

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, March 15, 2010, for the purpose of meeting with the chairpersons of City Council advisory groups.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:10 p.m. It was held in the Council Room of the Municipal Building.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Konrad E. Herling, Emmett V. Jordan, Leta M. Mach, Silke I. Pope, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Judith F. Davis.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael McLaughlin, City Manager; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Jon Gardner, Advisory Committee on Education; Charles Jackman, Advisory Committee on Trees; George Branyan, Advisory Planning Board; Tatiana Ausema, Arts Advisory Board; Steve Skolnik, Board of Appeals; Pamela Gregory, Board of Elections; Ginny Mudrock, Forest Preserve Advisory Board; Lola Skolnik, Park and Recreation Advisory Board; Laura Kressler, Public Safety Advisory Committee; John Lippert, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability; Betty Timer, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee; and Jacob Fletcher, Youth Advisory Committee. No one attended from the Community Relations Advisory Board and the Employee Relations Board.

*Following introductions, Mayor Davis expressed Council's appreciation to the advisory groups for the services they provide and for their advice to Council over the year. She asked everyone to give a brief summary on one group accomplishment over the past year and/or one project the group is currently working on. **AAB:** Ms. Ausema said ACE is working on identifying areas for public art in the City. **ACE:** Mr. Gardner said ACE science and reading club programs and school grant program had been established last year and were very successful. He said ACE is monitoring the new Greenbelt Middle School building project and the school boundaries issue to assure that all Greenbelt students attend Greenbelt schools. **ACT:** Mr. Jackman said ACT had presented a report to Council regarding damage and stress to trees on the Community Center lawn caused by Labor Day Festival equipment. He said the Labor Day Festival Committee will be meeting with their committee regarding the concern. Mr. Jackman also commented on the number of trees lost during the winter storms. **APB:** Mr. Branyan said the APB had worked on the Craftstar Homes proposal to revise the Detailed Site Plan at Greenbelt Station and is currently working on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. **BoA:** Mr. Skolnik said the BoA only meets as necessary when appeals are filed or variance applications and/or departures from design standards are submitted. He said it had been a quiet year. **BoE:** Ms. Gregory said the BoE held the 2009 election and was pleased with the large response to early voting. She said the board was already discussing plans for the 2011 election. **FPAB:** Ms. Mudrock said the FPAB had been working closely with Ms. Riddle, Assistant Director of Public Works, on the forest management assessment project. She said the board would be working on naming the parcels, signage for the parcels, as well as educating residents who live on the outskirts of the Forest Preserve on their responsibilities as far as maintaining the preserve. **Green ACES:** Mr. Lippert said Green ACES continues to work on promoting recycling activities, and is also beginning work on a sustainability master plan for the city which will take several years. **PSAC:** Ms. Kressler said PSAC had completed the Mile Marker Project for Buddy Attick Park and is beginning work with the Community Relations Advisory Board on a referral to assess the needs and concerns of residents of Empirian Village. **PRAB:** Ms. Skolnik said PRAB had revised the contribution group application form, which will now provide more detailed information. She also*

reported the new restrooms at Buddy Attick Park are in service. **SCAC:** Ms. Timer said the SCAC had held their annual Open Forum in the fall and was now planning their “Not for Seniors Only” program for the Greenbelt Day weekend. **YAC:** Mr. Fletcher said the YAC was concentrating its efforts on recruitment and reenergizing the committee.

Recruitment/Appointment Process: Mr. Jordan asked if any members had thoughts about the current recruitment/appointment process. Mr. Branyan said he thought the process worked well. He added that APB was very pleased with the two new appointments to their committee. Mr. Gardner mentioned the current vacancy on ACE and asked Council to consider appointing a new member who had a child in the Greenbelt schools. Ms. Mach suggested ACE promote the vacancy to local PTA’s.

Ms. Skolnik mentioned the success of the youth liaison program and said that PRAB was pleased to have Mr. Fletcher as the liaison to their committee.

Role of Council Liaison: Mayor Davis explained the Council liaisons try to meet with groups regularly, depending on their meeting schedule. She encouraged the representatives to contact their Council liaisons if they need information regarding requests or referrals or have general questions.

Communications: Ms. Murray explained that the minutes of advisory groups are now posted on the City’s website under the individual committees. There was discussion regarding development of a tracking method for advisory group reports. Mr. Jordan suggested a link on the City’s website for residents to send questions or ideas to advisory groups.

Attendance at Meetings: Mayor Davis advised groups to contact Ms. Murray if they have a non-participating member.

Council thanked everyone for coming.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Murray
City Clerk