



**WORK SESSION of the Greenbelt City Council held Wednesday September 19, 2001, for the purpose of meeting with Greenbelt Access Television (GATE).**

Mayor Davis started the meeting at about 8:10 p.m. It was held in the Senior Classroom of the Community Center and in the GATE studio.

PRESENT WERE: Rodney M. Roberts, Alan Turnbull, Thomas X. White, and Mayor Judith F. Davis. Councilmember Edward V.J. Putens arrived toward the end of the meeting.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager; and Kathleen Gallagher, City Clerk.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Bob Zugby, Malia Murray, and Konrad Herling, GATE. Doug Love arrived later in the meeting.

Mayor Davis said GATE had requested to hold an annual meeting with the City Council and asked them to start the meeting off.

Mr. Zugby described the annual budget process GATE now uses, after years of not having reliable enough income to formulate a budget. Copies of their income/expense sheet were available.

Ms. Murray said there had been important staff changes over the last year and that additional equipment had been acquired. She described some of GATE's programs, including animation, video camp, and their internship program with Eleanor Roosevelt High School. She and Mr. Zugby agreed that while most of the momentum for GATE activities used to come from the board, it was now coming more from the membership.

Mr. Herling mentioned that at this meeting last year, there was discussion of GATE's need to do more outreach to organizations. He said this has been done, and, although there is always more to do, they have made substantial inroads. He said an idea for the future is to show short features before films at the Greenbelt Theatre, similar to newsreels, as a way of promoting cross-interest between GATE and movie audiences. This type of short feature could also be shown at the New Deal Café, the Arts Center, and before other events.

Mayor Davis asked if there were any problems on the horizon. Mr. Zugby said they are doing their best to head problems off and have established a reserve fund in their budget as one means to that end. He said the biggest problem they are facing is a lack of space. Ms. Murray concurred and added that having separate studio space for the animation and video operations would be valuable.

Mr. White asked the status of getting a second station. Mr. McLaughlin said this potential would come with the completion of the upgrade, in perhaps a year. Mr. Herling said that although GATE was "not quite there yet," they would soon reach the point where this would be useful.

Ms. Murray showed a tape of a montage of programs from the year, and Mitch Parker of the GATE staff provided a tour of the studio.

#### Other Business

Mr. McLaughlin reported College Park was not happy with the putting forward of the modified Dean-1B plan for redistricting. Although it keeps the university campus and downtown College Park in the same district, it separates parts of town north of 193.

Mayor Davis reported the GHI Board voted to donate \$500 to the purchase of the Jaeger Tract.

Mayor Davis also reported that she and Mr. McLaughlin would be having lunch tomorrow with David Harrington, president of the Maryland Municipal League, to talk about their adoption as one of their legislative priorities planning and zoning authority for all municipalities in the state. The MML staff is in favor of withdrawing this because they don't think it can be successful. Council agreed that there were many justifications for continuing to support it and that the City would continue to make this case. Council agreed that having it reviewed in a summer study would also be acceptable.

It was announced that the County Executive's office had been in touch regarding Council's earlier request to set up a stakeholder meeting. He would like to invite Council to a dinner meeting at his offices.

The meeting ended at 9:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gallagher

City Clerk