

BUDGET WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, May 9, 2012, for the purpose of meeting with Contribution Groups to discuss the proposed FY 2013 budget.

Mayor Davis started the meeting at 7:30 p.m. It was held in the Multi-purpose Room of the Community Center.

PRESENT WERE: Council members Konrad Herling, Emmett Jordan, Leta Mach, Rodney Roberts, and Mayor Judith Davis. Silke Pope and Edward Putens arrived at 7:35 pm.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Greg Varda and Andrew Phelan, Recreation staff, and Michael McLaughlin, City Manager.

Also present were Chris Shuman and Molly Lester.

Council met with the following groups and people to discuss funding requests:

Golden Age Club – Catherine Brannan and John Henry Jones represented the group. They are seeking \$6,100 to support trips for the group. The funds are already in the budget and are the same amount as recent years. Ms. Brannan outlined the contributions the group makes to the community. A request was made for a list of the trips the group took in 2011 and Mr. Herling suggested the group include a trip/outing to the Greenbelt Arts Center in the future.

Concert Band – Tom Cherrix and David Clarke represented the Concert Band. The band had a very successful season performing 20 concerts in the past year. Honorariums for the band have dropped off due to the economy, these comprise the majority of the group's fund raising. Mr. Jordan suggested the group look into performing at Schrom Hills Park.

Friends of the New Deal Café Arts – Barbara Simon and Leeann Irwin represented the group. This year's funding request is \$2,000, the same amount as last year. Ms. Simon noted that in response to Council's comment last year, they have promoted their programs throughout Greenbelt. Compliments were offered for the recent artist studio tour.

Labor Day Festival Committee – Linda Ivy, Jon Gardner, Barbara Simon and Davina Johnson represented the group. Ms. Ivy noted the festival changed its hours and found it to be a success. 2011 was a very good year financially. There was some discussion about the relationship between community groups and the vendors.

Greenbelt Baseball – Jim Inzeo and Emily Sullivan represented the group which is asking for the same amount as last year, \$9,000. Mr. Inzeo noted fund raising is going very well this year and the league has found a less expensive group to handle the umpiring. The increase in marketing is for new signs and banners.

Senior Softball – Irv Salzburg, Eli Flam, and George Harrison represented the group. The group is asking for \$1,000, up \$100 from last year. It was suggested the group consider participating in the city's health fair to recruit members. The group played 44 games last year.

Sity Stars – Kim Bradshaw represented the group. Council thanked her for the group's

performance at Celebration of Spring and at the recent Greenbelt Middle School event. Ms. Bradshaw noted some of the special events in which they have participated over the past year including a visit to the White House. The costs under the Other category is for the group's travel expenses.

Arts Center – Sandy Irving and Patricia Evans, the new treasurer, represented the group. Mayor Davis noted that the alight dance group is seeking money to help create a dance friendly floor and Ms. Evans indicated the Arts Center supports the proposal because the current floor is concrete. Mr. Irving mentioned the Arts Center would like to be able to use city funds for the rental and maintenance of the facility which would help them with the other accounting of their performances.

Boys & Girls Club – Orin Howard represented the club. A big current issue is that it has to pay taxes on its property when other Boys & Girls clubs do not. City staff is working with the club on the issue. Mr. Howard made note of some of the new initiatives the group has undertaken. He also raised the group's concerns with the new Greenbelt Soccer Alliance (GSA). Mr. Varda noted the Recreation Department is attempting to draft a memorandum of understanding between the groups. Council thanked Mr. Howard for what he is doing for the group.

alight dance theater – Angella Foster presented for the group. The group is seeking \$1,000. As noted above, the requested funding is for a foam material to serve as the sub-base for flooring which is better for dancers. Ms. Foster noted a upcoming project, "Hometown Heroes", a project for the community's 75th anniversary. They are hoping to do more dance at the Arts Center. A question was raised whether a person who works for the city, should also be able to lead a Contribution Group receiving funds from the City. Staff will give consideration to this issue and respond to the Council.

Aquatic Boosters – Dave Matthews and Marilyn Clune represented the group. The group has seen an increase in its membership, believed to be due to interest in the 2012 Olympics. There were a number of questions raised about the budget because some of the numbers were low compared to the previous year. Ms. Clune indicated she thought that was because the Expenses were for a partial year, not the full year.

Babe Ruth League – Bob Sonneveldt represented the group. He noted he wants to host a league All Star game on June 16. The group is requesting the same amount as FY 2012 (\$6,500).

The meeting ended at 11:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael McLaughlin
City Manager