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The Shoreline Journal

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No Bible Hill Meeting

By Maurice Rees

Colchester councillors will not meet with Bible Hill commissioners. A motion to meet with Bible Hill was voted down at the August meeting of council held on August 29th. Voting in favour of the motion were Councillors Eric Boutillier, Wade Parker, Bob Pash, Karen MacKenzie and Mayor Blair, but it was not enough to arrange to meet.

Discussion and the motion evolved from a letter, dated July 16, 2019 from Lois MacCormick, Chair, Village of Bible Hill Commission in which she complained about council's refusal to participate in cost-sharing, via Gas Tax Fund, for a waterline expansion and sidewalk project in Bible Hill that had been requested in a letter on October 2018, yet a the

next council meeting they approved a similar request from Village of Tatamagouche.

Her letter continued village commission revised their request in a letter dated March 26th and they had not received a reply, nor were they aware the matter revised request had been discussed at council. Councillors then queried staff, who indicated they were not aware of the March 26th revision. CAO, Rob Simonds, indicated he did not know what happened, and said, "I own this, and don't know, but I will find out". Council will ask Bible Hill to resubmit the request.

McCormick's questioning council's decisions upset councillors, who felt her suggestions were out of order. Councillor Taggart said he was

willing to meet with Bible Hill Commission, but not on the Gas Tax Fund. Other councillors voiced similar feelings, and suggested the commission should be working through the two area councillors, which might solve many issues prior to coming to council.

Area councillor, Wade Parker, indicated there is discontent and suggested discussions be held to clear the air and explain where each party has responsibilities. Tatamagouche area councillor, Mike Gregory, interjected in his area he constantly meets with local groups and the village commissioners and feels he has been able to solve many issues locally and many are not even brought to council.

Gregory suggested Bible

Hill councillors should adopt a similar strategy, which would improve relationships.

Councillor Bill Masters indicated Bible Hill should not exclude local councillors and while discussions with councillors would be helpful, it will provide opportunity for area councillors to provide input.

A second letter from chair, MacCormick, included repaving of J-Class Road and acknowledgement the village appreciated the opportunity to have a seat at the quarterly

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FRONT PAGE BRIEFS October 2019

Stress Relief - We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That's CONFIDENCE.

A 100th birthday party open house for Fran Forman who will be turning 100 years young on Monday, Oct 21 will be held at Debert Court, Sunday, Oct 20 from 2-4. Best wishes only for those which to help celebrate Fran's milestone.

Futureworx Nova Scotia Works Centre in collaboration with TEAMwork Cooperative are hosting the first EmployABILITY Business Breakfast: the Economics of Inclusion on Monday, October 7, 2019, at the Best Western Glengarry, Truro with keynote speaker Mark Wafer. His event is sponsored by the Community Credit Union and Community Wealth Strategy in recognition of DEAM - Disability Employment Awareness Month, which is the month of October.

Public housing across Nova Scotia will receive energy efficiency improvements as the result of an \$11 million investment from the province. The upgrades will take place at 100 public housing structures in 51 communities across Nova Scotia. The work will include upgrading exterior cladding, installing attic insulation and installing energy efficient windows and doors. These improvements will significantly reduce heating and cooling costs and provide a more comfortable living environment for residents. Additionally, solar panels will be installed on five buildings to produce electricity.

Nova Scotia Power and parent company Emera. Have made a \$50,000 donation to Feed Nova Scotia to help support Nova Scotians who are experiencing food insecurity in the aftermath of hurricane Dorian. Feed Nova Scotia distributes food on a regular basis to a network of 143 member agencies, who collectively support at least 42,000 Nova Scotians each year. Each day, the charity distributes about 8,000 kg of food.

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Blake's Pumpkin Jungle is open for the season and customers will be happy to see the familiar teddy bear is back. Vandals burned the iconic bear back in 2017. (Harrington Photo)

Debert, Little Dyke, Fort Belcher & Old Barns Included

By Kathryn Morse

New areas on the Bay of Fundy are being internationally recognized as key wildlife habitats for imperiled shorebirds, thanks to a successful initiative led by the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) and its partners. Shorebird habitats in Cumberland Basin, near Amherst, and in Cobequid Bay, near Truro, have been recognized by leading international conservation scientists and were announced to mark World Shorebirds Day on September 6.

The two new areas, along with two previously recognized areas (Shepody Bay and Minas Basin), have been collectively designated a Landscape of Hemispheric Importance by the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN). The new areas, both in Nova Scotia, include beaches and mudflats at Minudie and Amherst Point (near Amherst), and shorelines at Debert, Little Dyke, Fort Belcher and Old Barns, where shorebirds rest and feed in summer before migrating south.

The Landscape of Hemispheric Importance designation for the two new areas was decided unanimously by the governing council of WHSRN, an international science-based program that coordinates conservation efforts for migratory shorebirds

in North, Central and South America. The Landscape of Hemispheric Importance designation includes habitats in Shepody Bay and Minas Basin that were recognized in 1987-1988 as important for shorebirds.

WHSRN's recognition of the Fundy coastal habitats is based on results of multi-year research conducted by Mount Allison University, Environment and Climate Change Canada and international researchers — aided by tiny radio transmitters attached to migrating birds — that confirmed how important Bay of Fundy feeding areas are for many species. Results showed that semipalmated sandpipers in particular are more reliant on beaches and mudflats in Debert and Minudie than previously understood. Semipalmated sandpiper populations have declined by 50 per cent since the early 1970s, part of a global decline in shorebird populations due to habitat loss, climate change and other factors.

The WHSRN Landscape of Hemispheric Importance designation will not change activities permitted on privately owned coastal land, but it will provide a stronger structure for NCC, other conser-

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Several Ways to Vote on October 21st

Electors can choose from several voting options which best suits their schedule. They can vote:

on election day on Monday, October 21, 2019;

at advance polls, open from 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. (local time) on Friday, October 11; Saturday, October 12; Sunday, October 13; or Monday, October 14;

throughout the election period at one of over 500 Elections Canada offices. To vote at an Elections Canada office, electors must apply before Tuesday, October 15, 6:00 p.m. Application forms are available at Elections Canada offices or online;

on select campuses from Saturday, October 5, to Wednesday, October 9, 2019, using the special ballot process; or

by mail. Electors must apply to vote by mail before Tuesday, October 15, 6:00 p.m.

Application forms to vote by mail are available online. They are also available at any Elections Canada office, or can be requested by calling 1-800-463-6868.

Electors voting by mail should plan ahead. They must allow time for their voting kit to reach them and for their marked ballot to return to Elections Canada.

Returning officers may also set up voting kiosks in locations where electors may not be able to vote using traditional voting options. This includes: electors working in isolated areas, such as mining and oil field camps or lighthouses; electors in acute care hospitals; or electors who

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There is plenty of seating on the hillside for parents to watch over the children in the playground area. Join us for a four-page feature of the Phase 1 of Fundy Discovery Site, on the previous grounds of the Palliser Motel and Restaurant. County staff and officials should be very proud of this outstanding project, offering a whole new location to view the Tidal Bore. See pages 15-18. (Rees Photo)

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