



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION AGENDA
Work Session - Advisory Board/Committee Chairs

This meeting will be held in-person and virtual.

**25 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770**

OR

**Virtual Participation
Zoom Webinar Attendees:**

Please submit your request in writing via email to questions@greenbeltmd.gov

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82318176751?pwd=MEgrNkF3UFIVUVR4d2ZaTFUydTdTQT09>

Dial-in: 301 715 8592

Webinar ID: 823 1817 6751

Passcode: 487714

**Wednesday, July 12, 2023
7:30 PM**

Work Session Packet

Work Session - Advisory Board/Committee Chairs

Suggested Action:

Agenda

- Introductions
- Council Discussion
- Questions and Answers
- Other Items

[WS220706.pdf](#)

City Council Work Session Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: July 12, 2023

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: Work Session Item

Agenda Section: Work Session Packet

Subject:

Work Session - Advisory Board/Committee Chairs

Suggested Action:

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Attachments:

[WS220706.pdf](#)

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, July 6, 2022, to meet with the chairpersons of the City Council Advisory Groups.

Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 7:30 pm. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road and virtually via Zoom.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Ric Gordon, Silke I. Pope, Rodney M. Roberts, Kristen L. K. Weaver, and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan. Councilmember Colin A. Byrd was absent.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Tim George, Interim City Manager; Bonita Anderson, City Clerk; and Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Assistant to the City Clerk.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Janet Mirsky, Advisory Committee on Education (ACE); Charles Jackman, Advisory Committee on Trees (ACT); Benjamin Friedman, Advisory Planning Board (APB); Steven Skolnik, Board of Appeals (BoA); Steven Gilbert, Board of Elections, (BoE); Jamie Krauk and Rick Ransom, Community Relations Advisory Board, (CRAB); Kevin Murphy, Employee Relations Board (ERB); Donna Hoffmeister, Forest Preserve Advisory Board (FPAB); John Lippert, Green Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES); Jacob Chesnutt, Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB); Dr. Laura Kressler, Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC); Betty Timer, Senior Citizen Advisory Committee (SCAC); and others.

Kevin Murphy, ERB Chair, provided an update on the Board. He noted that the Board consists of five members, and there are currently no vacancies. Mr. Murphy advised that the Board meets primarily to deal with employee grievances and appeals.

Dr. Laura Kressler, PSAC Chair, noted that the Committee just had elections, and a new chair will be appointed tomorrow. She advised that there is currently one vacancy on the Committee. Dr. Kressler stated that the Committee meets in person at the Community Center. The Committee is public safety oriented.

Betty Timer, SCAC Chair, commented on the open forum hosted by SCAC last year and stated the next forum would be on September 24, 2022, at 1 pm. In addition, she provided an update on the Committee, which included recognizing centenarians and the Not for Seniors Only Event.

Donna Hoffmeister, FPAB Co-Chair, stated that the Board consists of nine members, and there are no vacancies. Based on a question asked by Ms. Hoffmeister, Ms. Davis noted that the Forest Preserve Advisory Board Report# 2022-03, Naming the Stream that Parallels Northway, will be on the upcoming July agenda. Ms. Hoffmeister stated that FPAB is waiting on the City to amend the Code to include the Greenbriar Forest Preserve. She provided an update on FPAB, which included writing a maintenance guideline.

John Lippert, Green ACES Chair, stated that there are three openings on the Committee. He provided Council with an update on the Committee, which included working with the Public Works Department regarding the No Mow Month in April. He advised that the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Planning Group (EVIPG) would like to host an EVIPG Petting Zoo or Fair at Schrom Hills Park in September. Mr. Lippert advised that Green ACES was working on a composting grant.

Mr. Lippert explained that Sustainable Maryland Certified established the Green Team. Mayor Jordan stated that there is a sustainable club at the Dora Kennedy French Immersion School and was interested in getting involved. Mr. Skolnik indicated that he serves on the Green Team and the EVIPG. Finally, Mr. Skolnik noted that the Green Team is working on a solar panel project.

Steve Skolnik, BoA Chair, stated that the Board consists of three members, and there are no vacancies. He stated that the Board is not that active, but there is an appeal this week.

Steven Gilbert, BoE Co-Chair, stated that there is one opening on the Board. He provided an update on the Board, which included looking for a contractor for next year's election. In addition, Mr. Gilbert stated that the Board would like to work with the Council regarding early voting.

Charles Jackman, ACT Chair, stated that the Committee consists of three members, and there are no vacancies. He provided an update on the Committee, which included celebrating Arbor Day and planting an American Holly Tree memorial of Eleanor Roosevelt. ACT had worked with the FPAB regarding the Forest Preserves and had located 49 significant trees with a diameter greater than 2 feet. Mr. Jackman requested lightning protection around the Theodor Cedar Tree in Schrom Hills Park because it was struck by lightning in October 2021 and is dying. The City of Greenbelt has a 62% tree canopy.

Janet Mirsky, ACE Chair, stated that the Committee has five openings. She provided Council with an update on the Committee, including an annual meeting with the PTA presidents and Principals. In addition, Ms. Mirsky explained that ACE provides Student and Teacher Awards yearly. Ms. Davis suggested the Committee place an article in the Greenbelt News Review to recruit new members. Mr. Gordon indicated that ACE could work with Ms. Chondria Andrews, Public Information & Communications Coordinator, to recruit new members via social media. Ms. Pope suggested asking the individual principals to share information with parents when school reopens.

Jacob Chesnutt, PRAB Chair, stated that there are three openings on the Board. He provided Council with an update on the Board, which included the Lake Park Master Plan, the Beltway Plaza Redevelopment and Indoor Recreation Space, review of the Recognition Groups Grant application process, and work with the Greenbelt Station Design Group.

Mayor Jordan suggested obtaining assistance from the Recognition Contribution Approval Panel Group to review some American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund proposals.

There was a discussion regarding the Boys and Girls Club kickball challenge.

Jamie Krauk, CRAB Chair, stated that there are has two vacancies on the Board. She provided an update on the Board, which included co-sponsoring the Police Forum with PSAC, working on Council's three outstanding referrals, and reviewing the Fair and Police Act.

Benjamin Friedman, APB Chair, stated the Board has seven members, and there are currently no vacancies. However, Mr. Friedman informed Council that two members are temporarily relocated to California and France. He provided an update on the Board, which included working on the Pedestrian/Bike Master Plan, preparing for an upcoming Parking Departure hearing, and reviewing the Beltway Plaza Detail Site Plan and Doctor Hospital's Preliminary Plan of

Subdivision. Mr. Friedman noted the development proposals at 7010 Greenbelt Road. APB reviewed the Royal Farms proposal and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing proposal at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). The Cherrywood Lane Greenstreet Project is 90% complete.

Ms. Davis stated that AAB recently held an artist meet and greet and is planning a round-robin for art groups in the Fall. Ms. Davis advised that she received an email from AAB chair Mr. Tom LeaMond and will provide Council with a copy.

There was a discussion that the chairs of the Ethics Commission and the Youth Advisory Committee weren't present. Ms. Davis advised that the chair of the Youth Advisory Committee was up for reappointment, and he had not yet replied to staff.

Mayor Jordan explained the boards/committees' referral/report process. Ms. Davis added that some of the referrals/reports are waiting for additional information from other boards/committees before Council could hold a work session.

Mayor Jordan requested that the referral spreadsheet be sent to the Advisory Boards/Committees and charged the Chairs to review the referral spreadsheets, make updates, and maintain the spreadsheet. If any information is missing, update staff.

There was a discussion regarding reappointments. Mayor Jordan charged the Advisory Boards/Committees Chairs to ensure their members are current with reappointments. He asked that the Chairs review the Code of Conduct and suggest any needed changes to Council. Ms. Davis requested that Chairs communicate with staff about any members who are not compliant.

There was a discussion regarding the minutes of the Advisory Boards/Committees.

Mayor Jordan inquired if the Advisory Board/Committees Chairs would consider changing the meeting dates and times so that Council liaisons could attend the meetings.

There was a discussion regarding if Advisory Boards/Committees needed budget allotments. Ms. Davis suggested that the Boards/Committees inform Council before the budget sessions to have funds budgeted.

Ms. Timer requested a copy of the Advisory Boards/Committees roster. Mayor Jordan stated that staff would provide the updated roster to the Board/Committee Chairs.

There was a discussion regarding removing a member from the Advisory Boards/Committees.

Ms. Krauk suggested that staff have the opportunity to review all reports/referrals. In addition, she requested a copy of the names of all the Advisory Board/Committee Chairs.

There was a discussion regarding recruitment. Mayor Jordan suggested an open house for all the boards/committees and additional social media advertising. Dr. Kressler explained PSAC's recruitment efforts, which include National Night Out and Informational Day at the Labor Day Festival.

Dr. Kressler provided Council with an update on PSAC, which included the Police Reform, Police Forum, and Police Survey. She stated that PSAC is currently planning for National Night Out, which will be Tuesday, August 2. In addition, Dr. Kressler informed Council that the Greenbelt Community Animal Response Team (CART) received the Pet Disaster Response Trailer and has been discussing with Council to have a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Based on a question asked by Bill Orleans, a Greenbelt resident, Mayor Jordan answered that the Board of Elections would have an upcoming meeting in September. In addition, Mayor Jordan stated that the Advisory Boards/Committees serve the residents of Greenbelt and the City Council. Ms. Davis added that the Advisory Boards/Committees propose items to Council, suggest changes, and provide forums.

Council thanked the Advisory Board/Committee Chairs for all their service.

Informational Items:

Ms. Davis asked for an update on the opioid litigation. Mr. George stated that he would follow up with the City Solicitor.

Based on a question by Mayor Jordan, Mr. George answered that he and Ms. Hruby would follow up with Crown Castle regarding the 5G towers.

Mayor Jordan thanked staff regarding the 4th of July celebration. He stated that the City needs a PA System. Mr. George noted that the staff is researching a PA System that would be a part of the Buddy Attack Master Plan and will provide the Council with additional information within the next two-three weeks.

The meeting ended at 9:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shaniya Lashley-Mullen
Assistant to the City Clerk