

To: CAO for the Electoral Area Services Committee
From: Kristy Hodson, Manager of Financial Operations

Date: 2019-06-11
File No: 1850-20 / 003

Subject: Grant-In-Aid Request – Sunshine Valley Ratepayers Association, Electoral Area “B”

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board authorize a grant-in-aid in the amount of \$11,200 to the Sunshine Valley Ratepayers Association, funded from the 2019 Electoral Area “B” grant-in-aid budget, to help offset the costs of equipment rental for river cleanup, community garden beds, a community composter, hosting a Canada Day celebration, website migration, and hosting Heritage Day.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Support Healthy & Sustainable Community

BACKGROUND

This request for funding is eligible under the Electoral Area grant-in-aid policy under the “Activities/ programs which are accessible to a large portion of the electoral area”.

DISCUSSION

The Sunshine Valley Ratepayers Association is a non-profit organization representing citizens from the Sunshine Valley. They promote community education, sustainable public programs and community-based events for anyone to participate in.

The Sunshine Valley Ratepayers Association is requesting a \$9,200 grant-in-aid for six items:

- Community garden: lumber and equipment for installation of raised beds (\$1,000)
- Community composter: composter, signage, cement pad (\$3,500)
- Webpage: new site and location (\$500)
- Canada Day: bbq and entertainment (\$1,500)

- Heritage Day: entertainment, stage & equipment rentals (\$2,200)
- Entrance Garden Lighting & wheel chair accessibility: inclusion project for accessibility & nightscape viewing (\$2,000)
- Area "B" river cleanup: equipment rental for garbage cleanup (\$500)

A Grant-in-aid was issued in 2018 for \$9,200 to the Sunshine Valley Ratepayers Association, and FVRD has since contacted the Association in regards to our Financial Accountability & Reporting section in our Grant-In-Aid Policy which requires those who receive grants over \$1,000 to follow up with a letter to FVRD regarding usage of funds and their success, including pictures of the project/ event and any other supporting information. To date, we have not received any information on how the funds were used. Under the Eligibility section of our policy, one of the items is that an applicant may be excluded from applying due to not meeting the above reporting requirement for a previously awarded grant. FVRD staff is currently working with the Association to obtain the appropriate reporting for 2018.

Director Adamson is in support of providing a grant-in-aid of \$11,200 for these items.

COST

The \$11,200 cost will be funded from the Electoral Area "B" grant-in-aid budget which has sufficient funds to support this request.

CONCLUSION

A grant-in-aid application has been received from the Sunshine Valley Ratepayers Association seeking support for community composter, celebrations and projects.

COMMENTS BY:

Mike Veenbaas, Director of Financial Services

Reviewed and supported.

Jennifer Kinneman, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Reviewed and supported.