

The City of Greenbelt, Arts Advisory Board  
Minutes of the Meeting on 4/6/2010  
Prepared by: Nicole DeWald

**Board members present:**

Tatiana Ausema, Mark Granfors-Hunt, Ginny Zanner, John Drago, Anna Socrates, Andria Jones

**Other attendees:** Nicole De Wald, staff liaison and Contribution Group representatives

**Absences with notification:** Jenise Williamson, Tiahna Nugent, Amityyah Hyman

**Proceedings:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm. The Board met with Dave Clarke and Tom Cherrix, Greenbelt Concert Band (GCB); Susan Harper and Sandy Irving, Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC); and Ray Stevens, Barbara Simon and Chris Logan, Friends of New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA), regarding their applications for Contribution Group support in FY2011. The Board commended all of the organizations for the services they provide to the community. The Board's formal recommendations will be summarized in the forthcoming Arts Advisory Board report 10-2.

**Greenbelt Concert Band:**

Representatives provided an overview of the group's performance activities. They expressed that their primary challenge is to maintain membership and that they are interested in identifying additional performance opportunities in Greenbelt. Suggestions included the Band's having a presence at Community Information Day during the Labor Day Festival. Issues included the Band's not having provided a fundraising plan for FY2011 as requested in the application.

**Greenbelt Arts Center:**

Representatives provided a brief introduction to the history of the organization. New initiatives discussed include: planned online ticketing; block ticket sales to the Nursery School; a fundraising campaign to support the renovation of restroom facilities; and the participation of GAC in the WATCH awards competition for DC-area theater. Suggestions included: preview write-ups in the local press; expanded discount offers to local high school students and others to fill unsold seats (reported to be about half of the theater capacity on average, with the exception of musicals); and a possible partnership with the library to feature books related to the productions running at GAC. Issues included GAC's projected FY10 operating deficit, which the representatives noted might be reduced or eliminated due to the success of the current production - *Man of La Mancha*.

**Friends of New Deal Café Arts:**

Representatives discussed current programs and new ideas including: a Roosevelt Center Community Development Corporation; a possible craft market organized in conjunction with the Farmer's Market; the possible coordination of a musical festival to coincide with a Greenbelt Consumer Coop event; sponsorship of public performances by local school ensembles; and the addition of a new craft display case to the Café. Issues included: the closed nature of organizational leadership, in the absence of a membership structure and open elections; and an assessment that FONDCA is a fundraising organization and not strictly an arts group, in that they fund concerts and art shows but do not program them ( -- those functions being fulfilled by the New Deal Café leadership).

**Other Business**

Board members agreed to rotate responsibility for the taking and preparation of minutes, in lieu of electing a Secretary unless a volunteer for that position should emerge. Anna Socrates agreed to record the May 4 meeting.

The Board established that the focus of the May 4 meeting will be a review of Recognition Group applications from the Greenbelt Photo Club, the Greenbelt Glass Guild and the Greenbelt Marching Band.

The meeting adjourned at 9pm.

**Approved 6/11/10 by acclamation.**