

**PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL**

**Subject:** Contribution and Recognition Groups Applications

**Background:** At the Park and Recreation Advisory Board's March 20 and 27, 2013 meetings, PRAB reviewed the 2013 applications of the following groups: Greenbelt Boys and Girls Club, Aquatic Boosters, Greenbelt Babe Ruth, Greenbelt Sity Stars, Chesapeake Education Arts and Research Society (CHEARS), Senior Softball, Miss Greenbelt Scholarship, Greenbelt Baseball.

**Discussion:** Historically PRAB refrained from commenting on the merits of the budgets submitted by the contribution groups and confined their comments to the clarity of the budget. With the encouragement of City Council PRAB has changed its approach and will provide commentary on budgetary concerns that arose during its review of the organizations' budgets.

When the application forms were revised 3 years ago, PRAB requested that the contribution groups attend a mandatory training prior to filling out the forms. This was a great benefit to the process and the completed forms were more accurate than in previous years. The training did not take place this year and PRAB noticed the difference, i.e., many more incomplete applications. Betty Sonneveldt and Kelly Ivy volunteered to conduct this training next year.

**Recommendations:**

**Aquatic Boosters** - budget accepted as presented. PRAB supports the additional funds requested. Vote 7-0

**Chesapeake Education Arts and Research Society (CHEARS)** - recommend for Contribution Group status. Vote 7-0

**Greenbelt Baseball** - budget accepted with reservations. The travel league within the organization creates added expense for the club, but not for the "select" participants. Championship awards (such as leather jackets) seem an excessive expenditure. There is no justification for the increased funds requested. Vote 7-0

**Greenbelt Boys & Girls Club** - budget accepted as presented, no reservations.  
Vote 7-0

**Greenbelt Senior Softball** - budget accepted with reservations. PRAB recommends reducing the City's contribution to this group. Of the 25-30 players, only 4-6 players are Greenbelt residents and it is questionable how many of them actually play on the team. PRAB does not understand why the players do not supply their own bats and pants, as it is normal procedure for players in adult leagues. The City's contribution for this group is higher per person/resident than for any other organization and does not appear to serve many Greenbelt residents. Vote 7-0

**Greenbelt City Stars** - recommend for Recognition Group status. Vote 7-0

**Miss Greenbelt Scholarship** - recommend for Recognition Group status.  
Vote 7-0

Respectfully submitted by:  
Lola Skolnik, Chair  
Park and Recreation Advisory Board