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Staff Report

Community Services

Report To: Committee of the Whole
Meeting Date: February 21, 2018
Report Number: CSPW.18.014
Subject: Georgian Bay Sailing Association Request for Transient Fee Reduction
Prepared by: Ryan Gibbons, Harbour Manager/Cemetery Manager/Building Maintenance Coordinator

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report CSPW.18.014 entitled “Georgian Bay Sailing Association Request for Transient Fee Reduction”;

AND THAT Council approve a flat transient rate of \$20.00 per vessel plus HST for vessels participating in the 2018 Georgian Bay Regatta during the event.

B. Overview

This report outlines the request received from the Georgian Bay Sailing Association for a reduction in the transient fees during the 2018 Georgian Sail Regatta event and Staff’s recommendation that Council approve the request.

C. Background

Thornbury Harbour has received the Georgian Bay Regatta Fleet a number of times during the Regatta’s 32-year span. Each visit the Regatta makes to the Thornbury Harbour is successful both logistically and economically. In 2009, the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) identified that each transient vessel staying overnight at a marina generates \$120.00 for the local economy. Each vessel participating in the Regatta will be staying overnight for the scheduled stay at the Thornbury Harbour and will potentially need to provision for the next leg of the Regatta.

A request has also been received for some vessels to stay at the Thornbury Harbour if the Meaford Harbour is not able to provide adequate dockage during the scheduled stop in Meaford. The same reduced transient fee would apply to these vessels as outlined in the recommendation.

The Ontario Sailing Association (OSA), a parent organization of Georgian Bay Sailing Association, is a not-for-profit, volunteer organization committed to the promotion and development of all

aspects of boating and sailing. The OSA consists of over 200 members, clubs, sailing schools, camps, charters and affiliates who represent over 10,000 member families and services over 100,000 boaters.

D. Analysis

The relationship between the OSA and the Town is positive for both groups. From an economic development standpoint, the Town will be supporting a not-for-profit, volunteer organization that will continue to retain and create responsible new boaters.

The timing of the event works well as many of the Thornbury Harbour seasonal slip holders are expected to be attending the annual Thornbury Yacht Club North Channel Rendezvous during this time. In addition, as many other seasonal slip holders typically use their vessels for cruising during the months of July and August additional space in the Thornbury Harbour is expected to be available.

E. The Blue Mountains Strategic Plan

Goal #2: Engage Our Communities & Partners

Goal #3: Support Healthy Lifestyles

F. Environmental Impacts

During the event, Harbour Staff will be encouraging waste reduction through recycling. Most of the vessel owners will also be walking or cycling to local venues for dinner and or provisioning.

G. Financial Impact

2017 Georgian Bay Regatta Revenue: 14 vessels X \$20.00 = \$280.00

2018 Projected Georgian Bay Regatta Revenue: 40 vessels X \$20.00 = \$800.00

Other financial benefits may include provisioning and dining for the 120 participants and their guests.

H. In consultation with

Georgian Bay Sailing Association

Sam Dinsmore, Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Accounting and Budgets

I. Attached

None.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Gibbons
Acting Director of Community Services

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