

The City of Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board Meeting

March 5, 2013

Present:

Board Members: Tatiana Ausema (Chair), John Drago, Cassandra Harper, Mark Granfors-Hunt (Vice Chair), Gale Martineau, Tiahna Nugent, Anna Socrates (Secretary), Shane Wisdom, Virginia Zanner

Member absent with prior notice: Oliver Gaycken

Member absent without prior notice: Mary Harrison

Staff Liaison: Nicole DeWald

Guest: Meeka Nugent

Meeting started at 7:05 p.m.

The minutes (with minor corrections) for the December and January meetings were approved by acclamation.

No new agenda items were added.

Meeting focus: Meetings with recognition group candidates and one contribution group candidate

Andrea Schewe, Greenbelt Pottery Group:

The representative discussed the group's accomplishments for this year and plans for the upcoming year:

- Supported a well-attended Recreation Department weekend workshop with a recognized outside artist.
- Conducted a bead making workshop for Greenbelt Middle School students.
- Plans for a "Seconds Sale" for the April Artful Afternoon
- Members are making as many as 200 bowls for an upcoming fundraiser, Empty Bowls, which will be held sometime in the fall (possibly October) at the Greenbelt Community Church.
- The group also sells work at the Festival of Lights.
- Provides ongoing supportive community for artists working in clay and for students in the clay classes

Seeking continued use of the studio and kiln facilities, which have been praised by visitors, and use of the display cases on the third floor, which keep the community aware of the group's activities.

To join, a prospective member only needs to join the Yahoo list and be currently enrolled in a class. There are no dues.

Carol Griffith, Greenbelt Writers Group

The representative discussed the group's accomplishments for this year and plans for the upcoming year:

- The group holds monthly meetings
- Sponsors approximately 7-8 guest speakers a year. This year's speakers included a game maker and several published authors.

- Conducts in-group writing activities, an outgrowth of which is the spontaneous writing group and the critique group, which now meet separately at the New Deal.
- Sponsors a table at the Festival of Lights.
- Started a Facebook page and have gotten some new members.
- Have published anthologies in the past, though not for the past two years. Planning to publish this year, possibly as an e-book.
- Planning field trips to Politics and Prose to see its self-publishing capability. Possibly also to the Baltimore Writers Festival.
- Plans to help at the Greenbelt Library for April Poetry month.
- Would like to increase the diversity of membership and genres. Poets are very well represented.

Seeking continued meeting space in the Community Center.

Misha and Dirk R’Kingsley, Transitions Theater

The representatives discussed the group’s accomplishments for this year and plans for the upcoming year:

- This past summer presented a one-woman show at the Greenbelt Arts Center, “Divine Intervention.”
- Performance also sponsored a Q-and-A period about the process of creating the show with the writer-director-performer, Amie Shafer.
- This year, planning a mental health show, a collection of both comedic and dramatic monologues. Will be performed in the last week of July and first 2 weekends of August.
- Assisting Susan Barnett and Paul Downs with putting together a program of collected stories about the forest preserve and the woodlands, as part of the ongoing celebration of the forest preserve. Possible as a family-friendly Artful Afternoon.

Seeking continued use of rehearsal space.

Thomas Cherrix and David Clarke, Greenbelt Concert Band:

The representatives discussed the group’s accomplishments for this year and plans for the upcoming year:

- Presented past year schedule of concerts in Greenbelt and the greater Washington metropolitan area, and for senior citizen facilities and retirement homes.
- Membership over the past year remained steady.
- Suggestion made for making the Monday night rehearsals open rehearsals.
- Use of website as an internal mechanism for the band schedule. Also has some recordings of performances.

Seeking funding to pay the director and to acquire new music, as well as use of the Community Center for Monday night rehearsals.

Following the meeting with the group representatives, was a discussion among the AAB about the matching fundraising requirement for contribution groups and how the city has applied the requirements for the contribution groups. Chairman agreed to draft a letter and circulate to the AAB regarding these issues.

Members are asked to be on time to the April 2 meeting and complete contribution group forms.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Approved by acclamation: 9/3/13

