

City of Greenbelt
Youth Advisory Committee
Monday, June 9, 2014

Present: Patrick Gleason (Chair), Sophie Bernheisel, Katia Cavigelli, Honora Hammett, Timothy Cohen – Mitchell (Adult Member)

Staff: Joe McNeal, Liaison, Alison Longworth, City Staff

Patrick Gleason called meeting to order at 6:39pm in the Greenbelt Youth Center

1. Minutes Approved: For May 2014 meeting. Approved unanimously 5-0 in favor.

2. Review: Referral from City Council – Playground Surfacing Materials

Patrick Gleason asked the committee to review the background material on playground surfacing materials. The committee discussed the pros and cons of Engineered Wood Fiber (EWF) and Poured in Place materials. It was agreed that along with the recommendation of the PRAB Report #14-1, that the rubber mulch material that is currently in place is no longer an option due to not meeting ADA standards. The committee recommends the use of EWF on city playgrounds, or Poured in Place when appropriate. The YAC asked staff to make revisions to the draft and send out to members for electronic vote via email.

3. Summer Hiatus

It was noted that historically the YAC has taken time off during the summer months. The YAC discussed briefly schedule conflicts with summer meeting dates. It was decided unanimously in favor 5-0 to accept a summer hiatus for July and August, 2014. The YAC will reconvene on September 8, 2014. It was noted that Alison Longworth will be the new liaison for the committee.

4. Ideas on How Youth Advisory Committee could recruit new members

Sophie Bernheisel commented that she had spoken with residents of Greenbelt East and may have a few interested. Alison Longworth spoke with Frank Jones, Recreation Coordinator from Springhill Lake. He is actively trying to recruit members from the area. Katia Cavigelli mentioned waiting until after the hiatus to lead a big recruitment push. Participating in the “information day” program during the Labor Day festivities to inform the public about the YAC and possibly recruit members is being considered. Alison Longworth will research further permission to establish representation during Labor Day weekend.

5. New Business

Possible Field Trip: Joe McNeal questioned the committee about interest in attending the National League of Cities (NLC) conference in Washington D.C. next March, 2015. Members are interested in attending. Alison Longworth is researching logistics and transportation for this field trip. The NLC's annual

conferences provide educational programming, training opportunities, and peer networking; along with a venue for NLC's governance activities including the meetings of the Board of Directors, Advisory Council and other NLC committees and councils.

Timothy Cohen-Mitchell suggested starting a Youth Forum that provided opportunities for Greenbelt youth to 1) Socialize in a facilitated environment. 2) Openly discuss issues or concerns as they arise.

Patrick Gleason adjourned the meeting at 7:33pm

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Longworth, Recreation Staff

Next meeting scheduled for **September 8, 2014 at 6:30pm**