

Education Advisory Committee

May 23, 2021

6:30 PM- 8:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

-Roll Call-

Committee Members Present:

Mai Abdul Rahman, Cynthia Totten, Maira Delao, Michelle Thornton

Additional participants:

Sandra Shephard, Cindy Zork, Councilman Peabody, Jackeline Lizama, Sean Porter, Saarah Abdul-Rauf

-Quorum-

Achieved

-Approval of April 2022 Meeting Minutes-

Unanimous approval

-Discussion Items-

1. Hyattsville Redistricting Task Force presented by Cindy Zork

- Presentation by Cindy Zork

2. City Youth Programs Overview

- SAR: Discussed free summer program for teens;
 - Camp Staycation to include enrichment recreational learning trips around the DMV. Priority to teen center participants.
 - Partnering with Work Program ex: 1)environmental programs; to work with arborist and volunteer coordinators. 2) help with city programs; ages15-22yrs. County wide and paid.
 - Creative Minds Program – toddler and parent program for ages1-3 - at full capacity
 - Recruiting young ladies – Queen Bee's programs in June
 - Tutoring program throughout the summer: July 4th – August 18 (2 nights a week, 1-1 with tutor)

- Ending of School Year / Summer Kickoff Block Party – June 15
- SS: discussed summer program focused on English, Math and Reading –will assess what level participants will be ready for following school year.
- MT: Status of Mediation Program?
- SAR: program on track for Fall.
- SAR: Discussion on next steps – Farewell and Congratulations Saarah!

3. Hyattsville Elementary Renovation and Proposed school boundary change

- MAR: Hyattsville Elementary School encompasses Wards 4 and 5. Redistricting Proposal is to send them to school in Mt. Rainier. Title 1 school benefits lost with proposal. BOE Member Pamela Boozer-Strother responded to email by Mai on topic that there are at least 3 different scenarios at play. Thomas Stone statistics.
- DP: council sent letter to County to oppose moving of those students to Thomas Stone.
 - <https://hyattsville-md.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=10892294&GUID=554C2907-7E14-42A6-8E94-E19C85507B71>
- MAR: response expected? Will city benefits follow students?
- DP: Yes, expecting response, but not a decision of the committee. More than 2 scenarios each with their own implications. Benefits may or may not follow.

4. Overview of Hyattsville Education Enrichment Grants Program

- CT: to postpone until next meeting.

5. Outreach to Hyattsville's School Principals

- SAR: Principals meeting is typically to get staff from schools we serve to let us know how we could assist. Proposed - try to host a meeting at beginning of the school year. One in person, perhaps over a meal.
- MAR: we should aim to meet with principals at least twice a year.
- SAR: Important to have a meeting at beginning of the year to inform them of the grant program. Perfect way to get applications in.
- SS: recommends October as a month to meet.
- MAR: recommend March as the next meeting as follow up. Should we write a letter to principals to invite to this dialogue?
- SAR: committee member to draft an invitation letter and send to Sandra, Sean or Jackie, on purpose and date proposed. Committee can meet with principals separately from established committee meetings.
- SS: we should meet as a team sometime in October. March meeting should serve for them to let us know what we can help with. Principals are really busy and it will be difficult to schedule meetings with city and committee. Proposed to send a survey on how often they would like to meet, if they want to send a parent liaison, etc...

6. Back to School Events

- SAR: past collaborative effort EAC + youth program staff, collected supplies 200+ bags. City Committees had booth, games, music, ice cream, survey on activities wanted.
- MAR: in favor of repeating event
- MT: great way for recruitment for committee
- SAR: this would be in August
- MT: bags should contain the essentials.
- MAR: we agree on format for event. Committee to coordinate collection of supplies.

7. EAC response and opportunities for Homeless Shelter closure

- MAR: will happen in Mid-June; 88 city kids impacted. Churches, Mosques and Synagogues pressuring the City to keep it open. Can we join this effort or does it have to go through the council?
- JL: Possibility for YAB to come talk to Committee. YAB supports youth that face homelessness. Location was an overflow shelter open to support the increase during the pandemic.
- DP: the committee should not be advocating for anything unless asked by the city council. Check in with Laura Reams. Make sure activities are within the scope of the Committee's direction which is for educational and student support. Recommend reaching out as individual community members to the City.
- SAR: Should we keep this topic on agenda for next month or take additional comments?
- MAR: keep it on the agenda for next month.
- DP: Awareness of confidentiality parameters when discussing homelessness and students.
- JL: YAB is aware. Presentation would be more of a general overview of what the YAB does.
- SS: It be good to educate ourselves on the data for our kids. Based on meeting, there are 46 families. Efforts in progress to remediate issue. McKinney-Vento law re: young homeless or verge of homelessness rights to access certain resources. It's a federal initiative and provides homeless liaison.
 - https://www.google.com/search?q=mckinney+vinto&rlz=1C1GCEB_enUS907US907&oq=mckinney+vinto&aqs=chrome..69i57.6873j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

8. Public Comment

- None

-ADJOURN.-