

**Village of Bible Hill
Regular Monthly Meeting
September 20, 2022**



The Village of Bible Hill regular monthly meeting was held on September 20, 2022 in Commission Chambers, at the Village Office, 67 Pictou Road. Chair Kennedy called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM; the meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Call to Order: Commissioner Burke
Commissioner Kennedy
Commissioner Pitcher
Commissioner Shea
Commissioner Van Kroonenburg
Clerk and Treasurer Bell
Recording Secretary Chaplin
Solicitor Roper, Burchell MacDougall

Guests: Ms. Ashley Simms, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture, Town of Truro
Ms. Haley Smith, Parks and Recreation Director

Review and approval of the minutes of August 2, 2022 and September 13, 2022.

Moved by Van Kroonenburg and seconded by Shea, that the meeting minutes of August 2, 2022 and September 13, 2022, be approved. Motion carried.

Call for new or other business and review and approval of agenda

Kennedy called for new or other business and the following new business was requested:

- Bell requested to add Meadowland Avenue Flooding under miscellaneous business
- Kennedy requested to add discussion regarding chickens as well as an issue on corner of Regency Point and Saywood Drive under new business
- Pitcher requested to add permanent road markings on Saywood under new business
- Burke requested to add snow removal contractor under new business.

Moved by Pitcher and seconded by Van Kroonenburg, that the agenda be approved with additions. Motion carried.

Call for declaration of conflict of interests

Kennedy called for any declaration of conflict of interest and no conflict was declared.

Miscellaneous business including delegations

Peter McCracken – After-school care program

Bell recommended the agenda item be deferred, due to Mr. Peter McCracken not being present.

Ashley Simms – Truro-Bible Hill Off-leash Dog Park Expansion

Kennedy introduced Ashley Simms from the Town of Truro to speak on the Truro-Bible Hill Off-leash Dog Park Expansion. The Town is requesting Village of Bible Hill cost share an estimated \$20,000 expansion project that would allow for additional fencing to give park goers an option to use the park without accessing the pond area.

Meadowland Avenue Flooding

Bell presented an updated storm water drainage design drawing from RV Anderson Associates and sought the Commission's approval of the concept. The Commission discussed and agreed by consensus to authorize Bell to seek cost estimate of work presented in the updated drawing.

Approval of By-law Committee minutes of January 25, 2022 and July 14, 2022

Moved by Van Kroonenburg, and seconded by Pitcher, that the By-law Committee minutes of January 25, 2022 and July 14, 2022 be approved. Motion carried

Business arising out of the minutes

There was no business arising out of the minutes.

Review of Correspondence

Municipality of the County of Colchester - Old Court House Brand Road sidewalk

Bell presented a letter from Municipality of the County of Colchester's Director of Public Works, requesting Village of Bible Hill consider a 50% construction cost share of a new sidewalk on Old Court House Branch Road, with an estimated cost of \$1MM excluding HST. The Commission discussed. Bell will respond in the affirmative, and note further discussion will ensue regarding budgets, planning, and stressing the importance of the continuation of the CCBF MOU.

EMBRACE Festival Invitation – Josée Gallant, Town of Truro

Bell presented the Village's invitation to the 2022 Truro EMBRACE Festival, planned for September 24th.

Accessibility Directorate - Virtual Gathering for all Prescribed Public Sector Bodies

Bell presented an invitation for the Commission to attend a Virtual Gathering for all Prescribed Public Sector Bodies on September 29th, from the Accessibility Directorate.

Reports of Commissioners and Clerk and Treasurer

Commissioner Burke

Burke spoke on the College Road repaving project of NSDPW, and noted staff is working on seeking pricing to build up the sidewalks due to sharp change in elevation of new road surface. He noted Main Street sidewalk renewal work will begin end of September and run through the end of November and that Bell advised to contact NSDPW to see if they are interested in paying for curbs to be installed at the same time. He also noted his attendance at the ANSV AGM and briefly mentioned a discussion had with our current sidewalk plow contractor regarding a contract issue of some sort, and the possibility of not continuing snow removal.

Bell suggested the Commission authorize the Clerk and Treasurer to execute change order to install concrete curb on Main Street in the sidewalk renewal project area that the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works will reimburse the Village for the total cost of doing so.

Commissioner Shea

Shea spoke about the corner of Retson and Meadowland draining issue. He also noted that the sanitary sewer project will likely be delayed to next year, as word on the ICIP grant awards are not expected until later in the fall, and that he attended the ANSV AGM.

Commissioner Pitcher

Pitcher spoke about her attendance at the strategic planning information session with the DMAH, two BHFB meetings, the ANSV AGM, and a firehall tour with Wynn Park Villa residents. She noted how much she appreciates the BHFB always being active in the community and thanked the staff and commissioners for their efforts with the ANSV AGM.

Deputy Chair Van Kroonenburg

Van Kroonenburg noted her attendance at the ANSV AGM and thanked the staff for their efforts. She also noted her attendance at CUPE Bargaining.

Parks and Recreation Director, Haley Smith, then presented the September 2022 Parks and Recreation report – as attached.

Chair Kennedy

Kennedy noted his attendance at the Summer Staff Lunch BBQ, the opening of NSPE, the Crossing Guard Meeting, the CUPE bargaining, a meeting with MLA Dave Ritcey, and the ANSV AGM.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell

Bell noted that Grant Thornton denied the small sponsorship request for the ANSV AGM, that the awarded trail work was completed at Bible Hill Recreation Park, and that the finance officer will obtain quotes to raise approximately 128 metres of sidewalk asphalt on College Rd sidewalk. He noted that Main Street sidewalk work is to begin soon and will end in November, and that the Village Office was lit blue in honor of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Bell then reminded the Commission of the homework given from the DMAH, and that there will be another strategic planning meeting at the November Commission in Committee meeting.

He mentioned his attendance at the Main Street sidewalk kick-off meeting, CUPE bargaining, a meeting with MLA Dave Ritcey and Chair Kennedy, and the hiring of after school program staff. He then updated the Commission on the windows and doors project and thanked the staff for all their efforts put into the ANSV AGM.

Bell again mentioned that if the Commission is interested in asking the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works to install curb while the Main Street sidewalk work is being completed, he would need authorization from the Commission to execute the contemplated change order.

Van Kroonenburg suggested the Commission plan a special meeting to review pricing of sidewalk repairs needed on College Road

Moved by Van Kroonenburg seconded by Pitcher that Village of Bible Hill sets a special meeting for Tuesday October 4th at 5:30 PM, to discuss College Road sidewalk repairs. Motion carried.

Moved by Van Kroonenburg and seconded by Shea that Village of Bible Hill authorize Clerk and Treasurer Bell to execute contemplated change order to install concrete curb on Main Street in the sidewalk renewal project area on the contingency that the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works will reimburse the Village and cover the cost of the curb installation. Motion carried.

Accounts

Moved by Burke, and seconded by Van Kroonenburg, that Village of Bible Hill approve the accounts for payment. Motion carried.

New Business

Draft by-law amendments

Bell completed the first reading of draft by-laws then summarized an overview of the amendments. Bell suggested scheduling the second reading for the Regular Commission Meeting in November.

Burke left meeting at 8:58 PM and returned to meeting at 8:59 PM

Procurement – BHFB Cutter

Bell presented a quote for a cutter from MES Code4 Fire & Rescue for a total of \$19,747.06 including shipping and HST.

Moved by Pitcher and seconded by Van Kroonenburg, that Village of Bible Hill purchase the cutting tool for Bible Hill Fire Brigade use from MES Code4 Fire & Rescue, for a total of \$19,747.06, to be reimbursed in full by the brigade. Motion carried.

Procurement- BHFB Standpipe Kit

Bell presented quotes for a Standpipe Kit from K&D Pratt for \$2,444.53 including HST, Cumings Fire & Safety Equipment Ltd for \$2,150.00 including HST and Safety Source Fire for \$2,501.25 including HST. He noted BHFB would prefer to purchase the Elkhart Standpipe Kit from K&D Pratt to keep equipment consistent.

Moved by Pitcher and seconded by Van Kroonenburg, that Village of Bible Hill purchase a Standpipe Kit from K&D Pratt, as recommended by Chief Bisson, for a total of \$2,444.53 including HST. Motion carried.

Procurement- BHFB Scott Air Pak

Bell presented quotes for Scott Air Paks from Levitt Safety for \$52,872.76 plus HST and from Safety Source for \$53,500 plus HST and noted that the DMAH will contribute \$20,000 towards the cost of the emergency response equipment.

Moved by Van Kroonenburg and second by Pitcher to purchase Scott Air Pak from Levitt Safety for \$53,872.76.

Motion amended.

Moved by Van Kroonenburg and second by Pitcher that Village of Bible Hill purchase the Scott Air Paks from the lowest priced vendor, after confirmation of freight charges. Motion carried.

NSFM AGM Registration

Bell asked if any Commissioners would like to be registered for an attend the NSFM AGM Conference from November 1-4, 2022.

Enabling Accessibility Fund

Bell informed the Commission that the Enabling Accessibility Fund grant has opened for applications, with the deadline being November 1, 2022. He noted that currently the Village has no projects that would line up with the noted priorities of this round of the grant.

Permanent Road Markings on Saywood

Pitcher noted that Dorset Drive has been re-paved, and it appears it is awaiting pavement markings, and suggested the Village request that Saywood Drive also be marked with a centerline. The Commission discussed and it was concluded that subdivision streets do not typically have a painted centerline.

Snow Removal Contractor

Burke noted this topic was mentioned in his report. Bell reiterated that he was unaware of any unresolved issues with the current contractor but that he would reach out to inquire on the matter.

Corner of Regency and Saywood

Kennedy noted he received a call from a resident who has concerns of students on his property due to bus stop placement. It was mentioned that office staff had previously given direction to the resident to call the school board for any issues regarding the matter.

Chickens

Kennedy received a call from a resident on Albert Ave regarding chickens wandering through his yard. Bell will call the County of Colchester to inquire if they are any by-laws in place that can help the resident address the situation but noted there is nothing existing that supports action from a Village standpoint.

Prior to adjournment, Bell reminded the Commission of an upcoming workshop and an upcoming webinar. He requested each Commissioner let him know if they wish to be registered for one or both events.

Adjournment

Moved by Van Kroonenburg that the September 20, 2022 regular monthly meeting of Village of Bible Hill be adjourned. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM

Chair Kennedy

Handwritten signature of Chair Kennedy in black ink, written above a horizontal line.

Recording Secretary Chaplin

Handwritten signature of Recording Secretary Chaplin in black ink, written above a horizontal line.

Clerk and Treasurer Bell

Handwritten signature of Clerk and Treasurer Bell in blue ink, written above a horizontal line.

September Recreation Report

With the summer wrapping up, the summer recreation staff have finished their work terms. Two of the four staff members plan to return next year, while the other two plan to stay in their university towns. The group of staff worked as a great team all summer and did a fantastic job of facilitating the camp along with helping at Canada Day and the Back to School Bash.

Summer day camp had a very successful summer. The camp was 100% full, each of the eight weeks that it was offered and had waitlists for each week. The waitlist was used, and we were able to offer some of those individuals spots based on cancellations. Camp spent the month of July rotating between Bible Hill Consolidated and Redcliff Middle School then moved back into the Village Hall once construction was complete. A major highlight of the summer was the amazing morning the Bible Hill Fire Brigade put on for camp, giving a tour of the facility, walking through the trucks and having the opportunity to spray a hose with firefighter Mike.

The annual back to school bash had a great turnout. We had four interactive inflatables from Glow Parties along with laser tag. As in previous years, we had a hot dog BBQ, where over 300 hot dogs were given to the event attendees and were all gone by 1:00 PM. The summer recreation students had some interactive lawn games and equipment set up for families and children to use alongside the summer staff.

There were three seniors' games afternoons in the park scheduled, yet only two of the three trial afternoons took place due to extreme heat. Both afternoons had 10-15 seniors come out, and all seemed to enjoy the event. These afternoons will be picking up again in mid September when the weather is a bit more tolerable!

In August, there was a survey published asking residents about their level of satisfaction of recreation and facilities in Bible Hill. The survey received 29 responses, and some good feedback comments. See survey summary attached for further details.

Haley Smith
Parks and Recreation Director

Recreation Services in Bible Hill: Survey Results

A recent online survey completed by 29 individuals, 25 of which identified as Bible Hill residents found the following.

Goal: Determine the interests of the residents of Bible Hill and what could be offered to bring up attendance of recreational events and programming.

Fig.1

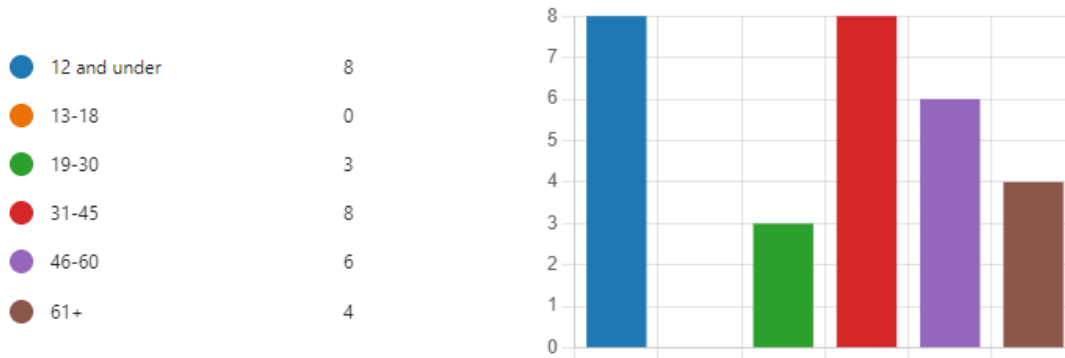


Fig.1 shows the age ranges that were considered for the survey. It is noticeable that children 12 and under (parents/guardians), and individuals 31-45 had the most input with individuals ages 46-60 close behind.

Fig.2

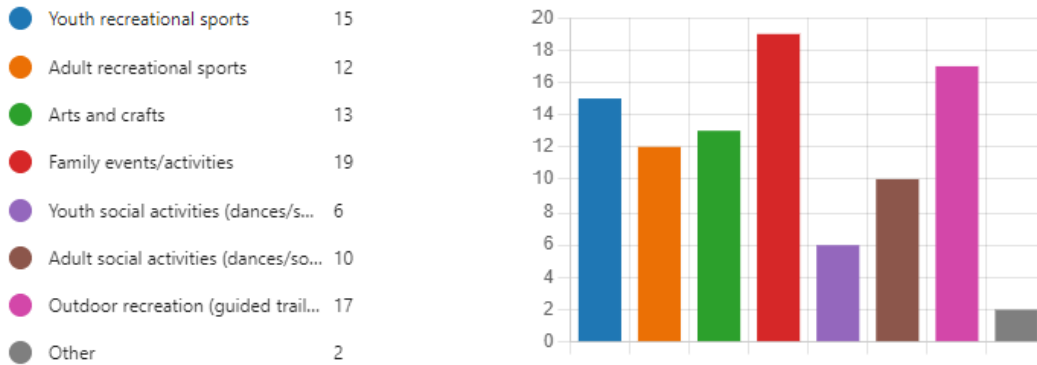


Fig.2 shows programming options and asks the question of which programs survey participants would be most likely to participate in. Family events and outdoor recreation programming were the most popular, with recreational sports for both adult and children not far behind.

Fig.3

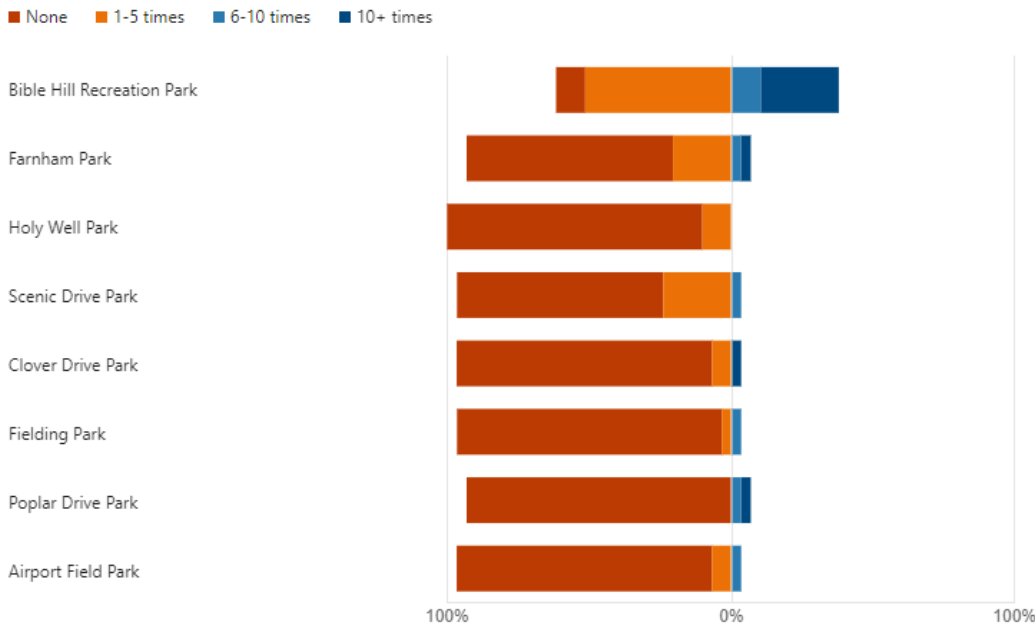


Fig.3 shows the results of how many times in 30-day period survey participants visit the parks and recreation facilities in Bible Hill. It is shown that the Bible Hill Recreation Park has the most attendance with the smaller parks having a fraction of the usage.

Fig.4

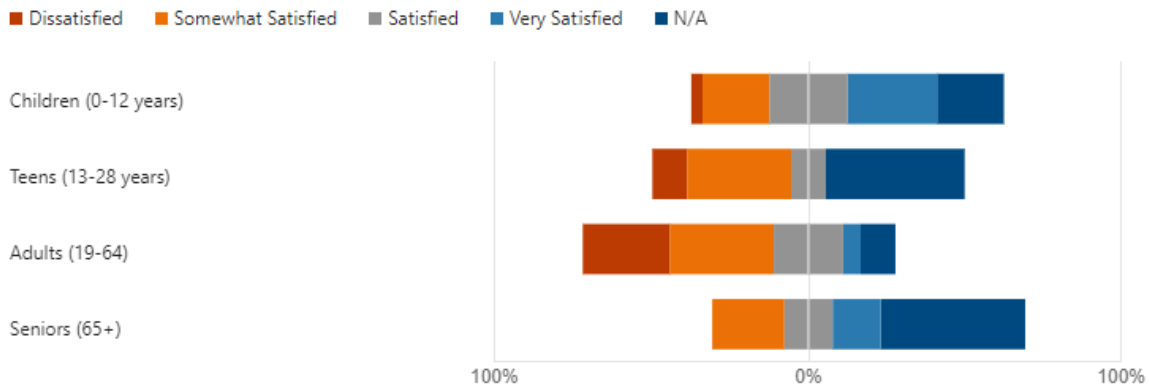


Fig.4 shows the level of satisfaction in relation to current programming offered for each age group. The adult age group from 10-64, and teens 13-28 years old are the main categories that would like to see more programming offered for their age groups.

Requested Upgrades

The survey asked if there were other equipment or features that residents would like to see within the parks in Bible Hill. The top answer to this question was a tennis / pickle ball court, with other interest in the following:

- Dog park
- Stage area, similar to Victoria Park
- Beach volleyball court
- Outdoor rink at Rec Park
- Additional bleachers for field 3 and multipurpose field at the Rec Park
- Additional benches

It was also asked if there were any accessibility barriers that residents felt impact their recreational needs. The most popular answers related to this question was not having a bicycle lane on either College or Pictou Road, lack of large multi-use sidewalks for people to share without impact of walkers or automobiles, and the need for an all-weather field at field 2 or 3 at the Rec Park for those in wheelchairs to participate in the Challenger Baseball Program season.

Conclusions

The survey gives a good idea of where Bible Hill residents feel programming is lacking, and more of an idea of what people would like to see. If more residents were to participate in the survey, there would be more of an idea of which parks/greenspaces are being utilized or not, but this is hard to base off a 29-person survey.