

# CITY OF GREENBELT

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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Tuesday, September 28, 2010

**PRESENT:** ACE Members: Susan Breon, Alla Lake, Don Rich, Sudhanshu Sinha, Dave Whiteman, Leta Mach, City Council member and Staff Liaison Wendy Wexler.

The meeting was facilitated by Alla Lake as vice chair.

Minutes of August 24, 2010 were accepted as is.

### **MUSIC FESTIVAL/ARTFUL AFTERNOON.**

Nicole DeWald, the Arts Director for the City of Greenbelt met with the ACE committee to explore parameters for this year's Artful Afternoon Greenbelt Schools Music Festival. Discussion included a look at what worked and what didn't work last year and some problem solving for the future. Included topics were space options, a need for more adult volunteers (to help wrangle students and monitor instruments), the need and costs associated with renting additional chairs. Clearly there needs to be more structured communication with schools about deadlines and participation. Additionally, Nicole would like ACE to find more ways to welcome students and their families into the other Artful Afternoon activities.

Dave serves as the ACE point person for this event. ACE members agree that the preference is to host the event at the Greenbelt Community Center, as part of the Artful Afternoon activities. ACE has learned a lot about how to make this even succeed and looks forward to putting that into action this year. Dave will continue to pin down deadlines, etc. with Nicole.

### **LABOR DAY PARADE REVIEW.**

ACE was represented by Dave, Alla and Susan this year. They report that there was a good turnout by ACE Student and Educator Award Winners. In fact, we were especially pleased to have one of the ACE award winners come home from college in Delaware to participate.

### **ACE READING CLUB.**

Despite all her preparations, Bonnie Merryman was disappointed to not have any participants at her first ACE Reading Club. Clearly the problem was publicity within SHL ES. Because this Club meeting takes place immediately following the school day, we anticipate that all club members will come from SHL ES. Alla's daughter Sarah is going to make up a flyer for us, Wendy will print it, and Bonnie has arranged to have her school reading teachers hand it out to students. Wendy will also have some put at the SHL Rec Center and sent to the Camp Fire Organization in Emperian Village. Wendy has found a University of Maryland student to be the Club volunteer assistant. Bonnie will work out

the details with UMD student Jenni Fischer.

### **ACE SCIENCE CLUB.**

Jon has sent notices about the Science Club beginning this week to the yahoo sites. Alla will start placing notices in the News Review as of next week. Wendy has asked all the ACE School Liaisons to notify their schools. Jacob Tosado will be hosting two Science Clubs a month and Wendy passed around a list to get ACE members to sign up to act as an ACE Host for the clubs. Please contact her with any additional dates you can sign up for. We are still looking for student assistants. Wendy has been repeatedly working with the ERHS Guidance Office and Science & Tech program to find students – and yet, we still need names of students.

### **VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER.**

Wendy has been asked by the City to follow up with ACE members to determine who will be attending the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on 10/17. Wendy polls the group (and later sends out an email to the missing ACE members.)

### **BOE CANDIDATE FORUM – 10/14.**

Wendy has sent out invitations to the two candidates – Peggy Higgins and Mark Cook. Alla is still requesting additional suggested questions for the event as she will be the mediator. We gather more ideas to add to the ones she already has received. Discussion includes the details of the timing of the evening, the logistics and publicity. Wendy will send Alla the invitation letter, from which Alla will create a press release. She will send the Press Release to the News Review and Gazette. When forwarded to Wendy and the rest of ACE, Wendy will have it posted on the City Website and Greenbelt Cable TV, and email it to all city employees. Dave will distribute it to all the yahoo groups. Sudhanshu will share it with Homeowner Associations. We are hoping to get a strong turnout from Greenbelt citizens.

Wendy will take responsibility for: creating signage inside the City Office Building, for candidates she will arrange one table in front with 2 chairs and mikes, a podium for Alla to the side, an additional table beside the podium with two chairs for Alla and Theresa (our timekeeper), a mike in the center of the room for citizen questions, water bottles for candidates, ACE banner to be hung behind the podium, an additional table (other side of the room) for the press.

The event will take place on Thursday, October 14 from 7 to 9 PM – we ask ACE members to arrive no later than 6:30 PM.

### **PTA PRESIDENTS ANNUAL MEETING – 10/26.**

Alla lets us know she will not be present that evening. Wendy needs updated PTA President contact info in order to send out the invitations to all the PTA Presidents at our schools. She plans to send out those invites on Wednesday. The schedule for that meeting will be:

6:15 – ACE members arrive and set up in City Council Room (please be prompt or EARLY!)

6:30 – 8:00 PTA Presidents Meeting

8:00 – 9:00 ACE Monthly Meeting.

Jon and Wendy will review the Agenda and Contact Information Form prior to the meeting. Wendy will arrange for an ice bucket; name badges, cups, napkins & plates.

So far ACE members have committed to bring:

Sudhanshu: 3 liters of soda – at least one a diet

Dave: brownie bites

We will also need someone to bring:

- 1) some small bottles of water
- 2) a bag of ice
- 3) perhaps a few more offerings like a coffee cake, cookies, pretzels

### **MISCELLANEOUS.**

Dave asks Wendy to arrange to have a link put on the City website so that Schools and PTA's can access the ACE Grant applications and instructions easily. To date, there have been no grant applications received.

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**ACE CALENDAR** – Please let Wendy know if you are **NOT** able to attend.

**Unless noted all meetings will now take place in the Second Floor City Council Room, City Municipal Building.**

**10/14....BOE Candidate Forum: 7-9 PM**

**10/26....Annual PTA Presidents Mtg (6:30-8 PM); Monthly Mtg (8-9)**

**11/30....Regular Monthly Mtg (date impacted by Thanksgiving holiday)**

**December – No Meeting**

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