



MANSFIELD ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN
Wednesday, February 6, 2019
MINUTES- APPROVED

Members Present: Sarah Dufresne (staff), Pat Schneider (staff), Katie Bell (staff), KC Carrancio, Tracy Smith, Judy Stoughton, Susan Daley, Hanna Brinkhaus, Barb Giardina, Sydney Clements, Miguel Colon, Kerri Mastrantuono, Brenda Rivers

Regrets: Lisa Dahn, Jane Goldman, Kelly Zimmermann

WHAT	DISCUSSION	OUTCOME
CALL TO ORDER	Sarah Dufresne called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM.	
CONSENT AGENDA	Minutes for the December meeting were edited and approved by consensus. (5:40 PM)	<i>Minutes approved</i>
SCHOOL READINESS COUNCIL ITEMS/STAFF REPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MAC website is no longer active. Sarah is working with the town’s IT department to create a new webpage. • The 2020 School Readiness RFP will be available by the end of February or the beginning of March. • QE money is available for trainings. Centers should book trainings and submit invoice for reimbursement. • There has been no new information from the OEC regarding the request for extra slots. • Monitoring was recently done at each center and there were no issues. • There was discussion on a “Night of Play” to coincide with the next “Community Dinner.” It was decided to table the conversation until the March meeting. • Eggstravaganza is in the planning phases. Volunteers needed. • There will be a family pierogi making event on February 16, 2019. • A children’s section has opened in the Maple Road Branch of the library at the Senior Center. 	
TOPICAL DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many different types of family engagement strategies events were mentioned and discussed. These included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mt Hope Montessori has a Friendship Day at a local gymnastics studio, a “Bring Your Parent to School” day. They also use direct parent feedback to plan events. ○ UConn Child Labs has an open door policy and encourages parents to drop in anytime. Many parents work on campus, so participation is strengthened by accessibility. They have “Wednesday Walks” through campus and parents often join. They also offer parent education workshops during childcare hours which makes it easier for parents to attend. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MDD has found that parents of infants finds that evening events are successful. They also many family events, such as an ice cream social, pajama day, family art nights, a passport event, and family story times. ○ Willow House has monthly family functions at varying times of day. These events include a pancake breakfast, a pizza lunch party, and parent-only paint nights. They also have the local 4H come every year with several animals that the children can play and interact with. ○ CCC operates as a co-op, so parent involvement is very high. They have quarterly pot lucks dinners. They also have trail and playground clean up days where parents work together to improve the outside areas. They also have alumni events throughout the year to keep past parents and families involved. ○ The Mansfield Public Library has “Family Story Time” every Saturday morning and it has always been well attended. They also have large family participation in their garden. 	
CLOSING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No suggestions for upcoming agenda items. 	
ADJOURN	<p>The meeting adjourned at 6:12 PM.</p> <p>Next Regular MAC Meeting Wednesday, March 6, 2019</p>	

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