

City of Hyattsville Education Advisory Committee Minutes

February 24, 2025

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Meeting held virtually:

Zoom link: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YoAP1S1aTXCALftdtmgrRA

Roll Call: Committee members

In attendance:

Nicholas Misukanis (Ward 2) – Chair
Lisvette Garcia (Ward 1) – Record keeper
Cynthia Totten (Ward 4)
Vallorie Watson (Ward 1)
Mercy Ogutu (Ward 3)
Jacquelyn Smith (Ward 1) – Joined at 7:15pm

Absent:

Michael Angeloni (Ward 5)

Attending Council Liaison:

Emily Strab (Ward 2) – Present

City of Hyattsville:

Jazmin Shorts (Community Services Manager) – Present

Meeting called to order at 6:42pm

- Approve January Minutes

- Motion to approve by Mercy, seconded by Vallorie.
- All in favor.

Discussion:

- Updates on the Education Enrichment Grant? Any delayed applications?

- Committee was unable to see attachments in submitted applications.
 - Jazmin was able to send Committee members the attachments with more information about the projects to be funded by grant.
- Nick asked if we should prioritize funding projects fully or partially since we have funds for 4 and received 10 in this second batch.
 - Emily suggested funding fully instead or partially to ensure the schools can complete the projects. We can ask for more funds for next fiscal year, include number of declined applications in the funding request proposal to Council.
 - Cynthia asked if we could ask Councilmembers to provide discretionary funds this year. Emily shared that funds might have been appropriated and that

discretionary funds are by ward, not by member. Cynthia proposed reviewing applications and deciding then how to proceed if we wish to approve more than 4 this year.

- Committee members reviewed 10 applications from Rosa Parks Elementary School that were submitted after the extended deadline.
 - Committee discussed prioritizing different academic disciplines/ fields from the first batch of approved applications.
- Nick motioned to approve the grant applications below, Cynthia seconded. All in favor.
 - Eco-Explorers
 - Reading for Success: Expanding Our Classroom Libraries
 - School-wide Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Program
 - Building Resilience: Mental Health Initiative
- Nick asked Jazmin about next steps and if Committee needs to inform applicants of their applications being denied since it is the first time we have had to deny applications.
 - Jazmin will check and follow-up with Nick.

- Things to consider planning for next year? Pick 2-3 and Organize Grant Applications to City:

- Meeting with Youth Advisory Committee/Principal's Luncheon - Spring/Fall
 - Emily was unable to attend last Youth Advisory Committee meeting but plans to attend the next meeting so we can organize it before summer.
- College Fair/Trade Fair – Discussions around Dual Enrollment and bringing awareness to this possibility – May/April
 - Mercy met with Dr. Johnnie Johnson, Program Director of the Department of Concurrent Enrollment and Dual Enrollment at Prince George's Community College. Dr. Johnson proposed hosting on Saturday, May 17, during morning. If possible, to schedule by April 17. Target audience: rising junior and sophomore and their parents/guardians. Possible location Hyattsville Library.
 - Mercy to continue planning with Jacquelyn.
 - Vallorie suggested also sharing resources and scholarship opportunities for students during event.
- Backpack drive/Uniform Drive/Vaccine Drive – August
 - Nick asked if we should submit a motion to request additional funds.
 - Emily said we rely on community sponsors. Councilmembers using discretionary funds is a good way to do it and it has been sufficient. Suggest reaching out to Cheri before submitting a motion.
- Emily informed that budget request to Council needs to include description of the project, cost and how it aligns with city goals.

Other business?

-None

Public comment?

-No questions or comments from public member in attendance.

Move to adjourn?

- Motioned by Cynthia, Lisvette seconded.
- All in favor.
- **Meeting ended at 7:42pm.**