

**CITY OF GREENBELT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

Tuesday, September 22, 2015. Meeting was held in the Council Room and presided over by Chair, Susan Breon. Meeting started at 7:10pm.

PRESENT:

Susan Breon, Sudhanshu Sinha, Jon Gardner, Don Rich, Melinda Brady, Elsie Waynes, Leta Mach, Rosalind Ceasar

Jacob Taylor – Greenbelt News Review

ABSENT: Veronica Martin-Alston, Dave Whiteman, Janet Mirsky

PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Minutes of August 25th were approved without amendment.

GRANTS

Workshop – Jon informed members that it is rescheduled for October 8th due to lack of space at GMS or the Community Center. Veronica is still working with GMS PTA.

He asked Leta if the Council room could be a backup. Rosalind is to make enquires with the City Manager’s office about that.

He noted that if he was unable to secure a room, the workshop will be canceled because it would not be feasible to hold it beyond the 8th.

Application Forms - Jon informed members that he had intended to send the forms and the workshop announcement to the schools together, but in light of the postponement, he will send out the forms tonight. They are also available on the city website.

He said that in addition to the No-confidentiality disclaimer, he has added a checklist at the end of the application so schools can verify that they have completed all requirements for submission; and a summary of last year’s grants is posted on the city’s website for schools to peruse for ideas.

He also suggested that since students were out of school on the submission deadline date of November 2nd it may be more convenient, for teachers, to move it to November 3rd. Members agreed. He is to inform Bev Palau to make the update on the website.

Rosalind suggested email submission but members were concerned about getting the principal’s signature on an electronic document. After discussion, it was agreed that the schools can email scanned copies to Rosalind, who will send back a receipt email.

Final reports – Jon reported that he sent out reminders to the schools and so reports are trickling in, however all the schools still have outstanding reports.

Sudhanshu suggested introducing a quarterly reporting system but members did not think it was practical, given the nature of the activities/programs in most proposals.

FEEDBACK - LABOR DAY PARADE

Susan reported that she marched with Don and Janet. They were joined by 6 students and an educator.

She said someone suggested that the students turn and face Council when they reached the dais. She thought that was very appropriate, and hopes to adopt it for future parades.

PTA PRESIDENTS' MEETING

Rosalind reported that she has sent letters to the schools but has not received any RSVPs yet. She has also not received updated information on SHL, FIS and MES. Susan asked liaisons to follow up with their schools.

Sudhanshu volunteered to provide drinks for the meeting. Other members will bring snacks.

UPDATES

Clubs Rosalind reported that the facilitators of the MES Science Club had indicated that they were unavailable this year because of time constraints. However, the Reading Club facilitator had contacted her to express an interest in running the club.

The SHL Reading Club has already started meeting.

She also reported that she had been in touch with Mr. Jones at GMS. Members unanimously agreed that ACE should support that Reading Club. She is to follow-up with Mr. Jones.

Sudhanshu offered to check with SHL again about a science club, and Don also offered to check with the acting principal of MES about other teacher(s) who might be interested in picking up the science club.

Awards Dates – Rosalind reported she has only heard back from Jon with ERHS' response. Susan encouraged liaisons to get in touch with their schools and report back. Rosalind is to resend the proposed dates to members.

City Dinner – Rosalind asked that members copy her when they RSVP to the City Clerk so she has a head count.

Request for Scholarship funds – Members said they did not understand the intricacies of the city's finances so Leta offered to get more details from the city manager. Susan suggested tabling further discussion until members had a better understanding.

NEXT MEETING - The meeting ended at 7:50 pm. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 27th.