VILLAGE OF GREENPORT
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK: STATE OF NEW YORK

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING

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Via Video Conference
May 28, 2020
6:00 P.M.

BEFORE:

GEORGE HUBBARD, JR. - MAYOR
JACK MARTILOTTA - DEPUTY MAYOR
PETER CLARKE - TRUSTEE
MARY BESS PHILLIPS - TRUSTEE
JULIA ROBINS - TRUSTEE

JOSEPH PROKOP - VILLAGE ATTORNEY
SYLVIA PIRILLO - VILLAGE CLERK
PAUL PALLAS - VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR
(The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.)

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. This meeting, we're doing this meeting, it's a special meeting of the Village Board. We're going to discuss the proposal that we got from Rich Vandenburgh from the BID at our work session last week.

Just as an update to everybody of what's going on and where we're at with this right now, I'm sure people saw cones downtown with the "No Parking" signs on them. That's to inform residents, the public, and visitors that parking will be shut down from Saturday morning at 8 a.m. until Monday morning at 8 a.m. So there'll be no parking on Main Street from Center to the end of the road, to lower Main Street, and on Front Street from Main Street to First Street.

On Saturday morning, the Village Crew will go out with barricades, orange barrels, yellow tape between that, to block off the whole area, so that people will not be able to park there. And the idea is to give more social distancing to everybody. People can walk on the parking area, along with the sidewalk to try to spread everybody out a little bit.

The sidewalks are not going to be used for
takeout food or anything else, because that's still not allowed on Long Island. Anywhere on Long Island you cannot do outdoor dining, it's forbidden, so it's not for that purpose. This is just to see, if we go forward with the BID proposal, which is to do this from June until the end of October, would be five months, and this is what it's going to be like down there, and we want everybody to see it.

I could say we've already had complaints from business owners, from residents, other people just saying, you know, this is ridiculous, this is crazy. We're trying this at the end of May, instead of trying something in July, to see how this works for two days. So if everybody could just be patient, park on Adams Street, park on First Street, park somewhere else and use the spots.

There are two handicapped area parking spots in this route, one next to the old Mills' building. That area will be cordoned off so people could parallel park and park there. There was also one across from the Post Office. The handicapped areas, we are not blocking them off, because if people need to get there or do
something, get to the Post Office, they could
still use the handicapped spots. That question
came up, so I'm answering that right up front.
That's where we're at with this right now.
I've had discussions with Rich Vandenburgh from
the BID. A suggestion has come up, you know, in
our talks about what's going on with all this,
that we form a committee which would consist of
myself, the Deputy Mayor, Rich Vandenburgh from
the BID, Paul Pallas, the Village Administrator,
and one person from Sharples Design that had
given us the proposal on the parking, to sit
there and try to move whatever project we go
with, to move it forward. It will be a unified
voice between all of us.
We've gotten comments from all Village
Board Members yesterday, that we're reviewing all
that stuff, putting that together with
everybody's ideas and thoughts. I appreciate all
the Village Board Members giving that to the
Village Clerk. We're reviewing that, common
areas, everybody on the Board feels we need to
do. Those are things that we know we'll be able
to pass forward and try to get done.
That's really just a synopsis of what we
have going on at this point. And I'll open up to Board Members, if anybody has something they want to comment on, they want to say. Then we will open it up to the public, we'll take comments from the public.

I just want to say that you need to give your name before you speak, so that the Transcriptionist can get it. And, also, we've got a lot of people in the room, we've got 51 people on the call. So if we could limit the -- you know, the conversation to three minutes a person. If you need a little more time, that's fine, but we can't have one person talking for 15, 20 minutes, because we want to have everybody to be able to be heard, so we can hear your comments and your thoughts, and we can get some productive input on this to try to save the downtown area, the Village, keep people employed, keep people working.

So that's the goal of this whole thing, is just to continue the conversation that we ended last Thursday at 11 o'clock at night, because it was just getting too late, and we just needed everybody to think and take in everything that was said to us and go from there. Okay?
So any Board Members want anything that
they would like to comment before we open it up
to the public?

TRUSTEE ROBINS: This is Trustee Robins. I
would just like to point out that I've been
working with the BID for the last five, six
weeks, you know, getting to this point where
they've come up with a plan, and trying to
navigate the interests of the businesses, along
with the Village and our residents.

You know, as an elected official, I feel
that my first allegiance is to the safety of the
residents of the Village, and I've approached
this, I believe, in that manner. I understand
the great need on the part of the businesses to
feel that they have the support of the Village
behind them to figure out a way to maintain at
least a semblance of order and economic vitality
for our downtown.

Obviously, this is a huge hit for our
Village, which has been a tourist village for
well over 100 years. Things have changed in the
past couple of years, certainly. But I think the
purpose of this meeting is, hopefully, to get a
good level of conversation and communication
between the businesses and the Board that we can
work together to help everybody.

So, I look forward to this meeting and the
comments of the residents, and I will be taking
notes. Thank you for your time.

TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Mayor, this is Trustee
to say that I believe that everyone in the
Village, all of us, whether we're a business
owner, an employee, a resident, all want to see
the downtown Business District thrive, continue.

We understand that the hardship has
probably been placed on you more than some of the
residents, although they have had hard times as
well. I want to see the negativity, and their
positive communication move forward. I think we
all have some input. I think it's important that
we listen to everyone. We need to make a
decision quickly.

And I believe one of the most important
points of whatever we do is going to have to be
dealing with lessening or decreasing the amount
of through-traffic to make it safe for any
pedestrians that are in the Village of Greenport
during this time.
So I think the ask of reaching out to New York State DOT is one component that we need to listen to them, hear what they have say. They may even come up with other ideas. But, at this point, I think it's important to keep moving forward and still keep communicating. Thank you.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay, fine. On that topic, you're saying about the DOT, I will be calling for a vote at the end of this meeting for the Village Board to go and endorse the Village Attorney to work with sending out the requested paperwork and stuff we need to do to change the speed limit, to do away with the parking, something on a more permanent basis to get us through the summer. So that's going to be a Board decision, the Board will have to vote on that. I will take all the comments, but I -- we're doing a roll call vote later on to make sure that we have the support of the Board to go ahead and move forward and try to do this.

That's the next step we need to do. We need to notify officials that we are going to take steps, similar to Patchogue, Riverhead, other places. We need to notify the agencies that own the property that we are taking the
steps to move this forward. So that will be a
roll call vote that we'll have later on during
the meeting. All right.

TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mayor.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Yep, no problem. Any other
Trustees want any comments before we open up to
the public?

TRUSTEE MARTILOTTA: No, sir, just open
it up.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. I'll open it up to
Rich Vandenburgh. If you want to talk from the
BID first and explain, you know, your feelings
where you're at with this, that's fine. Let's
start with Rich. He can explain where the
Business District is, and we'll move forward, and
let's get the conversation -- let's hear from
everybody. Thank you. Go ahead, Rich, please.

MR. VANDENBURGH: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.
You know, I just want to -- my comments are that,
you know, the lasting impact of COVID-19 on our
business community and the livelihoods of our
residents and community continues to create
hardships and deep concerns how we will salvage
our summer season, with a much larger concern as
to presence of merchants in our downtown Village
District beyond this summer season for the next year and years to come. So we have to rapidly unite. We have to plan and execute a strategy to mitigate the devastating situation that's before us.

So I ask these questions. What do we know? We know that we have now crossed the benchmark of Phase 1 businesses unpausing, and time marches on towards the remaining hopeful phased openings. Just today we heard that the Governor said it's possible that these additional phases could open even sooner than the two-week intermittent period between the phases. So time is critical for us as we begin to move towards that complete unpausing for our community and our business community.

We know that Greenport Village at present continues to be a highly sought after destination location. Increasing crowds of visitors, tourists, new second and primary homeowners moving into the area, all make Greenport a sought after place. Those crowds and the traffic that we're going to see on our streets is only destined to continue to increase. Again, we have to plan, we have to execute rapidly, and we have
to be prepared.

We know that the Village Administration's task has to be to balance the protection of the significant economic value and security of its business community with the health, safety, and welfare of its residents and anyone who visits our community.

We also know that Greenport has developed into a strong, successful economic model that supports numerous jobs, families, livelihoods, has created significant increases in property valuations, and has attracted significant monetary investment into our community rejuvenation.

We also know that the present and future mandates for prevention, containment and increased health measures will remain, and alter not only the construct of how we move about in public, but also change the operation of commerce by a merchant base for months, if not years, to come.

So, finally, we know that something has to be done. I think everybody is in agreement on this point. Something has to be done, and it has to be done quickly and decisively to address, and
protect, and lead our community into the future of what we're seeing as the new normal.

The big thing that I've said before is to advocate for establishing long-term management and growth tools for our downtown Village where all businesses, residents and visitors can safely and harmoniously enjoy the assets of Greenport Village. Toward that goal, the BID renews its appeal and advisory request that the Village immediately endorse the plan to expand the sidewalks, as has been proposed. The Village Board's immediate action will first and foremost provide greater pedestrian safety and movement in the heart of the Village.

Secondarily, it will afford the merchants, whose businesses and livelihoods depend on a vibrant downtown Village presence, greater respite from the pressure of restrained or reconfigured commerce operations.

And third, it aids in protecting the economic security and integrity of our Village, where we are all connected in a myriad of ways that support many other livelihoods, jobs, and families, whether it be from the retailers to the servers, to the painters, to the plumbers, to the
masons, to the builders, to the cooks, the workers, and everyone else who make money for their families or spend money here. We're all connected. And provided we all understand that and are unified in that understanding, Greenport will be successful.

As to the specific "us" involved, the BID, along with its advisory members in this particular proposal involved, I've estimated the cost of this project to be somewhere in the neighborhood of up to $90,000. Now that number is a number that is an estimate at this point, and it's based upon an estimate of the necessary filing fees, expected materials for safety barriers between the pedestrian and vehicle walkway, the plantings to animate and soften the pathways to provide greater aesthetic, the ramp construction for ADA access and points to allow people to move from the parking area, which would be the primary pedestrian pathway, to the sidewalks, and any necessary signage. In fact, we've already secured the committed and professional design expertise and professional labor for installation of these components at no charge.
One of the big questions that we have all been dealing with and since the work session was what is the cost? We have received significant early commitments for funding exclusive of Village resources, and we have wide support and plans for additional fundraising. So the exposure to preserve and protect our Village economy is manageable, we can do it. We have the ability if we're decisive and we're swift in our action.

Repeating the clear understanding that the BID has had of its engagement of being more than just offering ideas or making requests, the BID Board has averted to freeze its budgeted fund structure in order to reallocate every penny necessary for the costs that are necessary and the expenses that are necessary for this proposal, as well as wider efforts in response to what is going to be the new order.

It should be said that the BID equally expects and requests that the Village also partner with the BID in financially supporting these efforts, as the move to engage the new normal should not be solely a Business District responsibility. And we submit the Village
Administration has an obligation to assist across all segments of our Village's health.

The recent (inaudible) that phases could potentially be escalated in a time frame is helpful, but that simply puts more pressure on our overall ability to be prepared. We need to act quickly.

The BID urges the Mayor and endorses the Mayor's comments relative to creating a committee that allows there to be greater communication and better effective execution of the design and ability to expand the sidewalks for the benefit of all the residents. The simple fact is this is one of many ideas. I said it before at the work session, there's no perfect solution. There will be plenty of naysayers to any idea that is advocated. There are plenty of opinions, most of which are valid, but the idea is we need to take step one. Step one will lead to step two, idea two will lead to idea three. But the key is we need to be unified, we need to be decisive, we need to be effective in getting this done. Our community demands it, our Business District demands, and the future of Greenport demands it. So I urge the Village Trustees and the
Mayor to vote for approval so we can get going, roll up our sleeves and move forward together. Thank you.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. Thank you, Rich. All right. At this point, I'll open it up to the public, anybody who would like to comment on what's been talked about, thoughts and ideas. Please, just your name --

MS. DIVELLO: Hi, Mr. Mayor.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Go ahead.

MS. DIVELLO: Hello. This is Jen from Revel North Fork. I am very aware of the seriousness of what's going on, it's just that I have only three minutes.

But I guess the first thing is, if there's going to be designated pedestrian walkways from where, I guess, people will be parking into the Village, they're going to be walking almost in the same fashion that they would probably around the Village in the first place.

And then I don't know if this is rumor or not, but I've heard trolleys might be used to bring people in, but that's just containing more people in a confined area. It kind of seems like a slap in the face, especially since most of us
have had our stores closed for four months. And, also, I can't speak for the restaurant owners, because it's a different fashion, but as far as retail, we can, in fact, have people have their face covered the whole time. They could -- they could clean their hands before they come into our stores, and it's almost bulletproof.

So I feel like the store owners are really the ones that have been taking the brunt the most, because we weren't even allowed to do takeout at first. So that's something that people should really consider.

And then, secondly, if they do not allow people into our stores, I need to be able to push my product on the sidewalk, and, therefore, all your sidewalk limitations are going to be out the window. Like I can't -- what, are we going to sell things like through our little doorways? Crazy.

I've been to Home Depot every day for the past month and their lines went for miles. People were standing so close to one another, and that's because these restrictions sometimes make things worse.

And I just want people to consider these
things, and that's all I have to say. Thank you.

MAYOR HUBBARD: All right. Well, thank you. I could just say the guidelines we're going under are mandated by New York State and Suffolk County, so we can't open up more businesses than what's allowed by the Executive Order done by New York State.

Everybody on the conference calls that I have daily with the County, with over 200 people on it, people are pushing for that, that people say you can go to Home Depot or to Target and there's 300 people in the store. "Why can't one person go into my store?" It's a conversation that all the Mayors and Supervisors have been bringing up. The State has not budged on it at this point. In Phase 1 you can't, in Phase 2 you will.

So if they shorten up the time frame, instead of two weeks for Phase I, we may get to that more sooner than later. But right now, we are just going by the guidelines that are set by New York State. And, you know, it's unfortunate for certain business owners, and we all understand that, we feel everybody's pain about it, but that's -- there's nothing else we can do.
from -- as a Village or Code Enforcement to allow
somebody to open up beyond the guidelines of what
New York State has.

But I appreciate your comments, and we're
pushing to get everybody open as soon as possible
safely.

MS. DIVELLO: Thank you.

MAYOR HUBBARD: You're welcome. Anybody
else have comments?

MS. ROWLAND: This is Jada Rowland. I just
wanted to clarify. There are different things
that you're discussing. One is a long-term plan,
which could cost 90,000K and widens the
sidewalks, and I presume maybe turns streets one
way, because you won't be able to fit two cars,
and the other is simply, currently, you're going
to close down the main streets from 9 in the
morning on Saturday until 9 in the morning on
Monday; is that correct?

MAYOR HUBBARD: That is correct. That's to
give more people enough room to walk safely
around each other. It will be a pedestrian
walkway going down in the parking area, so
everybody can expand out and not be going by the
corner of Crazy Beans, being right on top of each
other, confronting somebody else who may not have a mask on, even though we encourage everybody to do that. We're trying do that, but we can't stop some people that just don't want to do it.

But right now, the plan for today for this weekend is to close down the parking in that area, so everybody can see what it is, and find out where we're going to go if we do this long-term.

The long-term plan is something that Rich from the BID said they have the funding, they have places in -- options in place to go and cover the cost of that. You know, so that's where they're going with that. We'll see what the whole total cost is and everything else. But we want the public and people that live here and people that come to Greenport to realize what this is going to be with no parking down there. And we want to just go through the works and see if there's going to be problems in certain areas, that maybe we won't close down all the parking, because we need it in certain places or something. But, for right now, we're doing just a short-term plan to see how this works this weekend for two days.
MS. DIVELLO: Sorry. Mr. Mayor, it's Jennifer DiVello again, one more time. Just speaking even for the restaurants, I feel like even the people, it's hard -- it's hard enough to even want to come out of their house to get the food to go to the restaurants. Like people realize what's going on. And I feel like it's been hard enough for the restaurants, and this is going to make it even worse for them.

I mean, if it seems to be working, the curve is flattening, you know, we could see that in the science, then why are we going to take even more extreme measures than what is so extreme already for these restaurant owners trying to make it from just pickup delivery? Like now people have to go and park somewhere and walk half a mile in the rain, maybe all rain, hopefully, it doesn't. Like can't we just try to make it work with the horrible restrictions that are already in place? I'm sorry.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. No. I mean, I understand it, but this is a proposal that came from the BID. The BID is the Business Improvement District. That's the restaurant owners and the people in the BID that are
proposing this. That's what they feel is going
to make their businesses sustainable and get them
back in business. So we're trying to work with
them, and they're the ones that had that
proposal. So they feel that this is the best way
for them to stay in business and try to survive.
That's where --

MS. DIVELLO: I mean --

MAYOR HUBBARD: That's where we're going
with this.

MS. DIVELLO: I mean, I hate to say it, but
I think that's only better for people with --
people maybe that have restaurants in worse
locations already. But if you're paying high
waterfront locations, and then everyone's going
to just set up a little pop-up shop in the park,
you know, and pretend like it's okay, it's really
only going to be a better situation for people
who have restaurants in worse, you know,
locations to begin with. It's not -- it's like
kind of like a fake Band Aid. I'm so sorry.

MAYOR HUBBARD: We're trying -- we're
trying this for the weekend. We're trying it for
two days to see how it is. Because if we move
forward with the overall plan that the BID has
proposed, those parking spots will be gone forive months, and we want everybody to see the
concept of what we're doing.

MS. KESSLER: Mr. Mayor.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Yes.

MS. KESSLER: It's Linda Kessler from the
Greenport BID. And I think maybe to help Jen and
some of the other merchants, the idea is we need
to help the businesses by being able to have a
little bit more space outside, rather than
preventing them from having a table in front of
their door when Phase 2 comes into place. We're
only in Phase 1 now. But this is all working to
help the entire district have some income, and to
help us expand under the new circumstances.

I think, basically, you know, what we're
asking is just that the Trustees and you, as
Mayor, just act quickly to help us help people
like Jen, who you can hear the stress in her
voice, because we're all hanging on by our nails.

And I just want to, as a BID member, to
tell our fellow businesses that we're trying our
best to make it work for everybody, because we're
all in the boat and we all understand. And thank
you.
MAYOR HUBBARD: You're welcome. Thank you for the comments. As I did say at the beginning of this, we are going to be taking a vote to move this process forward at the end of the meeting, once we get public comment. So we will be having a vote this evening on moving the project forward.

MR. CAMMAROTA: I have a question for Mayor Hubbard.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Yes.

MR. CAMMAROTA: Has the State been contacted about closing down the roads, say like Maritime Festival, which generally takes a year in advance to do, correct? Is there any kind of guidelines that, for pandemic reasons, for emergency reasons, that, okay, we can act like a Maritime and close the roads as such, because, you know, you guys already know how to do that. And open up the roads for the public, as opposed to trying this, and letting cars go through the Village while putting people really close to them in sidewalks, and particularly on Main Street, where you took away from the sidewalks a couple of years ago. Is there a way the State -- is there a protocol, is there a pecking order? Can
you -- can we get the okay on the fly to close
the streets like Maritime?

MAYOR HUBBARD: If we close the streets as
Maritime, we're inviting people down to a
festival atmosphere all the time. To close the
roads, that's done usually by Southold Town
Police, by a police order. They're the ones that
put up the signs for Maritime Festival, and
that's done through the Police Department. We do
not have our own Police Department to do that.

And I think if we close it down so you
can't drive into the Village at all, you can't
park on these -- you know, Front and Main Street
right now. If we close it down to no traffic at
all downtown there, it's going to be a hardship.
If we're going to do that for the next four
months, that's going to be a hardship of people
to just get to the Post Office and do their
normal functions that they have to do.

MS. DIVELLO: I mean, it's going to be a
bad hardship if people can't even get to the
restaurants without walking really far. They're
just not going to come. The whole Village is
going to go -- it's going to hurt the whole
Village. Like changing things in that direction
I think could hurt more.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. I mean, a lot of the restaurants that are along Front Street have back entrances, so they could do curbside pick up on the back. I'm just -- you know, this -- we're trying something. You know, everybody -- the BID wanted us to try something. We're trying to move a project forward, and we're trying to experiment for two days to see where we go with this.

We don't want to hurt anybody's business, and we understand it's going to impact some. But to park on Adams Street and walk around the corner to pick up their food and then go, you know, we're trying it. It's an experiment. If it doesn't work, it doesn't work, and then we're going to have to re-invent and figure out what we want to try next. But, hopefully, this will give us some input back on what we need to do.

MS. HAMMES: Mayor Hubbard, this is Tricia Hammes at 603 Main Street. I mean, I just want to say that I support the BID's proposal. I think I'm one of the people that has overall been more in favor of closing the roads, if possible. But I think the BID's proposal is a really good starting place and is a middle ground.
I personally think that the Village is a walking village. We hardly ever get parking all the way up to where we are on North Street, except on the really busy weekends, and I don't think walking from North Street into town is a really long walk.

So I -- you know, we are likely, frankly, to meet people and get more traffic and more parking up by where we are because of this, and I don't personally have an issue with that.

I think anything we can do to help support our local businesses is really the key right now. And I really hope that we try this and try it all and it works out, because I'd hate to see a lot of the small businesses in town have to shut after the summer, because they can't kind of make it after going through the winter and spring and the summer with limited ability to, you know, provide their services.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay.

MS. TALERMAN: Mayor Hubbard and Trustees, I'm Elizabeth Tallerman.

(Background Video Noise)

MS. TALERMAN: Sorry. I'm Elizabeth Talerman. I live at Sterling Place, and we
routinely walk into town. We are in favor of the BID's proposal, and are very appreciative of the efforts you're making this coming weekend to try closing the streets.

Expanding the sidewalks for the safety and movement of the residents who want to support all these small businesses, especially in our peak season, and maintaining the vitality of this town is a real balancing act, and we appreciate the BID's proposal.

My family and I are excited to hear the results of this weekend. And we thank you for taking the time to prototype this, to try it, and ultimately hope you'll support the BID's proposal.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay, thank you.

MR. PELTON: Hi, Mr. Mayor and the Board.

Brent Pelton of American Beech. Hi.

I'd like to support the BID proposal. It's a first step. I'm a little bit confused as to what it's going to look like this weekend, and I don't want us all to be discouraged by that, because we haven't hit the Phase 2. There's going to be a lot of restrictions.

I'm hopeful that under the BID plan, the
restaurants and stores are actually able to utilize the sidewalk space or the space in the street and actually set up dining areas and areas for shopping. I think this weekend there are obviously issues with that. But I sure hope that this is an initial phase, and that we'll also be during this time frame looking to see how it works, and also considering ways in which we can improve it and likely move to a full street closure during July and August. But I think that we should view this as a good first step.

I sure hope -- like my restaurant has a significant amount of outdoor dining spaces that we could utilize, if the State allowed us. But I would hope to be able to set up tables on the sidewalk on Bay Avenue, possibly on Main as well. And I just would hope that that would be possible for us and the other businesses in town.

So thank you very much. And thank you to the BID for coming up with this plan, and I hope to be able to push, push forward with it. I'm excited that SHoP Architects is working on with it, and I think that that's a really good opportunity to have their involvement.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. Well, thank you.
The concept, if anybody wants to look at Riverhead Local, they have pictures of what Riverhead was planning on doing, and they were doing the walking area, moving that into the parking spaces, so that the restaurants could go and have the tables right outside on the sidewalk, and make a bigger walkway out in the parking areas.

The original BID proposal had people walking down the sidewalk, and then you would have waiters and stuff going over to people that were on -- in the parking area.

So I think the Riverhead proposal, I think if it modified to something like that, it keeps the social distancing in place, but it's easier for the restaurants to have the tables right on the sidewalk, or the clothing stores, the surf shop, whatever, to have their wares right on the sidewalk, and the pedestrians walk farther over, instead of people walking right by you if you're trying to enjoy your dinner, or whatever, when we get to that point in Phase 3.

So it's just a different concept, but if you look at Riverhead Local, you'll see their pictures, and it's just a different option. And
everybody on Long Island is coming up with ideas and different ways of doing this right now. So we're trying to see what plan is going to work best for us, but we're starting -- we're starting right now to figure out what we can do moving forward.

MS. ROWLAND: Mayor Hubbard, this is Jada Rowland again. I just had one more question. I notice you keep saying we encourage people to wear masks, and I also notice there's a shortage of signs out in the streets. I mean, I -- there's not very many that tell people they should wear masks. And it seems to me, I thought, the requirement out here to be wearing a masks if there's any chance that you're going to be closer. And there's no way you can be in the Village without getting closer than the appropriate distance. So I don't understand why you only encourage.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. The Executive Order says you need to wear a mask. We don't have anybody to enforce everybody to do that. The BID had bought 150 signs last week that they had put out. The BID ordered another 150 signs, plus the Village has bought 100 signs. So we've got --
there's over 300 signs around the Village encouraging all this, and, you know.

But not -- the Police will not come and arrest somebody that's not wearing a mask. It's not being done anywhere on Long Island, you know, unless somebody is really flagrant, or there's a -- I don't know how you would say it. They're not -- nobody is enforcing that, they're not taking people in handcuffs to do that. So we're encouraging it. The Executive Order does say you need to wear a mask if you can't maintain social distancing, but that's in the wording that comes from the State.

So, I mean, we're trying. There's a bunch of signs around. The Village is going to order another $800 worth of signs with a motion at our second meeting this evening to go with the second proposal that we had from a meeting two weeks ago to order more signs. There are people that are going to fight the signs no matter what we tell them and they say they have to do it. Some people just don't want to listen, and they say it's their right. And according to the Constitution, they just say, "I don't have to do it, you can't force me." And those people,
there's not much we can do about, unfortunately.

MS. ROWLAND: I have a doctor friend who said right then to say when they come in the hospital sick that they're not going to take care of them.

MAYOR HUBBARD: There's a form out like that, and I wish we could get that form to everybody, and they could just sign it, sign the DNR right now, if you get sick, it's on yourself, you know.

MS. DIVELLO: The cops actually were asking people to put on masks in the Village, as a matter of fact. That was just me happy to see.

So for any, you know --

MAYOR HUBBARD: Yes. Go ahead.

MS. PITTORINO: Mr. Mayor, hi. This is Deborah Rivera Pittorino. I just wanted to thank you and the Trustees for considering this, and at least, you know, taking -- just trying something until we can come up with a better idea, or refine it so that it is a better idea for most people. I don't think any solution will be perfect for everyone.

You know, I -- the one point I really wanted to bring up, actually two points, one is
that I really feel that we continue to overestimate how much parking we actually really need in Greenport. I think that many permanent residents have opted to live in the Village so they can walk everywhere.

And the tourists, my frontline experience with tourists is that they opt to stay in the Village, because they don't have a car, or they don't want to come out with a car. They don't want to drive, they don't want to drink and drive, they don't want to shop and drive, they just want to be able to walk everywhere.

Also, the growth of a shared ride ability with Uber, and, you know, expanded taxi service in Greenport has made it possible that you can travel to the Village without having to have a car.

So, you know, and I think that this is certainly evident with Maritime Festival when thousands of people come to the Village, you know, in one bracket of time and there seems to be parking for everyone. It might not be perfect, but we -- I mean, thousands of people really do come.

So, you know, that being said, you know,
I'm really for anything that's going to help, help the businesses in the Village. And I think that some of the reticence from the -- from the other business owners, like the retail business owners, is that not everyone will benefit from this expanded sidewalk area.

And I was wondering if it was possible for us to revisit the use of Mitchell Park. I know that it was -- it's been said that it can't be used for commercial purposes, but I did download the by-laws and it does say that it can be used with -- by accessing a permit from the Village of Greenport. So it needs to be used -- it could be used for commercial purposes, but with permission from the Village.

MR. CAMMAROTA: I guess that's you guys that do it, right?

MAYOR HUBBARD: No, I got you. Yes, Mitchell Park is one of the options. All the Trustees in proposals, along with the BID, have talked about opening up an area, putting a tent up or something like that, when we get to the point of outside dining. Right now we are not at that point, so we can't do anything about that.

To put in 20 picnic tables and have people
have everything, go and sit and eat, once that's allowed legally, it is an option that we've talked about, we've discussed it. But when we get to that point, we'll see how that works.

But some section of Mitchell Park has been on every proposal from all the Trustees and from the BID to open up a dining area or something down there. The biggest problem is going to be how to -- if you're getting all the food, how do you clean up, maintain, dispose of the garbage? And that we have an open beverage law in the Village. You can't go and get food and drinks and sit in the park and do that. You know, that's -- it's for curbside pickup or to take home.

So that's something that the SLA has said, you know, we have laws by them and what they can do with that. So it can't just be that you get your -- you know, your drinks and your food and sit in Mitchell Park and just hang out and do that on a daily basis, because it's not going to be the whole park. And we need to have the park for open space, so kids and people can play and enjoy the park in the nice weather, also.

MS. PITTORINO: Thank you.
MAYOR HUBBARD: You're welcome.

MS. PITTORINO: Thank you. Thank you.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Anybody else have comments?

MR. WILE: Mr. Mayor, Board of Trustees, this is Ian Wile, 234 Fifth Avenue.

I appreciate this special meeting. And I definitely want to thank Rich for that presentation last week. That was really thorough and in depth, and appreciate, you know, looping the original architects in to get some creative thought on this.

I think we all know that everything is sort of an experiment now. And the one thing I would say to some of the comments that we're hearing about, you know, I think the initial interest in some open streets or some, you know, flexibility on sidewalks started a number of weeks ago. Frankly, for me, it started with comments made in the paper, wisely, by Trustee Phillips that was concerned about just physical spaces of people, forgetting commerce, forgetting business, just the ability to pass one another on the sidewalk. And I think, yet, if we just started -- you know, we're starting with that idea of just making some elbow room so that people are more comfortable
and safer. And then as we work through phases, you know, how can this be modified and how can commerce interact? But, certainly, to allow people to feel comfortable on the street and to act safely.

We're seeing -- you know, we've been watching people and they try -- by and large, we saw, especially last weekend, by and large, people trying their best. And Code Enforcer Morris was excellent about kindly reminding people about masks, etcetera.

And the one thing I would say that is interesting is as our businesses are able to open up, whether it's just meeting people at the door, or whatever feature it is, you know, we shouldn't underestimate our ability to be the reminders. You know, we told people who might not be aware of the rules as we met them all weekend. And I think that the more places that are open and can say, hey, you know, the rule here is you have to have your mask on, and the rule here is -- that we become -- we have no enforcement tools, but we become the gentle reminders and the communicators of that policy. And I don't know one business owner in town that wants to risk our health, or
our employees' health, or our community's health in skirting those things.

So I think it's very -- anything we do not -- to get some of these storefronts open and to make some opportunity for people, we can include the fact that we are also communicating, right? I know the BID gave us some signs, everybody got some signs, and I pointed it to people. We've got it taped on every door and window, and I hope that that helps, and we're just hopeful to contribute.

And then my last thought is I really hope we're playing a little bit of chess in looking downstream. These phases are going to roll through here eventually, and I want to make sure we're not -- we're not planning two days ahead, two days ahead.

You know, there's -- there are some documents on the Governor's desk today to change what falls into what phase, so things could shift on us at any moment. So I think if we -- if we plot what things look like as metrics change, then we can activate according to those, without having to do, you know, a special meeting every time.
But I really wholeheartedly appreciate everybody's open mind to look at this, and the public comments that I've gotten on the, you know, outside. I hope that people are here today to lend that voice. And I know it's not easy on anybody, but I appreciate the BID's effort.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. Well, thank you. And, yes, speaking with the County Executive today, the State has said that they may shorten the time frame. Originally, it was 14 days between each phase, which would have put us to the end of July before everything opened up. They're using the information they got from the counties Upstate that opened up earlier, and they may change the restriction on that. It may not be 14 days complete between stages.

Another bit of information, when this all first started, the infection rate in Suffolk County was around 42%, which was very high. As of today, it was at 2.6%. The amount of people that are in the hospital has dropped down below 300, and there's less than 70 people that are on ventilators in Suffolk County. So the numbers from being high of 1500, 2,000 people, it's down. The numbers are going the right direction,
everybody is doing the right thing, everybody is safer, but we just need to make sure we open up in a safe manner, to not get a spike and get more people sick.

But, you know, if they change the guidelines and lets everybody open maybe 10 days between phases, everybody could get to more outside dining or something more sooner than later. That's what we're all hoping for, as long as we don't get a spike, and we don't want anybody else to get sick.

MR. WILE: Agreed, 100% agreed. Nobody wants to go backwards, it's too painful, forward only.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Exactly, right. We've put up with 2 1/2 months of this, almost 3 months now. You know, we don't want to lose what we did. We want to keep moving forward and do the right choices.

MR. WILE: Okay. I think I would speak for a number of people who have come to me over -- in the last few months to say that, you know, I think the conversation about opening up or opening up faster, being -- having any of this framed in the idea of trying to accelerate that
is really not what I'm hearing. You know, we just want to know that we have some rules and metrics to follow, and plans if it goes forward, and plans if it goes backward, so that we -- we can all kind of work seamlessly and take some of the fear out, and some of the -- you know, the confusion about how to -- how to go from Monday to Tuesday to Wednesday, etcetera. And so any of these initiatives I think are really important, and I appreciate the work.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. Well, thank you very much. Yes, that's why we're having this meeting. I see we've got 70 people on the call right now, so everybody's getting information. We're trying to be forward and open with this. And, you know, we're trying our hardest to keep everybody informed and do the right by everybody, so we're working on it. Thank you.

MR. PERRY: I just wanted to say -- Josh Perry and Katherine Hurtubise from 123 Main. We are in absolute support of this. We think it's a fantastic idea. And just living directly in the Village and seeing all the people coming here, we absolutely agree that more space needs to be done.
I think just like with everything, it's going to be an experiment. And, obviously, as things go forward, modifications may or may not have to be made.

But I just want to thank the hard work of the Village Board and everybody coming together and going through with this. So thank you so much.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. Thank you for the comments.

MR. DOWLING: This is Chris Dowling, owner of One Love Beach, and also a resident on First Street in Greenport.

I think I'm definitely in support of this. I think, you know, we need the space downtown for people to walk safely without passing in close proximity to each other. So I definitely fully support the BID program here.

I also think it would be nice if we can maybe increase the amount of short-term parking spots in the Adams Street lot, so that it keeps a rotation flow. So for the stores that are doing curbside pickup and restaurants that are doing takeout, that those parking space turn over, so people can get into town, pick up what they need.
to and get out again. Thank you very much.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. All right. Good idea, we'll look at that. Thank you.

MS. DEMEROTO: Hi.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. Does anybody else have any other comments.

MS. DEMEROTO: This is Cathy Demeroto with CAST. I just want to first thank you, Mr. Mayor and Trustees, for your service to the community during this unprecedented time. Nobody could have expected what we're dealing with, and we appreciate all that you're doing.

I want to thank Rich for his leadership, and all the BID for their work on the proposal.

At CAST we support this proposal, like Brent and Patricia said, as a first step, which can be adjusted as warranted in the future.

However, I think it's important to have decisive, unified action.

And at CAST we're seeing unprecedented numbers of need, many, many people coming who've never needed help before. So although the COVID-19 crisis has impacted many people, it's been particularly difficult for the lower income residents of our community, many who work in
Greenport businesses. So the sooner we can get people back to work, the better it will be.

You know, we've seen a five-fold increase in the people we are serving and the people we're providing, which is a real challenge for CAST. Thankfully, the community has been extremely generous in helping us to meet this need. But I worry in the long-term that we're not going to be able to sustain this. So I really appreciate the work that the Village and the BID have done, and I think -- I just want to say I'm fully supportive of the proposal. And I think just decisive action to move this forward would be beneficial to everyone. Thank you.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Thank you, Cathy.

MS. BAUER: Hi. Can anyone hear me? This is Julie Bauer. I live on Central Avenue. And I --

(Background Video Noise)

Ms. BAUER: Pardon me? I have to speak louder? Can you hear me?

MAYOR HUBBARD: We hear you, Julie.

MS. BAUER: Okay. So I live on Central Avenue, and I am a resident here. And I have to say I moved here 7 years ago, and I love this
Village, and I love the vibrancy of -- and the
fun of our downtown area. And I just keep saying
we have to find a way to keep everything going
through the summer, so that we have a 2021.

So I support, heavily support all the bids
that have been put in place, and I -- although I
live really close to downtown, I also support
closing the streets, and let people park in my
driveway, if they have to.

I think we just have to find a way to make
the Village accessible and easy, and let us, the
residents, also enjoy it this summer, because
we're sort of stuck here as well, we don't have
anywhere to go.

So I just want to say that I think -- I
think everything that's been proposed from the
business group is smart. And I think the road
closures are smart, as soon as we can have
outdoor dining.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. Thank you.

MS. MUNDUS: Hi. This is Pat Mundus, and I
just want to say thank you for your proactive
leadership, and especially for Rich and Ian, who
have done all the signatures gathering. I
understand there's over 1,000 people signed that
petition to find out whether there was interest in this.

And I think the devil is in the details, and it's really great that we're going to have a trial period, because I think the only way that any of these things work, and how we all get through COVID-19 is we all help the other guy. And some people are going to have to sacrifice, some people are going to gain, but, hopefully, the people who sacrifice will get a gain from someone else.

And it's a tricky thing with people who live in the Village, who have driveways in the Village. Delivery trucks, bicycles, you know, all those things, they will rise to the surface as soon as we try this out.

And thank you very much for being bold and creative and proactive. Thank you.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay, thank you.

CLERK PIRILLO: Mr. Mayor, with apologies for the intrusion, this is Clerk Pirillo speaking. I wanted to alert you to two facts. The first is that we do have several chat messages, and I'm not aware if you'd like them read allowed or not. And the second is to alert
the Board that it is 6:55 p.m., and we do have a
7 o'clock regular meeting. So how would you like
to proceed, sir?

MAYOR HUBBARD: If you could just read the
chat messages, if they're -- you know, synopsis
if they're really long, but read them into the
record, just so people's comments are taken.

CLERK PIRILLO: Yes, sir, I will begin now.

They are not long. The first --

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay, that's fine.

CLERK PIRILLO: -- Anna Evenhouse on Second
Street. "I'm in favor of the BID proposal.

There are many great examples around the world
where this works exceptionally well. I
understand that this will generate more parking
on our street, but I feel this is important."

From Randy Wade, "I do not know how to get
microphone to work. I applaud the testing of
solutions. It is important that this test not be
seen as punitive by only removing parking.

Walking next to moving vehicles is not appealing.

I hope you ask Southold P.D. to close at least
Front between First and Main, if not, all the
streets where parking is removed.

The roadbed should be walkway for social
distancing, and the sidewalks could be used for
pickup tables for both restaurants and retail
shops.

Also, the street closure can start at noon
or 1, not 9 a.m. The Post Office closes at 1 on
Saturday, and traffic can go back at 7, 8 or
9 p.m. at night."

From David Cammarota, a thumbs up.
Cheryl H. "The is Cheryl Horsfall of
614 Bailey. Thank you, Trustees, for the open
dialogue. I applaud the pilot. You simply do
not know if you don't try, and we can optimize
after a test. Personally, I can walk or ride my
bike to the Village, and I want to do anything I
can to support local businesses. They are the
heart of Greenport. I endorse the BID proposal."

From Rebecca Miller. "Thank you for
holding this forum. This is Rebecca Miller with
my family on Carpenter Street. I support
experimenting rapidly with ways to encourage more
safe distancing downtown. I support this initial
proposal, and look forward to the learnings from
this weekend."

And that's all we have at this time, sir.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. Thank you very much.
CLERK PIRILLO: You're welcome.

MAYOR HUBBARD: All right. Does anybody else have any comments they want to add?

(No Response)

MAYOR HUBBARD: We need to get to our regular agenda, our regular meeting. If there's no other comments, I'm going to offer a motion to move forward with the BID proposal.

MS. LOPER: Yeah. I'm sorry. Can I say one thing?

MAYOR HUBBARD: Go ahead. Did you want to say something?

MS. LOPER: I'm sorry, yes. This is Kim Loper. I own Harbor Pet, and I'm also a BID Board member. My comment is not towards this. I fully support the BID's proposal. My comment is, is that both Blue Duck and myself at our stores, we have the additional posters for BID for any -- anybody who want them. So I just wanted to let that be known, that the posters that the BID created are both at Harbor Pet and Blue Duck.

Thank you.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay, thank you. Okay. Was there any other comments?

(No Response)
MAYOR HUBBARD: All right. I'm going to offer a motion. This is for the Board Members. Motion to approve moving forward with the BID proposal. We need to have the Village Attorney work with the State to get guidance and approval on what we're going to do. The Advisory Committee will be myself, the Deputy Mayor, Paul Pallas, Rich Vandenburgh, and a person from Sharples Design. And we'll take whatever actions we need with the proposal of that group and report back to the before -- back to the Board before we take any formal action on it.

TRUSTEE ROBINS: I'll second that.

MAYOR HUBBARD: All right. I'll just ask the Clerk to do a roll call vote on that, so we get everybody's voice in on it.

CLERK PIRILLO: Yes, sir.

(Roll Call by Clerk Pirillo)

TRUSTEE CLARKE: Aye.

TRUSTEE ROBINS: Yes.

TRUSTEE MARTILOTTA: Yes.

TRUSTEE PHILLIPS: Yes.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Yes.

CLERK PIRILLO: Thank you.

MAYOR HUBBARD: Okay. The motion is
approved. We're going to move forward with this project, we're going to do the trial run. The Village Administrator and the Village Attorney will start doing the paperwork to get permission from New York State. Also, inform the Southold Police Department of what we have going on.

And I want to thank everybody. You know, we were up to over 70 people that were on the call. I appreciate that from everyone.

And I'll adjourn this meeting now at 7 o'clock. And anybody who wants to join us on our regular meeting with our regular agenda, there is a new number you have to call in on, because we're separating the two out. You're welcome to join us on that also, and there will be a comment period on that, too. All right. Thank you all for attending. Good night.

(The meeting was adjourned at 7 p.m.)
CERTIFICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK )
) SS:
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK )

I, LUCIA BRAATEN, a Court Reporter and Notary Public for and within the State of New York, do hereby certify:

THAT, the above and foregoing contains a true and correct transcription of the video conference proceedings taken on May 28, 2020.

I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of June, 2020.

Lucia Braaten

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