

CITY OF GREENBELT

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Minutes of Meeting of June 30, 2009

Meeting commenced at 7:00 PM at the Greenbelt Community Center.

PRESENT: ACE Members: Laretta Baugh, Theresa Bugg, Jon Gardner, Alla Lake, Kathy Lewis, Sudhanshu Sinha, Dave Whiteman and Staff Liaison Wendy Wexler.

Minutes of April 28, 2009 approved as is. May meeting was not a regular monthly meeting, but took place at Greenbelt Middle School to discuss issues related to parent teacher organization.

LABOR DAY FESTIVAL PARADE PREP (9/7): Jon requests that someone else be in charge of the Parade this year. That responsibility will include the online submission of the application form, getting list of marchers (from Wendy) to the reviewing stand, gathering the ACE banner and “school bus & wagon” (from Jon), meeting marchers and organizing them. Note: the correct location of gathering will be available on the Labor Day Festival website – www.greenbelt.com/laborday.

Alla offers to complete the online application form. Jon will email her a copy of last year’s form to use as a starting point.

David agrees to be the ‘point person’ for ACE on the day of the parade. He will get the ACE banner from Wendy at our August meeting.

Wendy will take responsibility for sending out the invitations to all ACE Educators and Students and gathering information on who will be able to attend. When it is determined **WHERE** ACE will be gathering please get that info to Wendy as soon as possible so that she might be able to put it in the invitation letters.

After further discussion it is decided that ACE will not host an Information Day Table this year. Past years have shown it to not be a very useful way of interacting with the public and we also have difficulty getting enough available ACE members to staff the table. ACE will seek other ways to disseminate information about the upcoming clubs and grants program.

ACE CLUBS AND GRANTS PROGRAMS. Following discussions, and in response to the response from Liz Park and Council, ACE is planning to host one club (Science) in the Greenbelt Community Center and one club (Reading) at Springhill Lake Elementary School. ACE discusses ways of seeking club leaders and monthly newsletter editor. It is decided that Laretta will create an informational flyer and distribute it at the University of Maryland (Stamp Union, Education Department, English Department. We will also put the information on the City website and share it with the News Review. Resumes and City Job

Application forms are to be submitted by 7/31.

We discuss some of the logistics such as arranging for space, an ACE member serving as a greeter/backup overseer/etc. especially on the first couple of times. We are going to market the clubs as much as possible. We will create a flyer with a registration form attached (who is doing that?) to be sent home with students from the schools, emphasizing that these clubs are FREE, for ages 8 – 14, they are clubs, not classes (FUN!) and are open to all students who either attend an ACE core school or resides in Greenbelt. Flyers should also be distributed at the Library, News Review, Coop, New Deal Café, City Website. Newsletters will be sent out (electronically?) to any child who signs up for it. It will include things like word games, puzzles, articles, updates on club activities.

Club leaders will be responsible for creating a syllabus, ordering and organizing supplies, organizing the location space, reporting to Wendy/ACE.

The ACE Grants Program will total \$6000. Grants will be focused on enhancing or enriching school based activities. Some examples will include supporting field trips, bringing an activity into the school, purchasing equipment and materials. The grants are NOT intended to underwrite items that are normally supplied by the school system such as copier paper, etc.

All grants will be limited to a maximum of \$500. The due date for completed applications will be October 15. A grant must either be authorized by the school parent teacher organization and signed by that group's president OR authorized by the school and signed by the school principal.

If we have funds remaining after the October application process, we will repeat it in early 2010.

Wendy will create a rough draft of an application form and share it with ACE.

Once we have these pieces more organized, ACE will send a report to Council.

ACE BROCHURE. Alla shares copies of the completed Brochure for everyone to see. Everyone thanks her for all her work on this. Through discussion we come up with yet a few more minor modifications. One of them includes replacing the clip art of the globe with an ACE logo. Wendy will look to see if she has an electronic copy of it. Once Alla makes these changes she will email it to Wendy and Wendy will arrange to have 500 copies of it published.

ARTFUL AFTERNOON 5/3. Things are really coming together and Dave is looking forward to some help from the other ACE members able to attend. Although the concert will begin at 3 PM, Dave would appreciate members arriving at 1:30 to help with organizing and corralling our student musicians.

ACE OFFICERS ELECTION. ACE conducts its annual election of officers. All three current officers agree to run again and all three are unanimously elected. Therefore, we are pleased to announce that our officers for the upcoming year will continue to be:

Chair: Jon Gardner

Vice Chair: Alla Lake

Treasurer: Kathy Lewis

ACE thanks each of you for all your caring and dedicated work on behalf of our schools, students and community.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS. ACE is scheduled to meet on 8/25. At that time we will formalize our calendar of meetings and events for the upcoming school year, so please bring your personal calendars. We will also formalize school liaison assignments for the year. Wendy will bring a rough draft calendar to work with.

SPRINGHILL LAKE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL. It has been formally reported that Linda Sherwood will be retiring this year and will be replaced by another principal already in the school system. Interviews for the new principal was a few weeks ago, and Leta attended. She reported that she thought there were some very strong candidates. ACE members all express their gratitude for all of Ms. Sherwood's commitment to her students and the community over the years. It is acknowledged that these are very big shoes for someone to have to fill.

DR. HITE. The Greenbelt City Council has extended an invitation to Dr. Hite, the new CEO of the PGCPS to come to a City Council meeting in August to discuss issues and for everyone to get to know one another. ACE members are eager to attend once a meeting date has been determined.

GREENBELT MIDDLE SCHOOL MEETING (7/14). Laretta and Wendy are the only ones currently able to commit to attending this meeting at 7 PM. This public meeting was originally scheduled to give the school community an update on progress regarding the GMS renovation. Other topics that are now also slated to be discussed will include the issue of lights for the GMS ball fields and the relocation of all the school busses on the bus depot. This area needs to be relocated during the construction year and the ERHS parking lot has been recommended as the relocation site. The Greenbriar Community is not comfortable with this plan and especially displeased they were not invited into the discussion.

ACE CALENDAR – Please let Wendy know if you are NOT able to attend.

Unless noted all meetings will now take place in the Second Floor City Council Room, City Municipal Building.

(no meeting scheduled for July – work to be done via email)

8/25.....Regular Monthly Meeting: 7 PM
