

'It just feels good' to fix centre

Portapique Community Hall project creating warmth

HARRY SULLIVAN
SALTWIRE NETWORK

Alana Hirtle was pretty much moved to tears when she stepped out of the Portapique Community Hall and saw a group of children playing nearby.

"They were laughing and giggling, and I started to get emotional. And, somebody else came around the corner and said: 'What's going on?' And, I said, 'that's why we're here. That is what we're here for, to enable these people to be able to find some semblance of normalcy and to have some return to the lifestyle they had before and hopefully improve their community connections,'" Hirtle said. "And I think that's happening already ... the hall is almost a side benefit. It's enabling them to come together and have some aspect of normal life again."

Hirtle is campaign chairwoman with the Truro Rotary club, which recently embarked on a fundraising effort called the Portapique Community Build Up Project, the aim of which is to renovate and update the local community hall.

Her comments above are in reference to a sight she witnessed during a recent day when a group of community members turned out to spruce up the property by removing scrub brush and alders, demolish an old shed and to strip off several layers of interior paneling.

The idea to refurbish the

rundown old hall, estimated to be as much as 200 years old, came from fellow Rotarian and Portapique resident Andrew MacDonald as a way to rebuild the community spirit following last April's mass shootings that began on Portapique Beach Road.

"Rotarians are people of action and if we see an opportunity or a situation where we feel we can help, we feel bound to do so," Hirtle said. "Portapique is such a beautiful little community, we didn't want this event to become its story. We really wanted to be able to change the focus of the light that was shone on them back in April and help them rebuild."

Doing something positive helps with the healing purpose, she said. "Everybody in our greater community was touched in some way by that event and we just felt that we had to do something."

Those sentiments were echoed by MacDonald, especially in reference to the sight Hirtle mentioned regarding watching the youngsters



Residents of the Portapique area are involved in a project to renovate the old community hall as a way to rebuild their sense of community following last April's mass murders that began in the area.

laughing and playing outside the hall.

"That's exactly it," he said. "We're going to create a space where everybody can work together on it and if they have that sense of ownership and pride of community and at the same time, when they come to use it, they'll feel like it's theirs."

While professional trades people are involved with things such as upgrading electrical wiring and so forth, the majority of the labour is being

done by local residents.

The hall is being completely renovated, with a new heat pump and the construction next year of a nine-metre by 15-metre addition.

"That will give us some time to fundraise over the winter," Hirtle said.

The property surrounding the hall will be developed into an outdoor space for all ages to enjoy, complete with a multi-purpose court, walking trail, a playground and more.

"It's going to mean the

chance to grow community in a way that we hadn't had before. So, for me, to put it simply, just to meet my neighbours," MacDonald said. But it's also just that sense of community where we can make new memories and grow something positive and forward looking and at the same time get to know everybody a bit better."

During a recent barbecue at the site to announce the project, MacDonald said between 50 and 60 turned out to participate.

"That alone, if that's the only thing we ever did, it was worth it," he said.

"Every step that we've taken so far, we've been a little bit apprehensive about whether, are we asking for too much or do we think this is a good idea or a bad idea? But every step we do, we do get that sense of excitement or, like Alana said, that kind of warm and fuzzy feeling that this is what it is about. And every time we take the next step and do the next thing, it just builds on it and gets more and more exciting and the community gets more involved."

"It's working, whatever it is it's working. ... It just feels good, it's been a really nice project."

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Halifax Regional Municipality Notices will generally appear each Saturday in this section of the newspaper. Readers are still encouraged to look throughout the paper for information which might appear in a different section or on another day.

NOTICE OF

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING FOR RIVER-LAKES AREA WITH NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

North West Community Council intends to consider and, if deemed advisable, approve the following application:

Case 22143- Application by ZZAP Consulting on behalf of Shaw Group requesting to enter into a development agreement for a 176-unit residential subdivision (Open Space Design Development) near Charleswood Drive and Cumberland Way, Windsor Junction.

A virtual public hearing will be held on **November 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.** All oral and written submissions will be considered at that time. This meeting will occur in a virtual setting, and attending in person is not possible. Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, written submissions are welcomed and encouraged in advanced of the hearing itself. These submissions are distributed to all Councillors and considered at the time of their decision. Written submissions may be forwarded to the Municipal Clerk by e-mail, clerks@halifax.ca; by fax, 902-490-4208; or by mail, P.O. Box 1749, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 3A5. **Written submissions must be received by the Municipal Clerk's office as early as possible and not later than 3:00 p.m. on November 9, 2020.** Please allow sufficient time for delivery given slower than typical mail delivery times during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The virtual public hearing will be webcasted and may be viewed online at <https://www.halifax.ca/city-hall/agendas-meetings-reports>. For individuals seeking to speak at the hearing, **members of the public may contact the Municipal Clerk's office no later than 4:30pm on November 6, 2020 to be added to the speakers list to speak by telephone.** We encourage all residents who have any desire to speak at the meeting to ask to have their name added to the list. Individuals who do not want to speak at a later time may ask to have their name removed from the speakers list.

To be placed on the speakers list, individuals may:

- Send an email to clerks@halifax.ca; or
- Call and leave a voicemail at 902.490.4210; or
- Send a fax to the clerk at 902.490.4208.

In your message, please include the meeting body, the planning Case number (Case 22143) or civic address, in addition to your name, community of residence, email address, and telephone number. Should you have questions about the nature of application itself, please contact the planner directly at 902.943.4318 or jacobsm@halifax.ca.

Should you have questions about the process of the virtual public hearing, please contact the Municipal Clerks Office at clerks@halifax.ca or 902.490.4210.

The staff report is available on-line at the following location: <https://www.halifax.ca/city-hall/agendas-meetings-reports>. If you have questions about how to access the staff report contact the Office of the Municipal Clerk clerks@halifax.ca or 902.490.4210.

Further details regarding the application can also be found at the following location: www.halifax.ca/planning (Scroll down to Case 22143)

ACC #CPCO2310

NOTICE OF

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING HARBOUR EAST-MARINE DRIVE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council intends to consider and, if deemed advisable, approve the following application:

Case 21813 - Application by Ekistics Plan & Design on behalf of Silver Sand Realty Ltd. to rezone a portion of their lands (PID 41453945) on Cow Bay Road, Cow Bay from P-2 (Community Facility) Zone to RA (Rural Area) Zone to permit construction of a single unit dwelling closer to the water.

A virtual public hearing will be held on Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. All oral and written submissions will be considered at that time. This meeting will occur in a virtual setting and attending in person is not possible. Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, written submissions are welcomed and encouraged in advanced of the hearing itself. These submissions are distributed to all Councillors and considered at the time of their decision. Written submissions may be forwarded to the Municipal Clerk by e-mail, clerks@halifax.ca; by fax, 902-490-4208; or by mail, P.O. Box 1749, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 3A5. **Written submissions must be received by the Municipal Clerk's office as early as possible and not later than 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 12, 2020.** Please allow sufficient time for delivery given slower than typical mail delivery times during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The virtual public hearing will be webcasted and may be viewed online at <https://www.halifax.ca/city-hall/agendas-meetings-reports>. For individuals seeking to speak at the hearing, **members of the public may contact the Municipal Clerk's office no later than 4:30pm on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 to be added to the speakers list to speak by telephone.** We encourage all residents who have any desire to speak at the meeting to ask to have their name added to the list. Individuals who do not want to speak at a later time may ask to have their name removed from the speakers list. To be placed on the speakers list, individuals may:

- Send an email to clerks@halifax.ca; or
- Call and leave a voicemail at 902.490.4210; or
- Send a fax to the clerk at 902.490.4208.

In your message, please include the meeting body, the planning Case number (Case 21813) or civic address, in addition to your name, community of residence, email address, and telephone number. Should you have questions about the nature of application itself, please contact the planner directly at 902-237-5395 or viponds@halifax.ca

Should you have questions about the process of the virtual public hearing, please contact the Municipal Clerks Office at clerks@halifax.ca or 902.490.4210.

The staff report is available on-line at the following location: <https://www.halifax.ca/city-hall/agendas-meetings-reports>. If you have questions about how to access the staff report contact the Office of the Municipal Clerk clerks@halifax.ca or 902.490.4210. To arrange for a paper copy of application materials to be sent to you by mail if the internet is unavailable to you, contact the Planner.

Further details regarding the application can be found at the following location: www.halifax.ca/planning (Scroll down to Case 21813)

ACC #CPCO2310

PLEASE SEE SECTION 158 - EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN SATURDAY'S PAPER AND SECTION 258 - TENDERS IN CLASSIFIEDS FOR ALL TENDERS AND REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS ADVERTISEMENTS IN SATURDAY AND WEDNESDAY'S EDITIONS

HALIFAX

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MUNICIPAL MEETINGS AND EVENTS VISIT WWW.HALIFAX.CA/CALENDAR BOX 1749, HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA B3J 3A5

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MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF KINGS
181 COLDBROOK VILLAGE PARK DRIVE
COLDBROOK, NS B4R 1B9
1-888-337-2999

By-Law 109, SOLID WASTE-RESOURCE BY-LAW SECOND READING

On October 6, 2020 Municipal Council gave First Reading to enact By-law 109, the Solid Waste-Resource By-law.

Second Reading of this By-law will take place at the Council Meeting to be held on November 3, 2020 at 6:00 pm in the Municipal Council Chambers or by video conference.

A copy of this By-law may be viewed online at www.countyofkings.ca/government/council/minutes.aspx, October 6, 2020 agenda package, or in person at the office of the Municipal Clerk during normal business hours (Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm). municipalclerk@countyofkings.ca

www.countyofkings.ca

WWH
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Public Hearing

**Tuesday October 27
6:00 pm**

Council gave notice of intent to amend the Hantsport Municipal Planning Strategy to permit a variety of commercial cannabis licenses in Hantsport.

A virtual Public Hearing will be held on October 27 and will be available on the Municipal Facebook page at www.facebook.com/RMWindsorWestHants

Comments & questions should be directed to Saira Shah prior to November 23 at sshah@westhants.ca or 902-798-8391 ext. 118

For more information visit www.westhants.ca
Rhonda Brown, Municipal Clerk