

**STAFF REPORT: Financial and Information Services**



**REPORT TO:** Finance and Administration Committee  
**MEETING DATE:** March 16, 2010  
**REPORT NO.:** FIS.10.21  
**SUBJECT:** Grants and Donations Considerations  
**PREPARED BY:** Elizabeth Thompson, Manager of Accounting & Budgets / Deputy Treasurer

**A. Recommendations**

THAT Council receive Staff Report FIS.10.21 “2010 Grants and Donations Considerations”, and

THAT Council fund the ShelterBox Canada donation of \$2,260.00 through the Working Capital Reserve; and,

THAT Council approve the Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary Club request for donation to the Chilli Cook-off event in the amount of \$2,260.00; and,

THAT Council provide additional funding for the Beaver Valley Agricultural Society to provide reduced rental rates to a maximum amount of \$2,000 in subsidy at the Beaver Valley Community Centre for the Fall Fair; and,

FURTHER THAT Council authorize the approved subsidy of \$2,000 for the Georgian Sound Festival / Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary Club event, be transferred to a grant to the Georgian Sound Festival/ Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary Club to be used for rent and operation of the event.

**B. Background**

At the regular meeting of Council of The Blue Mountains held on February 22, 2010, the Grants and Donations recommendations from the Finance and Administration Committee were reviewed by Council. Council commented on the difficult decisions of the Finance and Administration Committee and requested staff to review the funding of the ShelterBox Canada donation awarded by Council at the January 25, 2010 Council meeting. The Haiti Relief donation from Council matched the contributions from Town Staff 2 to 1 for the Haiti Relief Fund. It is recommended that this donation be funded from the Working Capital Reserve.

The Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary Club requested funding for the Chilli Cook-off event which raises funds for contributions to the community. Each year Council has contributed to the event. This year, the Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary Club has indicated the funds raised at the Chilli Cook-off event will be a contribution to the Rotary

Club's commitment of \$100,000 towards the Thornbury Medical Clinic. Council has recommended that \$2,260 be contributed to the Chilli Cook-off event.

The Beaver Valley Agricultural Society submitted an application to the Town's Grants and Donations Program requesting subsidy to cover the rental rates at the Beaver Valley Community Centre in addition to a grant of \$1,500 for the Annual Fall Fair. Upon closer analysis of the request, the rental of the community centre would require \$2,000 in subsidy to provide the requested rental rate. This is an additional \$1,650 in subsidy requirement. This year the Fall Fair will be held at the Beaver Valley Community Centre from Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 to Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010, promoting agriculture, supporting 4H programs, and providing other youth interests through the Fall Fair. Through the Grants and Donations program, two weekend rentals were considered for subsidy that was actually rentals during the week. As the rental rates through the week are much lower than prime time weekends, this award provides \$550 in additional rental subsidies available for Committee to consider for other applications. Through the budget process Council has provided \$500 for future donations. These dollars could be considered for the Fall Fair and as the Fall Fair promotes the community, the additional \$600 required could be subsidies through the promotional expenses budgeted for Corporate Administration.

The Georgian Sound Festival / Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary Club submitted a late request for funding of the annual Jazz Festival event. The request was submitted to committee as a rental subsidy and awarded at \$2,000. The Georgian Sound Festival / Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary Club have clarified their request and would appreciate Council considering a grant in the same amount to the Jazz Festival event for use to cover the rent and operation of the event.

### **C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan**

Strategic Action 3.5 Continue to support cultural groups and community events.

### **D. Environmental Impacts**

N/A

### **E. Budget Impact**

By funding the contribution to the ShelterBox Canada donation from the Working Capital Reserve, Council will have available funds within the Grants and Donations program to contribute to the Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary Club's Chilli Cook-off event.

The Beaver Valley Agriculture Society Fall Fair is an annual community event. If Council would like to add additional support to this event as has been provided in other years, funding of \$500 is available from the 2010 Council Budget line of Donations. In addition, savings derived from two other rental subsidies within the Grants and Donations review, were estimated on a weekend rental fee and will be held on a week day, freeing up \$550 in subsidy. With a further \$600 in subsidy, expensed to the

Corporate Administration Promotional budget line, will cover the request for subsidy for the Beaver Valley Agriculture Society Fall Fair in the amount of \$2,000.

**F. Attached**

None.

Respectfully submitted,

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For more information, please contact:  
Elizabeth Thompson, Manager of Accounting & Budgets / Deputy Treasurer  
[ethompson@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:ethompson@thebluemountains.ca)  
519-599-3131 x250