

**City of Hyattsville Educational Advisory Committee Meeting
May 22, 2023**

In attendance:

Mai Abdul Rahman - Chair
Melinda Baldwin - Secretary
Deshundria Forston (Ward 1)
Michael Angeloni (Ward 5)
City of Hyattsville representative, Colleen
Daniel Peabody – City Council Representative
Lisvette Garcia
Allya Yancy (Member of the public)

Community Member: Cynthia Totten

Absent:

Nicholas Misukanis – Excused Absence

Agenda for today's meeting and minutes from the March 2023 meeting were approved.
Mike Angleoni made the motion, Motion approved

Chairperson's Report: Mai Abdul Rahman:

1. Spoken to Tracy, Patrick (APRA manager), and Mr. Provons regarding the middle schools. The middle schoolers will be going to Greenbelt. Remember to put some of the funding aside for student needs. Mai is hopeful that this will be helpful. Principals are overwhelmed and hard to reach. Mai is hopeful that the committee can serve the children. Mr. Porvon may come next month to speak with us. Mai encouraged the EAC to reach out to her with specific questions.
2. Grant Funding report revision:
Changes were made to the report in real time during the meeting. Approval of format: was done through voice vote – unanimous. Additional Second vote was taken because changes were added. The second vote was unanimous as well.
3. **OD incident last month at the high school.**
Students discovered one of their fellow students in the bathroom. They were traumatized. The students became depressed, didn't want to return to school. The students had difficulty talking with teachers about their experience. Parents have approached Mai with concerns. Mai has asked the City to increase Narcan training and offer it to parents. Parents have also expressed concerns about students having suicidal ideation. City is considering a mental health therapist. Emily Straub, member of City Council, has proposed doing so through a program funded through American Rescue Plan Act funds. The concern is that the therapist position would be dependent on grant funds without a guarantee that it could continue after those funds are expended.

Parents have expressed struggling themselves and would like support.

Lisevette Garcia suggested the following as an example of a parent peer led support group that is offered through La Clinica del Pueblo.

https://www.lcdp.org/_en/programs-mental-health.htmlIt looks like they run a program at Northwestern HS

4. Teen Center Updates:

The City reported that the Youth Center will open in the fall. Two employees are slotted for the Teen Center, a coordinator and a manager.

Students were interviewed for the youth advisory council. Applicants were very prepared and professional. Students met City staff.

The youth programs are going well especially the Staycation and intergenerational programs. In the Intergenerational programs the guest speaker presents to students and seniors. These programs have generated a lot of good discussion. These two groups have similar needs for social engagement. Over 60 student volunteers for the movie night and the invasive plant removal morning.

5. Juvenile Crime:

Chairperson Mai Abdul Rahman is on the police committee, which is concerned about reducing juvenile crime. If we can tackle these issues in the summer, it will make for a more successful school year in the fall. We must use our resources to intentionally help reduce challenges in the schools. We can create leaders in the summer programs, we can create awareness. City programs are helpful in this regard.

6. Teen Center Building Update: They are still waiting on extra permits due to roof damage. Opening is pending additional construction.

7. Back to School Night: \$2000 has been donated by Ms. Fisher (county council rep). We need an additional \$1500. This meeting should be discussed first at the June meeting.

8. Narcan Training

Training students to use Narcan was raised. Training is being done through PG County, however, only adults can take the training course. Colleen (City of Hyattsville) has discussed providing training in various locations across the city, for youth, and in Spanish with Reggie, the operations manager. Training youth requires additional considerations such as obtaining consent from their parents. The City has good partners in our faith based organizations and in our schools which can be used for training. The EAC believes the City needs a more strategic approach to Narcan training. The training not only enhances skills and knowledge, but it also brings awareness and positive discussion among the participants.

9. Public Comment:

Aliya Yancey: good communication at the public school. Her question: have we had student representative on the EAC? Have we had student voice on the committee? Could the EAC have a youth voice on the committee?

Colleen from the City: the City is reconstituting the youth advisory committee. Students complained about their school buses were running late. The City was able to communicate this challenge to the school board and they were able to investigate the concern.

Chairperson Mai Abdul Rahman: Can the youth advisory board speak to the EAC? They will receive a small stipend for their time and have an obligation of meeting monthly. Colleen believes that the committees would be a good learning experience

10. New Student Intern Introduction:

Colleen introduced us to Ms. Kim, a student intern, who is working with City data – building data bases to help the City is using their data. She is from South Korea.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm