

Dear Islanders,

The Board of Overseers has decided to cancel the Annual Meeting scheduled for August 1, 2020 (official notice below). We are taking this action for a number of reasons, most importantly to protect your health and safety during the current state of emergency in Maine and across the United States due to SARS CoV-2/Covid-19. Our decision is based upon Maine Legislative Document 2167 (An Act To Implement Provisions Necessary to the Health, Welfare and Safety of the Citizens of Maine in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency), Part D, enacted by the Maine Legislature March 17, 2020. We also believe strongly in voter participation and do not feel that having a meeting under current conditions will support good democracy, especially since there is no pressing matter that needs immediate voter attention. Other factors contributing to the cancellation include:

- · Limited island ferry schedule
- · Parking limitations on the mainland

 $\cdot$  14-day quarantine or coronavirus test with a negative result within 72-hour before arrival requirement for those not from Maine, New Hampshire or Vermont, roughly  $^{2}\!\!/_{3}$  of Bustins voters

· Over half of voters are in high risk categories for virus contraction

· Our meeting space will not accommodate social distancing with a normal turnout

In lieu of the Annual Meeting, we will follow Maine guidelines such that all present officers of the BIVC will continue in their current roles until elections can be held. As well, the current year budget will roll forward at the same spending levels for next year (FY2021). Our Treasurer, Tony DeBruyn, is confident that we are in a good financial position to manage through another year with the same budget. We have significant reserves, and tax revenues for the coming year have already been collected and are not at risk. Additionally, Tony will provide complete financial reports for FY2020 (ending July 31, 2020) similar to what is normally provided in the Annual Meeting warrant, which will be posted on the <u>bivc.net</u> web site in August.

The BIVC Overseers, Clerk and Treasurer are all supportive of the cancellation and confident that this is a prudent decision to protect the health and safety of islanders. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Mandy Meyer at 303-717-8763 or Hank Rauch at 508-848-9361.

**BIVC Board of Overseers** 

## P.O. Box 22, South Freeport, ME 04078 • bivc.net