

Staff Report

Report To: Council Meeting

From: Jana Nethercott, Clerk

Date: 2020-06-25

Report: 2020-11

Subject: Request to Waive Fees for Pavilion Use

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Jana Nethercott, Clerk re: Request to Waive Fees for Miller Park Pavilion and Port Glasgow Pavilion; and

That West Elgin Council hereby approves the waiver of all rental fees for the Miller Park and Port Glasgow Pavilion until September 30, 2020 as a way to promote getting outside and being active during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to request Council grant a waiver of the \$25.00 rental fee associated with the pavilion rentals for Miller Park and Port Glasgow Pavilions as a way to promote outside activities for the community.

Background:

A request was made from the West Lorne Tai Chi group to use the Miller Park Pavilion to host their Tai Chi three times a week. Staff are able to accommodate this rental request on Tuesdays from 9:30 am to 10:30 am and 7:45 pm to 8:30 pm, however the Friday request from 9:30 am to 10:30 am cannot be accommodated due to the fact the pavilion is being used at 10:30 am by the West Elgin Community Health Centre Senior Fitness Class and with physical distancing requirements, we would need at least a half hour between the two classes. Staff have discussed this timing issue with Ms. Hulls and she said the group would be willing to change from Friday to Thursday morning.

A similar request has been received from Tracey Bradshaw for the use of the Dance Hall at the Port Glasgow Trailer Park. However, as that structure is considered a building and currently indoor recreation classes are not allowed under Stage 2 of the Provincial Re-Opening, Staff would like to suggest that she book the Port Glasgow Pavilion for her yoga classes.

The rental fee for the Miller Park and Port Glasgow Pavilions as per the Fees & Charges By-law (2019-97) is \$25.00 per day, the waiver of such a fee is at Council's discretion. Staff is suggesting as a way to promote getting outside and being active during the pandemic that the waiver of the fee be approved. Community groups would still need to contact the Municipal Office to book the use of the pavilions so that we can ensure that there is at least a 30 minute turn around between bookings to prevent close contact of groups using the pavilions and each group would be

responsible to ensure they meet the restrictions for physical distancing and gathering numbers as set out by the Provincial Orders.

Financial Implications:

Waiver of Fees would be for the months of July, August and September and may also include the odd private booking.