

Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board Report 16-2
Recommendation to the Greenbelt City Council
May 4, 2016

Subject: Greenbelt Community Foundation

Background

At their May 3, 2016 meeting, the Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board (AAB) reviewed a first-time application from the Greenbelt Community Foundation for Contribution Group status and funding in FY17. Board members present included: Tatiana Ausema (Chair), John Drago, Oliver Gaycken, Mark Granfors-Hunt and Charlette Wilson. Also present were Joanie Cohen-Mitchell of the Greenbelt Community Foundation and Nicole DeWald (staff liaison). Anna Socrates (Vice Chair) was unable to attend but contributed written input.

Summary Recommendation

The AAB recommends that Contribution Group status be awarded to the Greenbelt Community Foundation (5 voting in favor and 1 opposed).

Members recommended partial funding of the applicant's \$10,000 request for purchase of materials and equipment for their 10th anniversary celebration – possibly in the range of \$1,000 - \$2,000. The Board felt that details of the proposed purchase were insufficient to support full funding of the request.

Detailed Findings

The Greenbelt Community Foundation (GCF) was represented at the meeting by Joanie Cohen-Mitchell, board member.

Overall Score: 3.9 (very good)

Service to the Community: 4.3 (very good)

Organizational Effectiveness: 4.0 (very good)

Artistic Merit: 3.5 (very good)

Comments: Members were impressed by GCF's outreach and inclusiveness of all parts of Greenbelt. The board commended the group's success with fundraising and their level of volunteer support. AAB encouraged GCF to pursue independent non-profit status as the organization is currently considering.

Concerns: Members would have liked to have seen more detailed programmatic information and greater clarity in the application budget. Clarification was requested about the funds being held with the regional foundation and about applicable restrictions in the GCF bylaws with regard to expenditures for operating expenses. The board did not perceive GCF to be primarily an arts organization.

Authorization

This report is submitted on behalf of the Arts Advisory Board by:

Tatiana Ausema

Tatiana Ausema, Chair

May 4, 2016

Date