

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD  
ON TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2018 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The meeting began at 7:35p.m.

Members present were: Rick Ransom, Kevin Hammett, Jamie Krauk, Dea Zugby, Javien Dawson, Dan Hamlin and David Moran, Staff Liaison.

Also present were: Lois Blades Rosado, Katie Pugliese, Bob Rand and Laura Bonkosky

Welcome & Introductions

Rick welcomed everyone. Kevin read the Community Pledge.

Recognition Group Applications - Interviews

Greenbelt Racial Equity Alliance (GREA)

Lois explained that GREA is an educational and advocacy group that can monitor appearances of inequities. This includes distribution of City budget allocations, City staff diversity, etc.

Lois reported that GREA had organized a candidate's forum. She indicated GREA wanted to bring people together but enlighten them about things in the community that may be unfair. Lois stated GREA was working with immigrant groups, the Community Empowerment for Police Accountability (CEPA) group and developing a vision.

Katie stated that GREA wanted to help implement or oversee the Community Pledge. She noted GREA's concern about police-community relations in Greenbelt and indicated she didn't want Greenbelt to be a Ferguson, MO or Baltimore, MD. Katie wanted GREA to be a proactive group, working on solutions to make Greenbelt better.

Lois and Katie indicated that GREA was primarily interested in meeting space.

Ray asked about frequency of planning meetings. Lois indicated that they were interested in planning meetings and reported they meet on the first Tuesday of every month.

Rick asked if they had met with Greenbelt Station. Lois responded no.

Dan asked about partisan political activities. Lois responded they preferred to be non-partisan.

Jamie asked if GREA planned to engage other advisory groups. Lois responded yes and cited the Candidates Forum as an example.

Dan moved that CRAB recommend Basic Certification of GREA. Ray seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## Greenbelt Unplugged (GU)

Bob explained that GU's mission was to bring people together. He referenced activities such as a meditative walk around Greenbelt Lake and a croquet lawn party. Bob states GU's purpose was to promote face to face connections and community building.

Laura indicated that GU was at the preliminary planning stages. She indicated that people don't have enough face to face activities which foster social connections and are inclusive.

Rick asked about today's use of social media technology and was this part of the problem. Laura responded that GU hoped to hold activities where people didn't want to use their smartphones.

Rick asked about meeting at the New Deal Cafe. Laura responded there was a bit of a clique feeling at the New Deal Cafe. Bob responded that the Community Center was viewed as a neutral space.

Dan asked if the group was intentionally trying to break down tribal lines. Bob discussed the problem of loneliness in our culture and stressed the importance of face to face connections for people.

Ray noted the number one topic on his radio show was isolation of people with disabilities and seniors.

Ray moved that CRAB support GU's Basic Recognition Certification. Dan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### Approval of Minutes

There were some revisions to the April 12 Minutes.

Jamie moved approval of the Minutes as revised. Kevin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### Selection of CRAB Co-Chair

Kevin nominated Jamie Krauk to be Co-Chair. Dea seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### Report/Follow-up on Police Community Forums

Jamie wanted to do some editing and clean up on the report. David distributed the attachments. Jamie agreed to make the revisions and email them to CRAB members. CRAB agreed to hold another meeting if needed.

### Revised Community Pledge

Rick read the latest draft of the revised Pledge.

Dan expressed support for the revised Pledge.

Jamie suggested replacing “foster” with “be” in the last sentence.

Jamie moved approval of the revised Pledge (see below). Dan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We are enriched when all are included. We strive to be a respectful community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

#### Next Meeting

CRAB tentatively scheduled the next meeting for Tuesday, June 26 at 7:30pm but only if needed.

CRAB decided to not meet in July and August. CRAB set the September meeting for Thursday, September 13.

The meeting ended at 9:25 pm.