



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION AGENDA
Advisory Group Chairs

COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE ONLINE ONLY

Due to the COVID-19 precautions, the Council Meeting will be held online and is planned to be cablecast on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and streamed to www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv.

Resident participation:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82626215408?pwd=cjdlWitHaDdITXVxNzNmQVJkYWswQT09>

OR

Join By phone: (301) 715-8592

Meeting ID: 826 2621 5408

Passcode: 700677

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use Video Relay Services (VRS) at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

Wednesday, June 2, 2021

8:00 PM

Work Session Packet

Advisory Group Chairs

Suggested Action:

Agenda

- Introductions

- Council Discussion
- Questions and Answers
- Other Items
 - [WS200624.pdf](#)
 - [WS190717.pdf](#)

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, June 24, 2020, to meet with the City Council Advisory Groups' chairpersons.

Mayor Byrd started the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

Present were Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Emmett V. Jordan, Leta M. Mach, Silke I. Pope, Edward V. J. Putens (8:05), Rodney M. Roberts, and Mayor Colin A. Byrd.

Staff members present were Nicole Ard, City Manager; Rebekah Sutfin, Therapeutic Recreation Supervisor; Greg Varda, Director of Recreation; and Bonita Anderson, City Clerk.

Also present were Charles Jackman, Advisory Committee on Trees (ACT); Keith Chernikoff, Advisory Planning Board (APB); Steve Skolnik, Board of Appeals; Patricia Evans, Board of Elections (BoE); Damien Ossi, Forest Preserve Advisory Board (FPAB); John Lippert, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES) and Greenbelt Green Team; Jake Chestnutt, Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB); Cindy Comproni, Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC); Mark Granfors-Hunt, Arts Advisory Board (AAB); Marti Galvin, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee (SCAC); and Arsalan Siddiqui, Youth Advisory Committee (YAC); Melinda Brady, Advisory Committee on Education (ACE); Bill Orleans and others.

Ms. Marti Galvin, Senior Citizen Advisory Committee (SCAC) Chair, commented on the open forum that was hosted by SCAC in September 2019. She noted the three issues that were submitted to Council: the need for senior housing; parking issues at Springhill Lake Recreation; and better lighting and contrast steps at the Community Center. Ms. Galvin stated that SCAC is looking forward to hosting the first virtual open forum in September 2020. She provided updates on the Widow Comfort Support Group and the Not for Seniors Only Event.

Ms. Sutfin, SCAC Staff Liaison, stated that the SCAC just recently held a virtual meeting. The next meeting will be held in July via Zoom and dial by phone.

Mr. John Lippert, Green Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green Aces) Chair, provided an update on the committee. He noted that there are currently no vacancies on the committee. Mr. Lippert stated that before the COVID-19, the committee reviewed and provided their recommendations to Council on the Firefly Sanctuary, the NRP Multifamily Project, the Hanover Parkway Bike Path, and on two County Bills (Pesticides Bill and Ban the Straw Bill). He noted that the Green Aces members are also on the Greenbelt Green Team and are in the process of getting the City of Greenbelt certified as a Sustainable Maryland Municipality.

There was a discussion regarding paper recycling. Ms. Davis noted that the contract just ended with the company that accepted paper and cardboard and will be removing their dumpsters from Buddy Attick Park and Greenbelt East.

Ms. Jamie Krauk, Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB) Co-Chair, stated the Board rotates their meetings to various locations in the City each month. Ms. Krauk noted the Board has been working on Police and Community Relations, a Youth Forum at Roosevelt High School, and the 1033 Military Surplus Equipment. She also noted that CRAB has completed reports on the Holiday Decorating Competition and Celebrating Centenarians. Ms. Krauk stated the Board just completed the Community Clean Up referral.

There was a discussion regarding recruiting advisory board members. Mr. Jordan inquired was there any other effective ways to advertise committee members.

Mr. Steve Skolnik, Board of Appeals (BoA) Chair, stated there are currently three members. He provided an update on the Board's recent activities.

Ms. Cindy Comproni, Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC), stated there is one vacancy on the committee. Ms. Davis stated that the Labor Day Festival has been canceled. She suggested at National Night Out that small groups could participate by Social Distancing. Ms. Comproni noted she would provide that suggestion to the PSAC Chair, Dr. Laura Kressler. Ms. Pope noted that PSAC has not had a meeting in months. She inquired about the status of having a virtual meeting. Ms. Comproni stated she would follow-up with Dr. Kressler.

Mr. Keith Chernikoff, Advisory Planning Board (APB) Chair, stated APB is a seven-member board. He provided an update on the Board's recent activities, including reviewing the NCOZ Zone, NRP Multifamily Project, the Beltway Plaza Development, and the biennial review of the Pedestrian/Bike Plan.

Mr. Robert Zugby, Ethics Commission (EC) Chair, thanked Council for increasing the Commission's membership from three to five. He stated that there had not been any cases presented to the Commission in recent years. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission hasn't met to review the Financial Disclosure Forms for staff, appointed, and elected officials.

Mr. Keith Murphy, Employee Relations Board (ERB) Chair, stated there are currently no vacancies on the Board. Mr. Murphy noted the Board is currently updating the Board's resource binders and the summaries for employees' grievance and appeal procedures. He advised the Board would be sending Council their recommendation for distribution of the employees' grievance and appeal procedures.

Based on a question asked by Mr. Jordan, Mr. Murphy stated the ERB hadn't discussed additional training in over a year. He noted the ERB attends the Open Meetings Training and other training the City provides all the other advisory board members.

Mr. Jake Chesnutt, Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) Chair, stated there are currently no vacancies on the Board and there's representation across the City on the Board. He thanked Mr. McNeal, Mr. Varda, and the Recreation Department for the virtual recreation during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Chesnutt noted that efforts have been increased for programming and recreation events in Greenbelt West. He stated that Franklin Park's amenities require repairs to meet the standard of what is being provided in other parts of the City. Mr. Chesnutt requested that there be a consideration to add the Lake Park Master Plan once the FY 21 budget is reviewed. He stated PRAB is looking forward to the Buddy Attick Enhancement Projects, the completed Dam Project, and the Buddy Attick Parking Lot Project. Mr. Chesnutt would like to move forward with the Signage Project at Buddy Attick Park.

Ms. Davis stated the Lake Park Master Plan was deferred not removed from the FY 21 budget.

Mr. Arasalan Siddiqui, Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) Chair, provided an update on the committee. He noted that the YAC has been focusing on crime prevention and school safety improvement. Mr. Siddiqui advised other concerns, including the lighting and safety issues from Eleanor Roosevelt High School to Greenbelt Center by the Baltimore Washington Parkway Bridge. YAC has continued to hold voter registration drives and has discussed having a voter booth in the gym so registered 16 and 17-year-olds could vote in the municipal election during school hours.

Dr. Donna Hoffmeister, Forest Preserve Advisory Board (FPAB) Co-Chair, noted there is an opening on the Board. She provided an update on the Science Fund, the Community Gardens, and requested public input and a public scoping session on the Master Trails Plan.

Ms. Melinda Brady, Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) Chair, provided an update on the committee. She stated the committee had a collaboration with Mr. David Whitman, Beltsville Center for Climate System Observation, on a grant to bring undergraduate students to discuss atmosphere observation potential. Ms. Brady advised that an extension was given to the teachers regarding their grants due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Educators Awards was provided online due to the pandemic.

Ms. Davis requested an end of year report from the teachers that had Science and Reading Grants.

Dr. Charles Jackman, Advisory Committee on Trees (ACT) Chair, provided Council with an update on the committee's recent activities. He noted the Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Tree was planted near the Community Center, and a celebration is planned in the Fall.

Ms. Patricia Evans, Board of Elections (BoE) Chair, noted there are currently two vacancies on the Board. She stated the Board is currently preparing the vote by mail report, researching early voting machines and e-polling books.

Ms. Kristin Stenson, Arts Advisory Board (AAB) Chair, noted there are currently three vacancies on the Board. She provided an update on the Board's recent activities, including Mixers and an informational session with the new art policy. Ms. Stenson advised the Board has discussed signage at Roosevelt Center and a public art proposal.

There was a discussion regarding public art. Mr. Jordan suggested a process that artists can use to bid on project sites.

Ms. Pope inquired about the advisory board application. Ms. Ard stated she would follow-up with the City Clerk, Ms. Anderson.

There was a discussion regarding the referral process.

Ms. Davis suggested the Advisory Boards' and Committees' report be posted on the City website. Ms. Anderson noted she would follow-up with placing the reports on the City website.

Informational Items

Ms. Davis mentioned the FPAB 2019 report Sunrise Property that there is not a sign at the Sunrise Tract. She requested that Public Works clean that area and add the Sunrise Tract and regulation signage.

Based on a question asked by Mr. Jordan, Ms. Ard noted that staff has focused on the outside pool; sod has been placed near the Recycling Center; the City playgrounds; and the fitness area at Schrom Hills Park. She stated that the Police, Recreation, and Planning staff discussed the rules and regulations for the Dog Park.

Ms. Davis inquired if the Trinity Assembly of God has a food bank. Ms. Ard stated she did not know, but she will follow-up.

Mr. Puten inquired whether there was an issue with kids riding their bikes at the tennis courts and requested signage to prohibit bike riding at the tennis courts. Mr. Varda noted that parents take their kids to teach them. Mr. Jordan stated that this does happen often.

Mayor Byrd inquired if Council wanted to be briefed on the Opioid Lawsuit at the upcoming Closed Session. He noted the attorneys have provided a draft of the lawsuit. Council agreed to add this item to the upcoming Closed Session meeting.

The meeting ended at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bonita Anderson
City Clerk*

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, July 17, 2019, to meet with the chairpersons of the City Council Advisory Groups.

Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The meeting was held in Room 201 of the Community Center.

Present were Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Leta M. Mach, Silke I. Pope, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts, and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan. Councilmember Colin A. Byrd was unable to attend due to travel.

Staff members present were Nicole Ard, City Manager, and Bonita Anderson, City Clerk.

Also present were Charles Jackman, Advisory Committee on Trees (ACT); Keith Chernikoff, Advisory Planning Board (APB); Steve Skolnik, Board of Appeals; Patricia Evans and Steven Gilbert, Board of Elections (BoE); Damien Ossi, Forest Preserve Advisory Board (FPAB); John Lippert, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES) and Greenbelt Green Team; Jake Chestnutt, Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB); Laura Kressler, Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC); Mark Granfors-Hunt, Arts Advisory Board (AAB); Ronnie Scotkin, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee (SCAC) via conference call; and Arsalan Siddiqui, Youth Advisory Committee (YAC); Melinda Brady, Advisory Committee on Education (ACE); Bill Orleans and others.

Mayor Jordan stated that the Council appreciates the advisory groups for the valuable service that they provide to the Council. Mayor Jordan noted that it is often difficult for Councilmembers to attend the advisory group meetings because of the Council's meeting schedule and other responsibilities. He asked that all advisory boards designate a member to participate in the Open Meetings Act training annually. He also noted that there was training, two years ago, on Roberts Rules of Order. Ms. Scotkin suggested that a representative of CARES assist with providing training for the various boards.

Mr. Siddiqui, Youth Advisory Committee chair, noted that the Youth Committee initiative for voter registration outreach for the 16 and 17 year-olds to participate in the upcoming election. The committee is also working on human trafficking issues, addressing reduction in crime, and a variety of other events for the youth.

Mr. Chernikoff, Advisory Planning Board Chair, mentioned the implementation of the pedestrian bike subcommittee and that they are exploring telecommunications for meetings.

Mr. Zugby, Ethics Commission chair, noted the recent expansion of the board. He also noted that the committee's current main task is to review the financial disclosure forms for staff, appointed and elected officials. Mr. Zugby noted that the committee reviewed the forms and has made some modifications. He stated that there haven't been any cases presented to the Board in recent years. Ms. Davis inquired about the timeliness of individual's submission of forms. He indicated that there were a couple of forms that were not submitted promptly.

Mr. Skolnik, Board of Appeals Chair, noted that the board would be holding a hearing. Mayor Jordan inquired about Mr. Skolnik recusing himself from a project because he was the chair of the Board and President of Greenbelt Homes Inc. (GHI). Mr. Skolnik stated that the issue has never been brought up and that he would have to recuse himself if it does.

Mr. Jackman, Advisory Committee on Trees Chair, provided Council with an update on the committee's recent activities.

Dr. Kressler, Public Safety Advisory Committee Chair, provided the Council with an update on their projects, which consist of the emergency sirens, cell phone, and vaping issues. Ms. Davis recommended that the board reach out to the local schools. Dr. Kressler also noted that she is a member of CERT and they are seeking training for CPR certification.

Mr. Chesnutt, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) Chair, noted the recent PRAB meeting discussion on the Sustainable Land Care Policy (SLCP) and that the board is working on updating other policies. They are currently looking at the signage at Buddy Attick Park and the Lake Dam Project. He noted the Beltway Plaza proposed redevelopment project and that Council will receive an update on the pet waste stations around the lake. There was a discussion about the tot-lot park at Greenbelt Station Subdivision.

Ms. Evans, Board of Elections chair, noted the expansion of the Board with two additional members. She also noted that the Board has been working on the candidate packet forms. Ms. Evans noted the provision of an additional week for early voting. Ms. Mach stated she was looking forward to the revised forms and inquired about in-kind expenses and documentation. The concern was about how a candidate fills out their forms. Mr. Gilbert noted that there are three additional forms for the upcoming election.

Ms. Brady, Advisory Committee on Education Chair, noted that the committee ran a reading club at Springhill Lake Elementary, a writing club at Greenbelt Middle School and a poetry club at Turning Point Academy. She noted the board's distribution of \$15,000 in grants to the local schools. She also provided information on the recent forum with Dr. Alvin Thornton, County School Board. In response to a question asked by Mayor Jordan, Ms. Brady stated that Turning Point Academy is expected to move to Temple Hills, Maryland, this year. Mayor Jordan noted that they would have additional resources for the other six schools to utilize with the departure of Turning Point Academy.

Mr. Lippert, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability Chair, noted that their meetings have been well-attended. He listed the following projects/activities that the Committee is involved with: the Sustainable Land Care Policy Report, Complete and Green Street Policy, Cherrywood Lane Complete and Green Street Project, Windsor Green Community Center Renovations Project, Solar Farm RFP, Greenbelt TimeBank, and several composting locations.

Mr. Granfors-Hunt, Arts Advisory Board (AAB) Chair, noted the number of members and that their meetings have been well-attended. He noted that the AAB has been working on recent referrals from Council. He also noted that currently there is an art exhibit in the Council Chambers and other various locations within the City and that there is an online Greenbelt Art Directory.

Mr. Ossi, Forest Preserve Advisory Board Chair, noted the completion of the Sustainable Land Care Policy guidelines. The FPAB requested a science fund to research the Forest Preserve, to which the Council awarded \$2,000. He noted that they performed several City-wide cleanup initiatives.

Mr. Marcus, Employee Relations Board member, provided the Council with an update on the number of members and that there were no recent cases with the Board. The Board recently adopted bylaws and revised the procedures for employee appeals and grievances.

Ms. Skoktin, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, noted the various events that the committee is working on. She also noted that they are working on future enhancement of the Community Center

steps for people with vision issues. Ms. Scoktin expressed her gratitude to be able to participate via phone.

There was a discussion about telecommunicating during meetings/remote participation. Mr. Putens noted potential issues with remote participation. Mr. Chernikoff noted the possibility of remote participation for the advisory boards and seeking guidance. Mayor Jordan suggested holding a work session to obtain proper guidance. Mr. Skolnik noted that when action is taken, by the Board of Appeals members are required to be present.

There was a discussion about the referral process. It was mentioned that the former City Clerk provided the Council and board members with a list of the Advisory Boards' and Committees' reports before the Work Session for discussion. It was also noted that this document was also posted on the City's website. Council requested that Ms. Anderson post the listing of Advisory Board/Committee Reports.

Informational Items

Ms. Davis provided Council with an update on the topics that were discussed at the Maryland Municipal League Large Forum Committee meeting.

The meeting ended at 9:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bonita Anderson
City Clerk*