approached the restaurants along Revere Beach Boulevard, would it be possible or is it even something that's feasible that they could put outdoor tables temporarily outside during this pandemic, so that they could have seating, especially those that have indoor seating that they could bring it out and maybe extend it more so than the normal or even some can't go out at all, and maybe allow them during this crisis, to be able to seat some people outside? I'm just wondering if that's at all a possibility?

Susan Hamilton 66:05

I don't know the answer to that. I think some of those issues are being handled by kind of the governor's task force advisory, kind of outside of recreation and EEA. But in terms of just actual space, we'll have to get back to you on that.

RoseLee Vincent 66:24

All right, thank you and and again, thank you, Nick and Susan and thank the DCR. I know you guys really have a difficult situation out there, we know that you're doing the very best that that we can. So thank you.

Carol Haney 66:41

Can I ask a question, too? What is the rationale behind having no covers on the trash barrels? Because we have a real problem on Revere Beach, I'm sure every beach does, with the seagulls. And that's why we have the covers on the trash barrels.

Susan Hamilton 67:05

Right. Yeah. I mean, we do love to put the covers on the trash barrels. So I'm not sure the situation actually there right now. So, or just priority list, so well, I'll inquire.

Carol Haney 67:17

Okay, thank you.

Bruce Berman 67:18

You don't mind just two more things. And then I think we can adjourn. Certainly on time and probably a few minutes ahead. I'd like to give you a quick update on what our plans are for the Better Beaches program, which last year brought, with the help of our partners, more than a million people to the region's public beaches, which frankly will not be happening again this year. That said, we are planning, I believe, on finding a way to support those organizations. That we supported last year financially, with an idea that the funds would probably come this year and probably not be used till DCR opens permitting again, hopefully, you know, for the following year, in addition to encouraging, you know,

programs that will be appropriate to the new normal. I think that some of those funds might be used to buy everybody a bullhorn, right, Jason, or to support events that are smaller and appropriate. That could be, I'm hearing trash cleanups and other things, as well as some appropriate celebrations. You know, at Save the Harbor we're looking forward to this. It's gonna be a virtual summer in many ways for us. Instead of taking 100 kids from Winthrop over the course of the summer out on the harbor to go fishing and lobstering, we're probably going to be producing a video for them, of us and our 30 program staffers, fishing and lobstering. Instead of having Andres Amador bring hundreds of people to the beach, we may literally be drawing lines in the sand on the beach to make some points in a way that works. So, you know, we're going to be communicating to the Better Beaches program partners individually to see how we can support them. And obviously, you know, it's uncertain on whether or not there'll be funds next year in the budget for the program. So it might be good if, in fact, we reserve them in partnership with the partners that we've worked for in the past. If you don't mind before we turn it back over to Senator Creighton, I'd like to ask Chris to talk a little bit about Save the Harbor's messaging for the weekend.

Chris Mancini 70:05

Yeah, thanks. Thanks for saying that. And on that that same note, you know, as Save the Harbor has been looking at the situation for the past few months, like everybody, you know, we've kind of decided that, you know, our two guiding principles are how do we remain the Boston Harbor connection for the region youth and families under these circumstances? And how do we be great support to all of our partners, all of you on this call and all of our youth partners, and so, you know, I just want to acknowledge our staff Kristin Barry and Bridget Ryan and Maya Smith who've been working really hard on developing a new program, talking weekly, daily to dozens of different partners, the Ys, the BCYF, different camps and different communities. So you know, please don't hesitate to reach out to them with your thoughts, your questions. on how to engage your kids, you know, Barbara, on your question of, you know, what are the kids going to do with the programs cancelled, we're, figuring it out in partnership. But again, always coming back to that question of how to be safe and responsible. And make sure these resources stay open in whatever form we can use them. So our messaging for this, this weekend, and going forward is really, it's pretty simple. It goes in line with, with what we've heard from the governor and from the DCR, you know, keep your distance, cover your face, wash your hands, follow the guidelines, and we'll be able to keep using our beaches. So anything we can do for each of you individually, as you know, we're here and we're continuing to brainstorm as Bruce said, you know, what will we do on the Better Beaches front, what can we do on the program front? So again, look for that video tomorrow at 10 and please amplify that message.

Bruce Berman 71:58

He's the star of the video that we're putting out tomorrow. And then we're going out with and thanks to our friends from Quincy with a Quincy harbor patrol to do a virtual harbor cruise and marine mammals safari and cruise to Boston Light, which we'll also be posting for those people who are actually sheltering in place for a while until things settle down. We're doing regular virtual programming, probably on lunch hour for kids all summer. We have a lot of exciting things to do. I just wish that they were in addition to not instead of. Senator:

Brendan Crighton 72:38

Thank you, Bruce. And thank you, Chris. Just, you know, want to wrap up, be respectful of people's time, everyone's time here. You know, certainly to Susan and to Nick from DCR, thank you for all that you're doing under very difficult circumstances and to the entire DCR workforce, on the front lines, but certainly as the season heats up. Also, to Save the Harbor/ Save the Bay's staff, I don't think I recognize them as well, being a former staffer to a Senator, I know the staff are the biggest part of any operation and certainly, you know, your team does so much and so much for this commission too behind the scenes. So thank you to everyone. And then also all the members here you know, this is a volunteer position, this is not something anyone's being paid for. And you know, everyone's juggling with you know, the new realities, working from home and not having childcare and you know, dealing with their own work life and trying to keep that in order. So for you to take your time to come here to help the overall well being of our beaches, means a ton and it's why I'm so happy and honored to be a part of this group as the chair of the commission. So with that, I think I'll pass it over to RoseLee expect to, you know, some follow up pretty soon in terms of what we're going to be recommending and more information we'll be asking for from DCR. Thank you, everybody and pass it over to RoseLee.

RoseLee Vincent 74:14

Thank you, everyone. I just want to echo Senator Crighton. Kudos to everyone. Thank you to all the commissioners, especially our new Commissioner, welcome aboard Keith Mahoney. We look forward to again working with you. DCR, Susan, Nick. Thank you, Chris and Bruce from Save the Harbor, Save the Bay. Thank you and to all our commissioners, it does take a village and hopefully we will all get through this crisis together and our beaches will continue to be a source of pride and recreation for all of us and for all of the people that we represent. So thank you all, I look forward to our next meeting.

Chris Mancini 75:03

Thank you, Senator Crighton. Thank you, Representative Vincent. Thanks everyone here. I realized I thanked half my staff and didn't finish. I thanked our youth program staff, but want to also acknowledge Trevor Etheridge has been with us actually longer than I've been with the organization, our development manager, Joye Williams and Hannah Bernstein who joined us earlier this year thinking they were going to get to get involved with a lot of really fun outdoor events and parties. And you know, we haven't quite seen that but you know, Joye, thank you for, you know, coordinating and putting together this and many other meetings like that, like it and everything you're doing behind the scenes and Hannah for doing our transcript and being kind of a, I don't know, a utility player on all fronts throughout this entire season. So thank you all and Bruce, of course, thanks for staying on as our Director of Strategy and Communications and pulling this meeting together, and all the communications work.

Bruce Berman 76:05

Thank you, you know that this meeting has been videotaped, terrific. Especially the part where Adrian says that he's really happy to see all of our faces except for Senator Crighton's. And with that, I'd say, life's a beach, huh guys?

Chris Mancini 76:30

With that, we'll we'll get these notes out to everyone. Please send your feedback if anything's been missing or misrepresented, and we really appreciate you taking the time.

Bruce Berman 76:39

Do I hear a motion to adjourn?

RoseLee Vincent 76:45

I second.