



TOWN OF MANSFIELD
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, August 10, 2009
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
AUDREY P. BECK MUNICIPAL BUILDING
7:30 p.m.

AGENDA

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ROLL CALL	
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OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

FUTURE AGENDAS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

July 27, 2009

DRAFT

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Clouette (8:35 p.m.), Haddad, Koehn (7:38 p.m.), Lindsey, Nesbitt, Paterson, Paulhus

Excused: Duffy, Schaefer

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Nesbitt moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2009 meeting as presented. Motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Haddad and Mr. Paulhus who abstained.

Ms. Koehn arrived at 7:38 p.m.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Will Bigl, Hill Pond Road resident and Jensen's Park representative to the Commission on Aging, spoke in favor of a new centrally located senior center and urged the Council to move forward with implementation of this Strategic Plan action item recommendation.

Kylah Shafer, Storrs Road, requested support of the small cities loan for 534 Storrs Road. Ms. Shafer and her family own the property and have been trying to maintain this important Town treasure. Statement attached.

Quentin Kessel, Codfish Falls Road resident and Chair of the Conservation Commission, spoke of the Commission's disagreement with the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the 2009 Windham Regional Land Use Plan. The disagreement is on one mapping recommendation in the Pleasant Valley area of Town. Statement attached.

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, spoke at the request of Ric Hossack and Mike Sikoski who asked her relay their apologies to the Council for not taping the meeting.

Mr. Nesbitt moved and Mr. Haddad seconded to move Item 6, Swearing in of Deputy Fire Marshal, as the next order of business.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to move Item 8, Small Cities Program Amendment, as the next order of business

Motion passed unanimously.

IV. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Assistant to the Town Manager Maria Capriola distributed a list of upcoming meetings. Ms. Capriola requested input from the Council regarding a possible forum hosted by the Town Managers of Mansfield, CT and Amherst, MA regarding a possible plan for rail connections between the two cities. By consensus the Council expressed support for the forum.

Mr. Nesbitt requested that the draft proposal for the Parking Steering Committee be ready for discussion at the next meeting.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Community/Campus Relations
No Report
2. Community Water and Wastewater Issues

Mr. Nesbitt updated the Council on the last meeting of the Four Corners Sewer Advisory Committee at which the Committee heard from a developer interested in expanding the water service area to include a larger area.

Ms. Koehn reported on a forum regarding the Northeast Regional Management Area Water Supply that she and the Town Manager recently attended. Ms. Koehn presented her notes from the meeting and stressed the importance of this issue to the Town. She asked for clarification as to the role of Ponde Place given this information and offered to email additional information to members. (Notes attached).

3. Assistance Agreement with DECD for Parking Garage/Transit Hub

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Connecticut Public Act 07-7, JSS, Sec. 100 (b) (c) (1), the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Mansfield make an application to the State for \$10,000,000 in order to undertake Parking Garage/Transit Hub and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD;

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for state assistance, as imposed by Connecticut Public Act 07-7, JSS, Sec. 100 (b) (c) (1);

2. That the filing of an application for State financial assistance by the Town of Mansfield in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 is hereby approved and that the Town Manager is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Mansfield.

3. That it adopts or has adopted as its policy to support the following nondiscrimination agreements and warranties provided in subsection (a)(1) of Connecticut General Statutes sections 4a-60 and 4a-60a, respectively, as amended by Public Acts 07-142 and 07-245, and for which purposes the "contractor" is the Town of Mansfield and "contract" is said Assistance Agreement:

The contractor agrees and warrants that in the performance of the contract such contractor will not discriminate or permit discrimination against any person or group of persons on the grounds of race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sex, mental retardation or physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness, unless it is shown by such contractor that such disability prevents performance of the work involved, in any manner prohibited by the laws of the United States or of the state of Connecticut. The contractor further agrees to take affirmative action to insure that applicants with job-related qualifications are employed and that employees are treated when employed without regard to their race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sex, mental retardation, or physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness, unless it is shown by such contractor that such disability prevents performance of the work involved.

The contractor agrees and warrants that in the performance of the contract such contractor will not discriminate or permit discrimination against any person or group of persons on the grounds of sexual orientation, in any manner prohibited by the laws of the United States or of the state of Connecticut, and that employees are treated when employed without regard to their sexual orientation.

Motion to approve passed unanimously.

4. Mansfield 2020: A Unified Vision

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Nesbitt seconded, effective July 27, 2009 to adopt the Mansfield 2020 vision and nine supporting vision points as presented in Mansfield 2020: A Unified Vision.

Ms. Koehn would like a listing of those who participated in the advisory committees' discussions of the comments on the visions points and action items and agreed to do an initial assessment of the participants.

Council members agreed that a future workshop on refining and prioritizing action items would be beneficial. The Town Government draft vision point will also be available for review at that time.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to recess as the Town Council and convene as the Mansfield Recovery Authority.
Motion passed unanimously.

5. MRRA, Solid Waste Collection Fees – In-yard and Long Driveways

Ms. Koehn moved and Mr. Nesbitt seconded, effective October 1, 2009, to set the in-yard refuse/recycling collection fee surcharge at \$12.00 for driveways up to 300 feet and \$15.75 for driveways longer than 300 feet.

Council members agreed that information about available waivers should be included in the pamphlet that accompanies the refuse bills. Ms. Lindsey commented that the information she requested on the number of current waivers was not in the submitted information and requested that it be included in the next packet.

The motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mr. Haddad moved and Ms. Lindsey seconded to adjourn as the Mansfield Recovery Authority and reconvene as the Town Council.

Motion passed unanimously

VI. NEW BUSINESS

6. Swearing in of Deputy Marshal

Fire Chief Dave Dagon and Fire Marshal John Jackman spoke to the hard work and dedication Captain Uri Lavitt has demonstrated by his completion of the required coursework and successful passing of the examination and announced his appointment to the position of Deputy Fire Marshal. Captain Lavitt was sworn in by the Town Clerk and congratulated by the Town Council.

7. Planning, Acquisition and Management Guidelines for Mansfield Open Space

Mr. Clouette arrived at 8:35 p.m.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Lindsey seconded, effective July 27, 2009, to approve the proposed 2009 update to the Planning, Acquisition and Management Guidelines for Mansfield Open Space, Park, Recreation and Agricultural Properties, and Conservation Easement.

Jennifer Kaufman, Parks Coordinator, commented that the proposed guidelines were updated to reflect the way the program is currently working and clarifies the planning, acquiring and management of open space.

Members requested the following suggestions be reviewed by the Town Manager and Town Planner:

In Section II A, clarify the role of the Town Council as to PZC/IWA referrals, public hearing comments and timing of such comments. A suggestion was made to change the third paragraph by removing everything from "However..." to "...the Town Manager is..."

In Section II B. 1, change the last sentence to read, "In addition, anticipated maintenance and improvement cost will be estimated and potential liabilities and management concerns shall be noted."

In Section II B. 2, change the first sentence to read, "The Town Council shall reserve the right to review..."

In Section II D.1, eliminate the Agriculture Committee and the Parks Coordinator in the fifth sentence, leaving just a reference to the Town Manager. Add "...with the advice of the Agriculture Committee..." to the sentence.

In Section III D, change, "After the preparation..." to "Prior to the preparation..."

In Section III E, eliminate, "In rare instances"

In Section IV, change the responsible party to the Town Council who may then further delegate the monitoring responsibilities. Some members felt that the Conservation Committee and should be able to monitor the conservation easements.

Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to table the motion awaiting review of suggestions by staff.

Motion passed unanimously.

8. Small Cities Program Amendment

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the following resolution:

Whereas, the Town of Mansfield has received funds under the Connecticut Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for a Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Program, administered by the State of Connecticut, Department of Economic and Community Development, pursuant to Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended; and

Whereas, the Town of Mansfield has expended those funds pursuant to Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the Code of Federal Regulations, and the Assistance Agreement; and,

Whereas, those funds received by the Town of Mansfield have generated Program Income.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Town Council:

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions for the use of Program Income as prescribed by Title 24, Part 570, Section 489(e) and (f) of the Code of Federal Regulations.
2. That it realizes Program Income is governed by Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.
3. That it may use Program Income only for the following activities:
 - a. The activity that generated the program income if the activity continues to meet the requirements of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.
 - b. Any additional activity that meets the requirements of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act if the Town receives DECD's written approval to fund it with Program Income.
4. That it may use Program Income to fund Administrative and Program soft costs within the following limits:

Administrative Costs	16%
Total Administrative and Program Soft Costs (Housing Rehabilitation Activities <u>Only</u>)	25%
Total Administrative and Program Soft Costs (All Activities <u>Except</u> for Housing Rehabilitation)	21%
5. That it is hereby amending the Program Income Plan(s) that was adopted for the original activity that generated the Program Income to permit the funding of additional activities from that Program Income.

In response to Council members' questions regarding the small cities funding process, Assistant to the Town Manager Maria Capriola explained that for the most part these loans are no interest loans payable when the property is sold or otherwise dispersed of. This particular project for the repair of the septic system at 534 Storrs Road is

considered an emergency by the DECD and because it is a mixed- use project it requires the proposed amendment.

The motion to approve passed unanimously

9. Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Mansfield and the University of Connecticut regarding the Town-University Relations Committee.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective July 27, 2009, to authorize Mayor Elizabeth Paterson to execute the attached Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Mansfield and the University of Connecticut regarding the Town-University Relations Committee.

Members discussed the make-up of the Committee and the balance between University and Town representatives. Mr. Clouette noted that the student representatives on the Committee were adamant about not being counted as UConn members. Mayor Paterson explained that it is important to have key members of UConn staff at the table and available to answer questions. Mr. Nesbitt questioned whether or not the Mayor should be designated or if it should be simply two Council members allowing for an additional Council member who is very knowledgeable or interested in the process. In a friendly amendment members agreed to amend the motion changing the Mayor's position to the Mayor or his or her designee.

Motion to approve the motion as amended passed unanimously.

Mr. Paulhus volunteered to serve on the Town Gown Committee.

10. Draft 2009 Windham Regional Land Use Plan

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Nesbitt seconded effective July 28, 2009, to authorize the Mayor to co-endorse with the Planning and Zoning Commission Chairman comments on the draft 2009 Windham Regional Land Use Plan. The comments shall be based on a 7/21/09 draft letter authorized by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Assistant to the Town Manager Maria Capriola commented the three options open to the Council included: co-endorsing the PZC letter, writing their own letter or taking no action. The PZC letter recommends a number of mapping revisions to the Windham Regional Land Use Plan, which the PZC feels will bring the plan more into compliance with Mansfield's Plan of Conservation and Development. The Conservation Committee has written a letter expressing their support for the PZC letter with the exception of a part of southern Mansfield that they wish to have remain a "High Priority Preservation Area" as it is defined in the draft regional plan.

Council members discussed their options noting that this area has always been controversial and has engendered a variety of views on the best use

of the land. Ms. Koehn suggested that until we understand the process that will determine the management of the underlying water supply we should move cautiously.

Mr. Paulhus and Mr. Nesbitt withdrew their motion.

Ms. Koehn moved and Mr. Clouette seconded effective July 27, 2009 to authorize the Mayor to prepare and send comments on the draft 2009 Windham Regional Land Use Plan.

The Council members agreed that both the PZC letter and the letter from the Conservation Commission be attached to the comments. These letters will be evidence that there is an ongoing discussion in Town regarding the Pleasant Valley section. The Council is in agreement with the other comments of the Planning and Zoning Commission's letter.

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Reports

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Haddad, Chair of the Personnel Committee, reminded members that at the next meeting the Town Manager review process would begin. A new online form will be used. The draft policy on transparent government is still being reviewed within the Committee. Mr. Nesbitt asked for an update on the discussion of the supplemental retirement income of the Town Manager and his car. Ms. Capriola stated that the Town is awaiting a policy statement from MERS and will clarify the tax implications of the current retirement contributions including any Social Security contributions.

Ms. Lindsey reported the Committee on Committees is continuing in their efforts to recruit and place volunteers.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

No Reports

X. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

11. State of Connecticut Department of Public Health re: Notification of Violation
12. State of Connecticut Department of Transportation re: State Matching Grant Program
13. State of Connecticut Office of the Probate Court Administrator re: Probate Court Redistricting Process
14. Chronicle "Bike tour highlight's Mansfield's charm" – 07-16-09209
15. Chronicle "Council has new member" – 07-07-09

16. Chronicle "Council may act on recycling plan" – 07-13-09
17. Chronicle "Editorial: We offer these threads, needles" – 07-13-09
18. Chronicle "Federal funding to help out local DPWs" – 07-15-09
19. Chronicle "Letter to the Editor" – 07-22-09
20. Chronicle "Mansfield may modify recycling" – 07-07-09
21. Chronicle "Mansfield OKs single-stream recycling" – 07-14-09
22. Chronicle "Mansfield postpones trash fee increases" – 07-15-09
23. Chronicle "Stolen items from library are returned" – 07-04-09
24. Chronicle "Take that Lance Armstrong" – 07-20-09
25. Mansfield Today "Homeland Security funds could buy town..." – 07-17-09
26. Mansfield Today "It's official: you can now combine paper..." – 07-16-09
27. Mansfield Today "Meredith Lindsey named to Mansfield Town..." – 07-14-09
28. Mansfield Today "Town losing money on trash collection service" – 07-19-09

XI. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, urged the Council to educate citizens about the role invasive plants are having in changing the character of Mansfield. She commented that bittersweet and garlic mustard are especially dangerous to trees and waterways. Ms. Wassmundt discussed her concerns regarding the Town Manager's compensation package and will email a statement regarding that package to Council members. She asked them to be cognizant of the three- month notification requirement to make changes in his contract.

XIII. FUTURE AGENDAS

Mr. Clouette requested a review of parcels received by the Town as part of subdivision approvals to see if they are "neglected islands" and to check to see if the Council has any authority to sell them.

Ms. Koehn requested the date by which the Council needs to notify the Town Manager that there may be changes to his contract.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Clouette seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth M Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

I AM HERE IN CASE YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ON THE CC MOTION CONCERNING THE 2009 WINDHAM REGION LAND USE PLAN. FROM YOUR MATERIALS, YOU KNOW THAT THE CC HAS TAKEN A POSITION THAT IS NOT IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH THE OTHERWISE FINE LETTER THE TOWN PLANNER HAS PLACED BEFORE YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL.

ASSUMING WE ARE IN DISAGREEMENT WITH THIS PORTION OF THE LETTER YOU WILL BE FORWARDING TO THE WINCOG HEARING, I WILL FORWARD A COPY OF THE CC MOTION DIRECTLY TO THE WINCOG PUBLIC HEARING.

WE NOTE THAT THIS IS IN KEEPING WITH THE LETTER, IF NOT THE SPIRIT, OF THE TOWN POLICY TO DISCOURAGE INDEPENDENT EXPRESSION OF THOUGHT BY ITS ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS. IN THIS INSTANCE, THE TIMING OF OUR MEETINGS IS SUCH THAT WE CAN WAIT UPON YOUR ACTIONS AND STILL FORWARD A CONTRARY OPINION TO THE PUBLIC HEARING.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ASK THAT YOU RELAX YOUR CURRENT POLICY SO THAT MANSFIELD'S VARIOUS COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES CAN MORE FREELY SHARE THEIR OPINIONS AND INFORMATION WITH THE PUBLIC IN A TIMELY FASHION. A SIMPLE PROVISIO SHOULD SUFFICE, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT ANY SUCH CC STATEMENTS OR COMMENTS BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE DISCLAIMER: "THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED ARE THOSE OF THE CC AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD, AS ONLY THE TOWN COUNCIL CAN DO THAT."

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Quint Kesse". The signature is written in dark ink and is centered on the page.

To the citizens of Mansfield,

Please support our request for a loan from the small cities grant program to finally fix the septic at the Mansfield General Store. As most of you already know, our family purchased what we all knew as "Barrows & Burnhams" from Mrs. Robb almost 10 years ago. Since that time we have been working diligently on renovating the property. We have reopened the general store and it remains open in a very difficult economy. We view our position as that of "stewards" of a significant piece of Mansfield's history and hope to continue this progress.

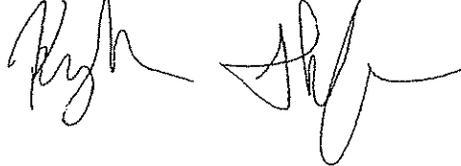
The septic is a long standing problem that has more recently become intolerable from a neighborhood perspective. Water drains into our leach field from federal, state, local, and neighborhood water.

In our quest to build a new downtown we need to remember that we already have an existing downtown that we need to maintain and treasure. Thank you for your time and we ask for your support for this loan.

Thank you,

Shafer Family

Mansfield General Store

Handwritten signatures of the Shafer family members, appearing as two distinct cursive signatures.

**Northeast Regional Management Area Water Supply Forum Notes
7/14/09**

Matt Hart, Town Manager and Helen Koehn, Town Council attended.

Lori Mathieu, DPH, Drinking Water Section presented the historical perspective on the Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUUC) Process, which was established after a severe drought in 1980. PA 85-535 set in place the means to coordinate regional water supply planning to ensure that there is an adequate supply of drinking water, including recognizing the need to protect the source of water, that water was not limitless and that conservation is the key element. Of the 7 designated planning areas, 4 areas have a regional plan in place; the Northeast does not. The Northeast Region is the next region scheduled to complete a plan.

WUUC voting membership is comprised of the regional planning agency head and a locally elected official or designee from each town; others many attend but not vote. The act also outlines the statutory process for establishing Exclusive Service Areas.

Steve Messer, DPH, Drinking Water Section indicated that currently the threshold for a water company to be regulated the DPH is supplying 25 people water for 60 days per year. In the Northeast Region 1000 water companies serving more than 1000 people and are required to submit a water supply plan every 6 years.

An existing service area means an area served by a public water system at the time the WUUC convenes. Ultimately DPH will approve an Exclusive Water Area (ESA), which is an area where public water is supplied by one system only. Currently there are no ESA's in the Northeast Region. The approved single water provider is responsible for all drinking water systems, including community water systems in the ESA.

Bob Congdon, First Selectman, Town of Durham stated that initially he viewed the WUUC as a vehicle for water providers to divided up the existing services areas and become an Exclusive Service Provider (ESP). Initially Durham signed a contract with an ESP and had problems with water quality and also recognized the consequence in that Durham had assigned its development decisions to an ESP since the ESP could decide to provide or not to provide water based on the ESP economic conditions and the ESP future goals, which might differ from Town goals. Since then Durham put in a claim to become the ESP because the Town wanted to have a say in future water use and development and has hired a good certified operator for the water system. Mr. Congdon indicated that a Town has the ability to decide and needs to be well represented at the WUUC meetings.

Ms. Laura Francis, First Selectman, Preston stated Town was unable to compel their water service provider to make improvements in the water system and the Town became the ESP. Ms. Francis stated that becoming the ESP has been a disaster for the Town of Preston As the ESP the Town was financial responsible and the Town does not have the money, but must comply as the ESP.

Steve Rupar, Senior Planning Engineer stated that the South Central Regional Water Authority was established in 1990 and is one of the largest ESP in Connecticut. Mr. Rupar stated that ESPs are able to engage in agreements with other ESP's; however, then the issue becomes whose standards apply. Mr. Rupar discussed the problems associated with satellite water systems since most are not sized for fire protection and are expensive with an estimate of \$400,000 to construct and \$35,000 to maintain. In SCRWA, satellite systems are required to have two wells, disinfect ground water, have standby power at the site, be designed to SCRWA standards and the developer pays for all costs.

Chris Clark, Mohegan Utility Authority discussed cooperation between several towns in order to pipe water from Groton (Pfizer downsized) up across several watersheds which enabled Groton to sell excess DPH permitted water to the other areas, such as Norwich where water was insufficient and near Mohegan Sun, which had no water.

Ms. Virginia Mason, Assistant Director, Council of Governments of the Central

Naugatuck Valley discussed the role of the regional planning agency in the WUUC process.

Lauri Mathieu and Steve Messer took questions from the audience. Mr. Tom Callahan, University of Connecticut stated that the University of Connecticut was not a regulated water supply system and therefore was not a (WUUC) participant. Ms. Mathieu stated that all water supply systems must participate.

Mark Paquette, Executive Director WinCog offered to hold the next meeting.

Matt and I left early and didn't hear the remainder of the questions or the last two speakers.

I wrote up notes because the way I see it Mansfield is between the proverbial rock and hard place. I hope you will read this and begin to consider the politics of water or lack of water to the future of the Town of Mansfield.

**Town Manager's Office
Town of Mansfield**

Memo

To: Town Council
From: Maria Capriola, Acting Town Manager
CC: Town Employees
Date: July 27, 2009
Re: Town Manager's Report

Below please find a report regarding various items of interest to the Town Council, staff and the community:

Upcoming Events

- *Mansfield Advocates for Children Breakfast* – For those of you who have called in your RSVP (due by July 24th), this is a reminder that the breakfast meeting to hear about Mansfield Advocates for Children's Plan for Mansfield's Young Children will be in Town Hall Council Chambers at 8:30AM on Wednesday, July 29th. Staff has been working on developing the Plan for one year and is excited to share with you all they have learned and all they plan to do.

Upcoming Meetings

- Planning and Zoning Commission, August 3, 2009, 7:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Traffic Authority, August 4, 2009, 10:30AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors, August 4, 2009, 4:00 PM, Mansfield Downtown Partnership Office, 1244 Storrs Road
- Cemetery Committee, August 5, 2009, 3:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, Monday, August 10, 2009, 7:30PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building



**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *Matt*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant to the Town Manager
Date: August 10, 2009
Re: Community Water and Wastewater Issues

Subject Matter/Background

Attached please find notes from Council member Koehn regarding the recent Northeast Regional Management Area Water Supply Forum. Council member Koehn has asked that the notes be distributed to the Council.

Attachments

- 1) H. Koehn, Notes from Northeast Regional Management Area Water Supply Forum

Northeast Regional Management Area Water Supply Forum Notes
7/14/09

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Naugatuck Valley discussed the role of the regional planning agency in the WUUC process.

Lauri Mathieu and Steve Messer took questions from the audience. Mr. Tom Callahan, University of Connecticut stated that the University of Connecticut was not a regulated water supply system and therefore was not a (WUUC) participant. Ms. Mathieu stated that all water supply systems must participate.

Mark Paquette, Executive Director WinCog offered to hold the next meeting.

Matt and I left early and didn't hear the remainder of the questions or the last two speakers.

I wrote up notes because the way I see it Mansfield is between the proverbial rock and hard place. I hope you will read this and begin to consider the politics of water or lack of water to the future of the Town of Mansfield.

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**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *MH*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager
Date: August 10, 2009
Re: Presentation: MetroHartford Alliance

Subject Matter/Background

At Monday's meeting, representatives from the MetroHartford Alliance (John Shemo, Vice President and Director of Economic Development, and Rebecca Nolan, Economic Development and Research Program Developer) will be giving a presentation on the work and purpose of the Alliance.

To accommodate our guests, I respectfully request that the Council move this item to the first order of business.

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**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant to the Town Manager; Kevin Grunwald, Director of Human Services
Date: August 10, 2009
Re: Mansfield's Plan for Young Children

Subject Matter/Background

Under the auspices of Mansfield Advocates for Children, a leadership work group recently completed a community plan for young children in Mansfield, ages birth-8. With funding from a unique partnership between the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund and the State Department of Education, staff and community members worked for twelve months to collect data on the status of young children in Mansfield and to then develop a plan that addresses unmet needs that support the successful development of all children.

The group examined a number of different data sources and solicited feedback from more than 500 Mansfield residents through survey and presentations. Utilizing a model of Results Based Accountability (RBA), the group developed the following results statement: "*All Mansfield children ages birth-8 are healthy, successful learners, connected to the community.*" The group then identified seven strategies that are connected to this result statement, and created a financing plan for each of these strategies.

The plan was formally released to the community at a breakfast event on July 29, 2009.

Financial Impact

See Section 5.B.; Financing Plan.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Town Council endorse this plan as an element of the Mansfield 2020 strategic plan under the vision point: "Early Care and Education." It is also suggested that the Council consider utilizing the RBA format that is reflected in this plan as a model to prioritize other elements of *Mansfield 2020: A Unified Vision*.

If the Town Council supports this recommendation, the following motion is in order:

Move, effective August 10, 2009 to endorse Mansfield's Plan for Young Children as an element of Mansfield 2020: A Unified Vision, under the vision point "Early Care and Education."

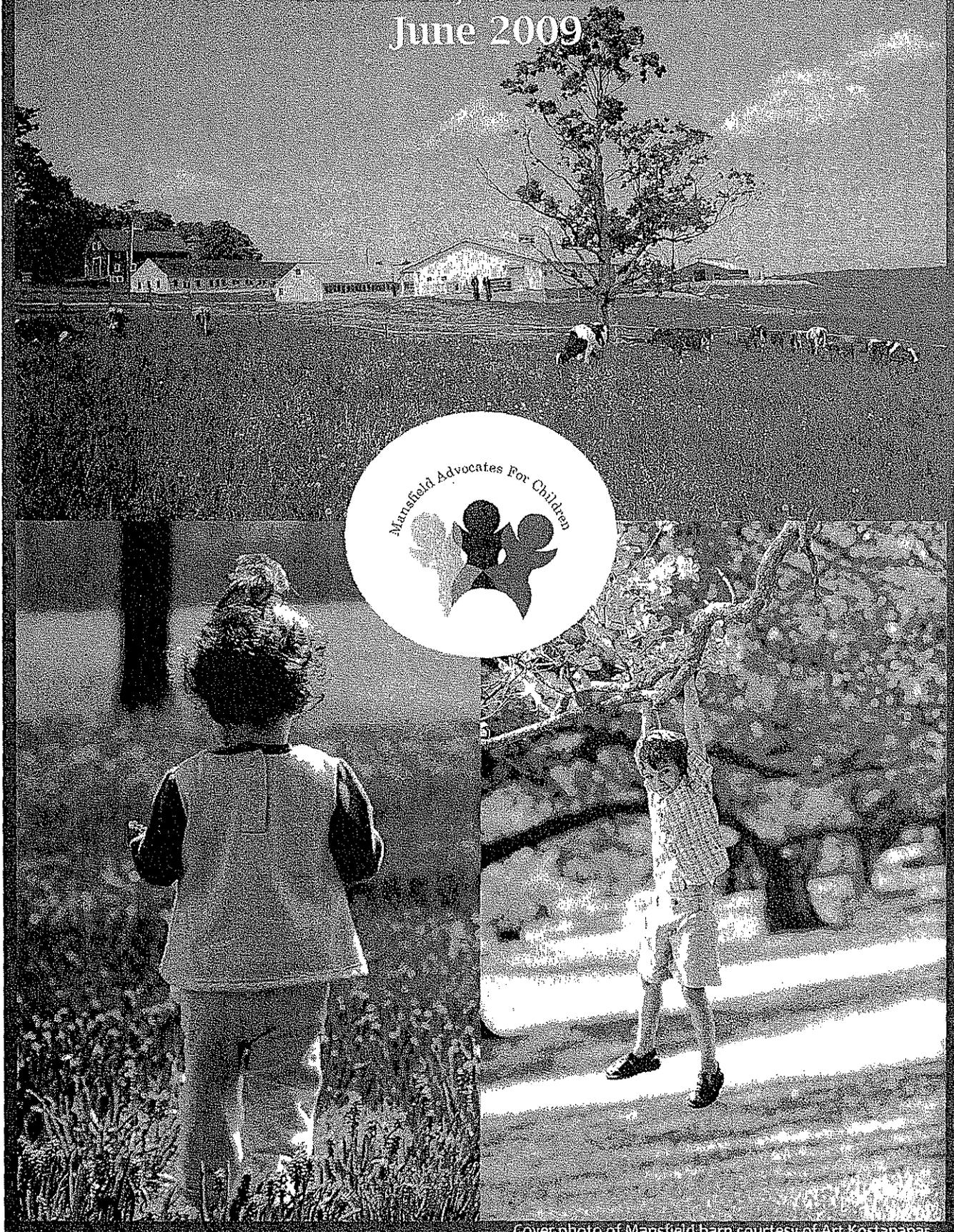
Attachments

- 1) Mansfield's Plan for Young Children

Mansfield's Plan for Young Children

Mansfield, Connecticut

June 2009



Cover photo of Mansfield barn courtesy of Art Kostapapas

“A person’s a person No matter how small”

- Dr. Seuss

Abstract. This is a plan, developed by the Mansfield community, to improve the lives of our children ages birth to eight and their families. After eleven months of in-depth data analysis, community input from more than 527 residents, passionate conversations, and creative thinking, the plan has begun to take shape.

The plan begins with the overarching desired result, that **Mansfield’s children from birth through eight years old are healthy, successful learners, and connected to the community.** The plan then identifies three strategic areas on which to focus its efforts: (1) health; (2) successful learners; and (3) community connectedness.

In each of these three areas, the community has selected headline indicators which contain the major data points from which results will be measured. For health, the headline indicators are the percent of mothers with at least adequate prenatal care, the percent of children with healthy BMI scores, and the percent of children passing all four physical fitness tests in Grade 4. For successful learners, the headline indicators are the percent of children scoring at Level 3 on the Kindergarten Inventory and the percent of third graders reading at or above the State goal level on the Connecticut Mastery Tests. For community connectedness, all agreed that the indicator should be the percent of community members feeling connected to the community. Because this data point does not currently exist, the first strategy is to begin to collect this information.

The data for each headline indicator – as well as secondary indicators and additional details behind some of the data points – are included to paint the picture of what the current status is in Mansfield. From this information, strategies and activity ideas were generated to move the plan toward action. A list of partners, a financing plan, and performance measure examples that correlate with each of the strategies are included in this plan.

It is proposed that Mansfield Advocates for Children (MAC), who is the governance group for early childhood initiatives in Mansfield, assume responsibility for implementing this plan. This will require expanding MAC membership to include some members of the Leadership Work Group and additional partners. Further, it is proposed that this plan be presented to the Town Council as a demonstration project for the Early Care and Education component of the Mansfield 2020 Plan.

Of utmost importance, though, is the recognition that this plan is a work in progress. It is a concrete beginning to initiatives and efforts that are vital for our young children’s success. We look forward to working with all of our community partners to collectively deepen our planning efforts, take on actions that genuinely will turn the curve for our children, and hold ourselves accountable for the progress that we make.

Acknowledgements

We would like to extend our warmest acknowledgements to the following individuals and organizations that contributed to this plan for Mansfield's youngest children.

Leadership

This plan was developed with the leadership and support of both the Town of Mansfield and the Mansfield Board of Education.

Funding

This planning was funded by the Governor's Early Childhood Education Cabinet through the State Department of Education and the William C. Graustein Memorial Fund. The Town of Mansfield provided additional in-kind support to make this plan happen.

Leadership Work Group

A Leadership Work Group was formed to develop this plan. The following individuals served on the Leadership Work Group and contributed their time, talents, expertise, and leadership at various points to help develop this plan for Mansfield's children:

Maura Baker, Mansfield Family Practice
Marianne Barton, University of Connecticut Psychological Services
Fred Baruzzi, Superintendent of Mansfield Public Schools
Sandy Baxter, School Readiness Coordinator
Gloria Bent, United Church of Christ, First Church of Christ -Mansfield
Terry Berthelot, Parent and Center for Medicare Advocacy* (Co-Chair)
Liz Buczynski, Windham Region United Way
Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager
Kathleen Dorgan, Dorgan Architecture & Planning
Mary Feathers, Board of Education
Rebecca Fields, Mansfield Housing
Jane Goldman, University of Connecticut Professor of Early Childhood
Jim Greene, Parent
Cindy Guerreri, William C. Graustein Memorial Fund
Kevin Grunwald, Town of Mansfield Director of Human Services
Joe McLaughlin, Birth to 3 Services
Robert Miller, Director Eastern Highland Health Services
Raluca Mocanu, Parent* (Co-Chair)
Jeffrey Osleeb, UConn Geography Department
Chris Paulhus, Mansfield Town Council
Katherine Paulhus, Parent & Board of Education
Melinda Perkins, WRTD Bus
Sonya Renfro, Sylvan Learning Center
Kimberley Russo, Windham Region United Way
Judith Stoughton, Mansfield Public Library Children's Librarian
Becky Tanner, Girl Scouts of Connecticut
Lisa Young, Mansfield Discovery Depot
Sue Zacharie, Nafchaug Hospital

Community Members

A special appreciation is extended to the more than 500 members of the community who provided their input into this plan by completing input surveys, participating in focus groups, engaging in conversations with the Leadership Work Group, and contributing ideas to improve the plan.

Photographs

A special thanks to Art Kostapapas, of the ERA Covenant Realty Group, and Karen Taylor who contributed Mansfield photographs to this publication.

1. About this Plan^{Nu}

In June 2008, Mansfield was provided with the opportunity to come together to develop a plan that would improve the lives of its young children and their families. The Mansfield community received a grant jointly funded by the Connecticut Early Childhood Education Cabinet through the State Department of Education and the William C. Graustein Memorial Fund to develop a community plan to improve the success of Mansfield's young children – from birth to age eight – and their families.

Through this process, we set out to create a comprehensive plan to address the needs of our young children and their families. It would not focus on any discrete program or school, but instead would be a community-wide and system-wide approach. Further, when Mansfield took on this planning effort, we committed to extensive and representative involvement of community members. We also agreed to using concrete data as a starting point for decisions and using Results-Based Accountability (RBA) which is a planning process that intensively focuses on results and accountability. Finally, we committed to building in no- or low-cost activities for at least two years, in recognition of our economic climate.

**Through this process,
we set out to create a
comprehensive plan to
address the needs of
our young children
and their families.**

In addition, this plan would be developed to align with the Mansfield 2020 Plan, which is a strategic planning effort led by the Mansfield Mayor and Town Council to define a strategic direction for the future of the Town and to establish the basis for decision-making and resource allocation until the year 2020.

Mansfield Advocates for Children (MAC), who is the governance group for early childhood initiatives in Mansfield, swiftly formed a Leadership Work Group to guide this planning process. The Leadership Work Group was formed in June 2008 and was intended to be as representative as possible of the field – including parents, early care and education professionals, community programs and services representatives, and other interested citizens.

In order to make sure that the blueprint plan corresponds to the most significant challenges in the community, we collected as much relevant quantitative data to identify these needs, including information about the community context, information about early care and education efforts, and the supports that exist for our families with young children. Community input was sought through a wide variety of means – including presentations, one-on-one interviews, and focus groups with relevant organizations community-wide, and surveys from 527 Mansfield residents and stakeholders.

This plan is a work in progress. It is a concrete beginning to initiatives and efforts that are vital for our young children's success. We look forward to working with all of our community partners to collectively deepen our planning efforts, take on actions that genuinely will turn the curve for our children, and hold ourselves accountable for the progress that we make.

2. About Our Process^{NU}

When Mansfield took on this planning effort, it also took on the opportunity to use a Results-Based Accountability (RBA) community planning framework. RBA is a disciplined way of taking action to improve the quality of life in communities and show results. The intent of RBA is to help communities bring public and private sectors together to turn around conditions that are “not okay.” The process begins by identifying what result we want to achieve and then works backwards to arrive at the specific actions that will achieve that result. The RBA process is as follows:

Step 1: What is our desired result?

The first step of an RBA plan identifies what quality-of-life condition we want to achieve for our families with young children. RBA results are stated in plain language, in a way that every taxpayer and voter can understand the issue and see its importance. Examples include “a prosperous economy” or “a safe community.”

Step 2: What would these conditions look like if we could see them?

The second step is to identify the possible indicators that will quantify whether we have achieved our result. For example, the unemployment rate helps quantify our local economic prosperity and crime rate helps quantify the safety of our community.

Step 3: How can we measure these conditions?

The third step reduces the list of possible indicators down into those that are the most representative of the result we seek to achieve.

Step 4: How are we doing and what is the story behind the curve?

The fourth step analyzes current data and recent trends for these top indicators and asks how the community is currently performing on them. During this step, we also work hard to identify the story behind the curve – including the root causes of these current trends.

Step 5: Who are the partners who have a role in doing better?

The fifth step identifies all of the potential partners who can contribute to making the numbers better.

Step 6: What strategies will turn the curve?

The sixth step develops our strategies and actions to improve these conditions. These strategies are based on what we know works (from research and best practices) and common-sense approaches.

Step 7: What do we propose to do?

The seventh step lays out the precise actions that will bring the results that are desired. These actions include no-cost and low-cost efforts.

Performance Measures

After developing our plan, we collectively work with our partners to select the most important measures that we all agree to track and to which we hold ourselves accountable.

For more information on RBA, see Mark Friedman’s book Trying Hard Is Not Good Enough or websites (www.raguide.org / www.resultsaccountability.com).

3. About Mansfield^{Nu}

Mansfield, Connecticut is a rural town in Tolland County with a population of approximately 25,000 in 5,620 households.¹ However, it tends to feel like a smaller town than the numbers suggest because the population figures include both UConn students and the prison population that reside in town. The town is approximately 4 miles north of Willimantic, 25 miles east of Hartford, and 33 miles north of New London. Major access to the town is made by Interstate 84, via Route 44 and Route 6.

History: The town of Mansfield was incorporated in 1702. It was originally part of a land tract acquired from the Mohegans by a group of Norwich settlers. Mansfield remained a predominantly rural town. The rivers powered saw mills and grist mills, and the town was influenced by nearby Willimantic's role in the thread and textile industries. In 1810, the first silk mill in the United States was built at Hanks Hill and for many years Mansfield led the country in silk production. Today, Mansfield is home to the University of Connecticut's main campus in Storrs, which fosters a vibrant culture of education in the town.

Government: Mansfield operates with a Council-Manager form of government.

Economic base: The median household income is \$62,064, just below the State average of \$67,236. The top five major employers are strong institutional players, including the University of Connecticut, Mansfield Public Schools, Regional School District #19, Bergin Correctional Institute, and Natchaug Hospital.²

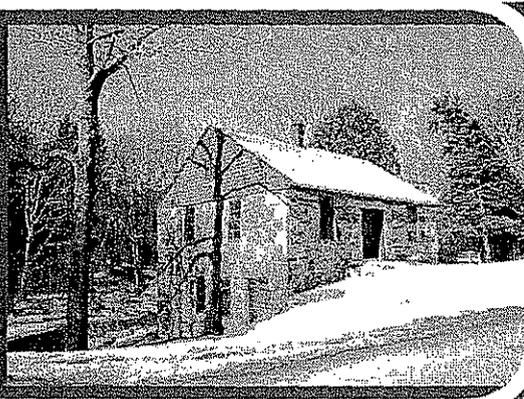
Young children: In 2008, Mansfield had 883 children under the age of five and 1,998 school-aged children ages 5-17.³ Mansfield has three elementary schools: Dorothy C. Goodwin School, the Southeast School, and the Annie E. Vinton School.

District Reference Group: In Connecticut, the State Department of Education groups school districts into District Reference Groups (DRGs), which are groups of school districts with similar socioeconomic characteristics. The groupings were established to compare achievement and expenditures among districts based upon socioeconomic status, indicators of need and student enrollment data. Indicators such as median family income, education level of parents, parents' occupation, family structure and home language are used to group

"There is always one moment in childhood when the door opens and lets the future in."

~ Deepak Chopra

Photo courtesy of Art Kostapapas



¹ CERC Town Profile 2009 (2008 Population data)

² CERC Town Profile 2009 (2008 Population data)

³ CERC Town Profile 2009 (2008 Population data)

the districts. School districts were then compared with others in their DRG. The most affluent and low-need districts are grouped into DRG A, while the poorest and highest need districts are grouped into ERG I. Mansfield is in DRG Group C, along with Andover, Barkhamsted, Bethany, Bethlehem, Bolton, Bridgewater, Burlington, Canton, Columbia, Cornwall, Durham, Ellington, Essex, Haddam, Harwinton, Hebron, Killingworth, Lyme, Marlborough, Middlefield, New Hartford, Old Lyme, Oxford, Pomfret, Roxbury, Salem, Sherman, Somers, Suffield, Tolland, Washington, and Woodbury.

Quality of life: Mansfield residents enjoy certain amenities in town that contribute to their quality of life. UConn's main campus in town provides a highly educational environment with lectures, exhibits, and cultural events throughout the year in addition to Division I College Athletics. In addition, though, the town enjoys a lot of protected open space for outdoor recreational activities, including Mansfield Hollow State Park, eight town parks and preserves, numerous Joshua's Trust properties, and university holdings. Mansfield as a community has experienced slow but stable residential growth. The town's commercial and industrial sectors are limited, and no town center exists to serve as a nexus for community activities. However, in partnership with the university, local business and its residents, the town has established a non-profit corporation (the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc.) that is charged with facilitating the development of a \$220 million project to construct a mixed-use village center that will offer many additional amenities to the community.

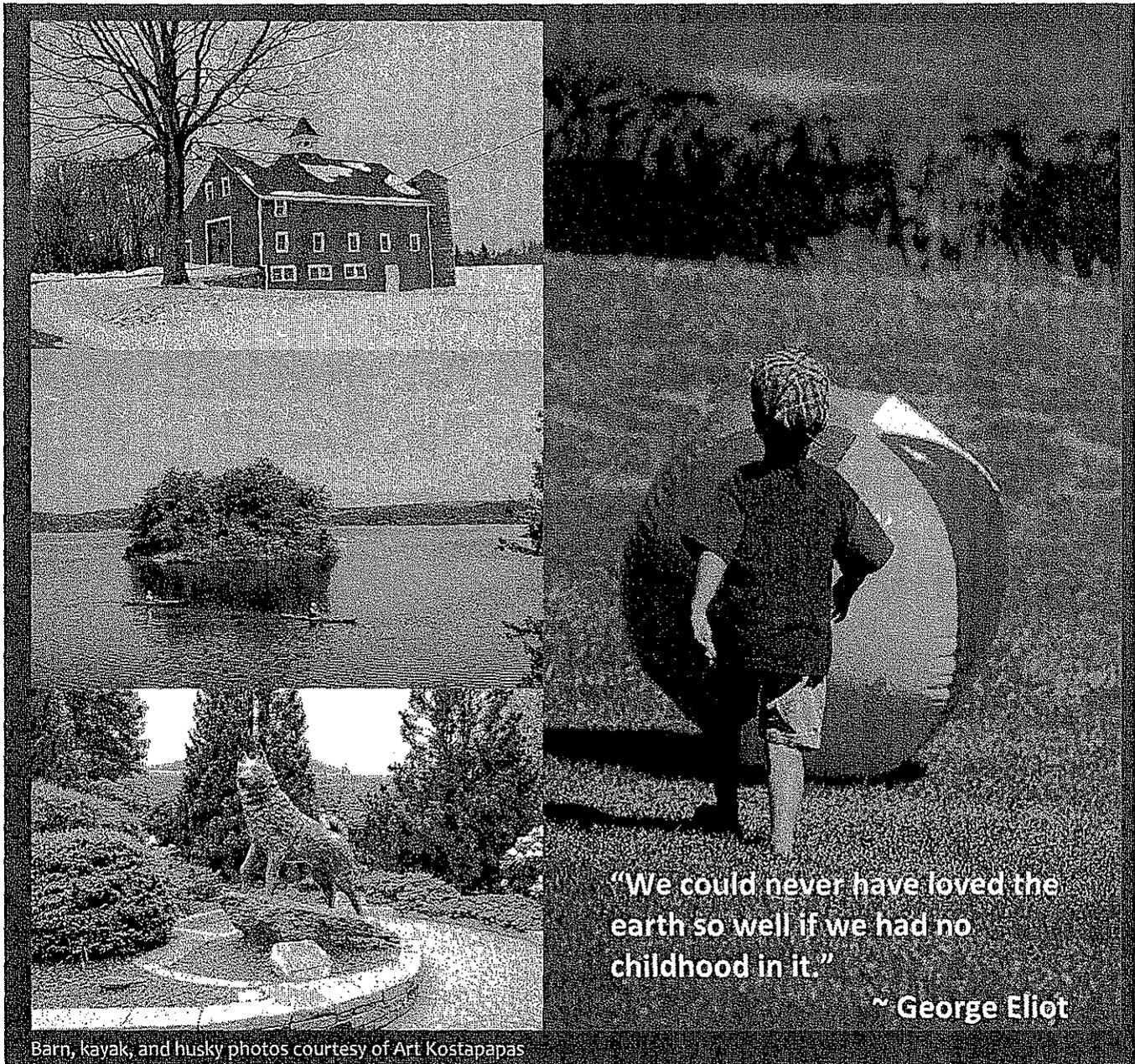


VILLAGE STREET

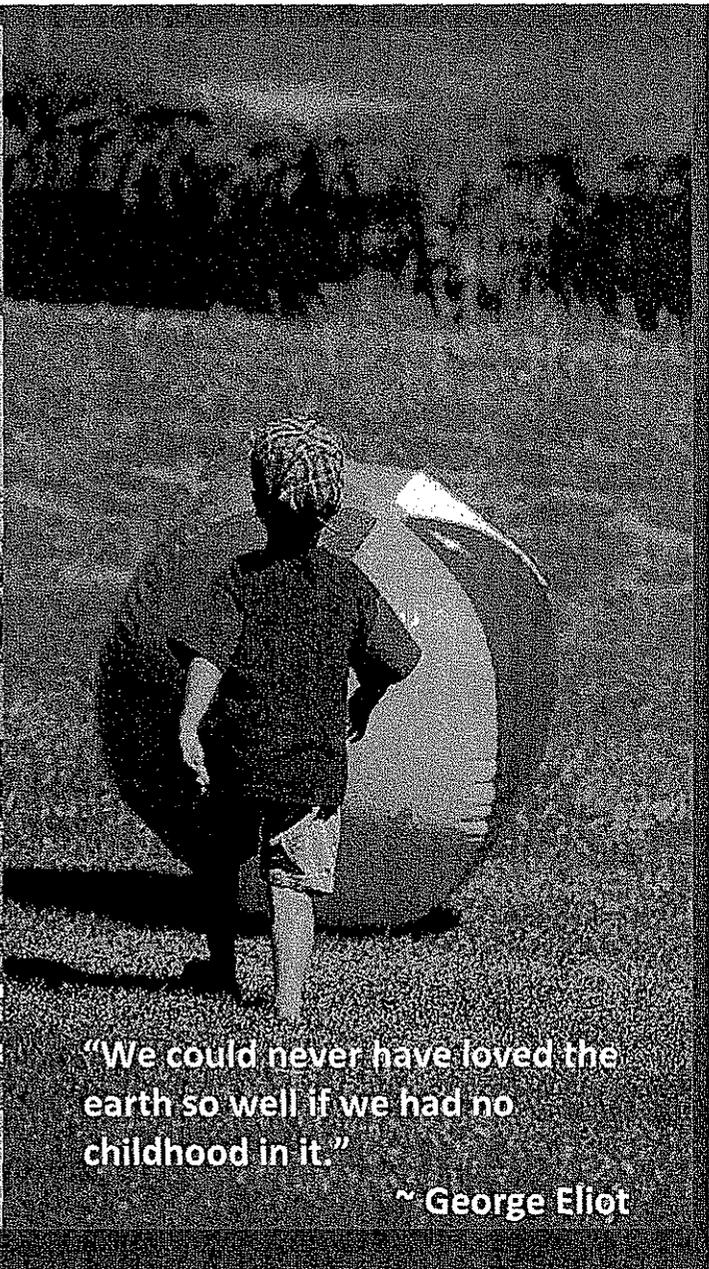


Image provided courtesy of Leyland Alliance and Urban Design Associates

4. Our Blueprint^N_U



Barn, kayak, and husky photos courtesy of Art Kostapapas



"We could never have loved the earth so well if we had no childhood in it."

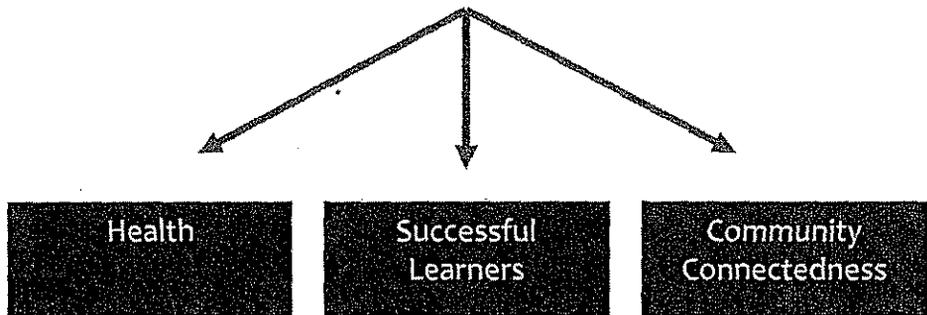
~ George Eliot

A. Population Result

Definition: Our population result is our end goal. It is what we want for our children ages birth to eight. It answers the questions: What are the most important hopes for our children, families, and community? What do we want for this population? How do we want our children to be? How do we want our families to be? In what type of community do we want to live? By discussing these questions, our community collectively developed our population result statement.

Mansfield Population Result:
“Mansfield’s children from birth through eight years old are healthy, successful learners and connected to the community.”

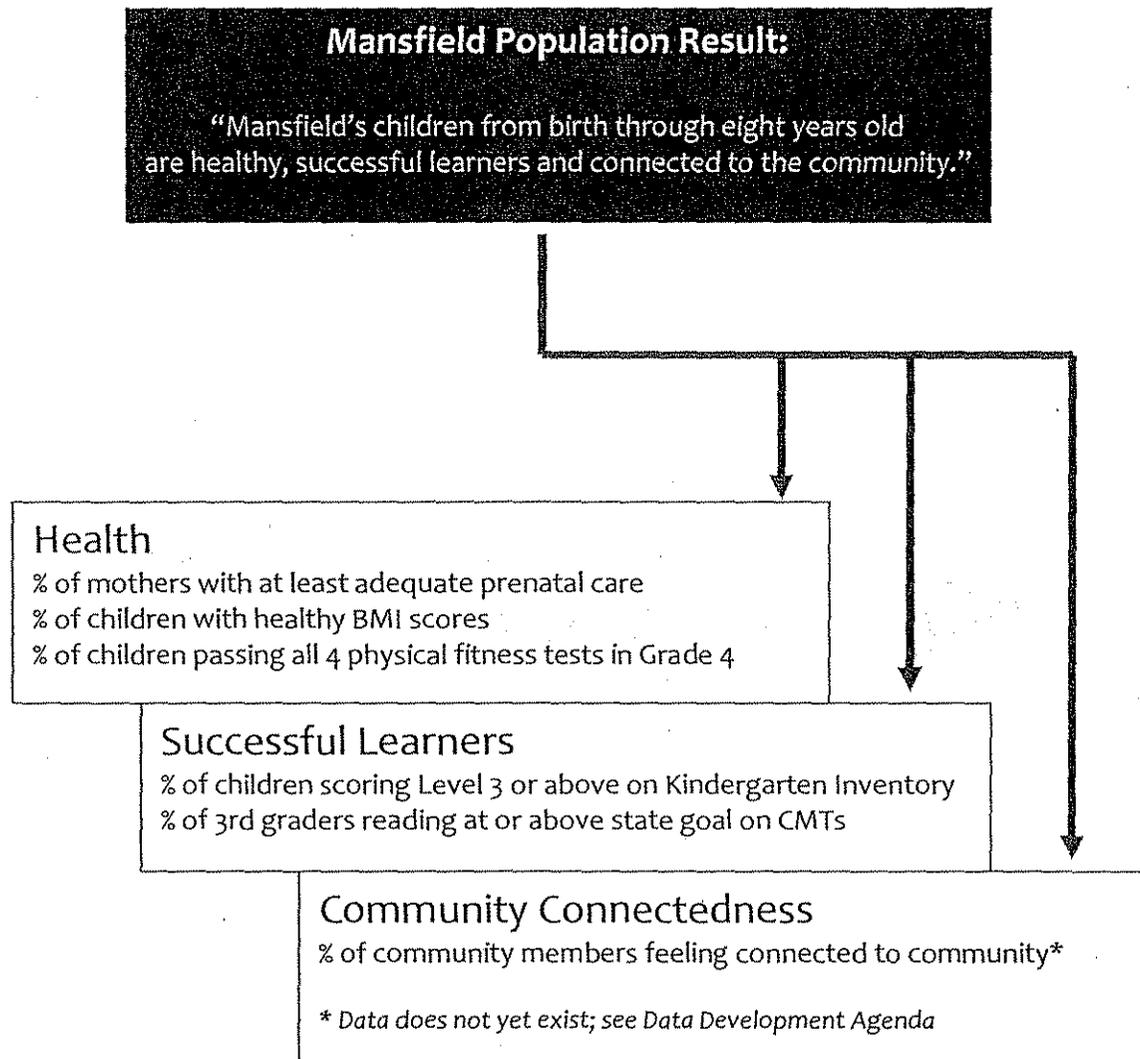
Strategic Areas: Strategic areas are distinct areas of focus within an RBA plan. In essence, they are large “buckets” to collect strategies that are all related to each other. Usually, there is a one-to-one correlation between the results statement and the strategic areas. Given our results statement, we chose three strategic areas to help organize our efforts. Each area is identified below, and is described in much greater detail on the following pages.



B. Headline Indicators^{NU}

Definition: Indicators are measures that tells us if we are getting our results or not. The best indicators are those that are extremely well-connected with the result (representative power), can be communicated to a broad audience (communication power), and for which there is quality data available on a timely basis (data power).

Our “small number” challenge: Because the population in Mansfield is so small, the availability of data poses a significant challenge and the meaningfulness of such small numbers makes interpretation difficult. With approximately 100 children in each cohort, a swing of only three children can cause a swing of 3%. The Blueprint Committee spent many long conversations developing Mansfield’s indicators based on the data that is available in this town and most meaningful.



C. Health^{NU}

About this strategic area: Children’s health is a requirement for their success. It impacts a child’s development, self-esteem, relationships, absenteeism, as well as a child’s ability to pay attention, focus, and learn. Significant research articulate the ties between a child’s physical and mental health and school attendance rates – including showing that children who are sick are more often likely to be absent, and children with chronic health conditions such as asthma can tie into reduced school attendance, school performance, and parental work attendance.⁴

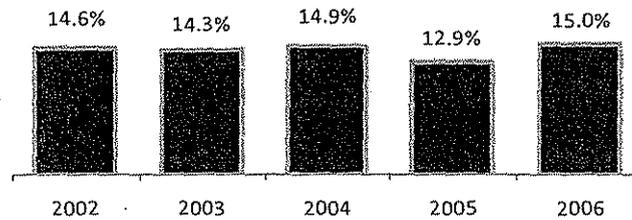
Headline indicators:

Non-adequate prenatal care is rated based on the Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization (APNCU) Index. Non-adequate care is defined as prenatal care begun after the 4th month or less than 50% of recommended visits received or prenatal care begun by the 4th month and 50%-79% of recommended visits received.

Body Mass Index (BMI) is used as a screening tool to identify possible weight problems for children. The CDC and American Academy of Pediatrics recommend the use of BMI to screen for overweight and obesity in children beginning at 2 years old.

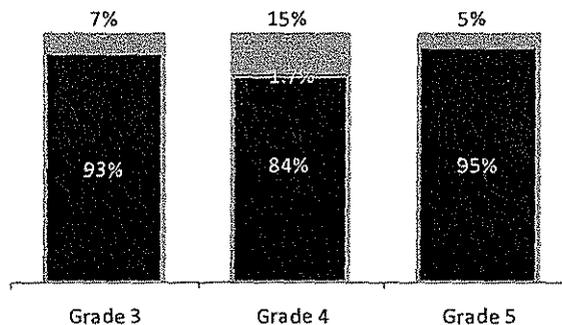
PERCENT OF MANSFIELD BIRTHS WITH NON-ADEQUATE PRENATAL CARE

Source: Connecticut Department of Public Health Registration Reports



PERCENT OF MANSFIELD STUDENTS IN GRADES 3-5 WITH BMI MEASUREMENTS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF HEALTHY BMI STANDARD

Source: Mansfield Public Schools 2009

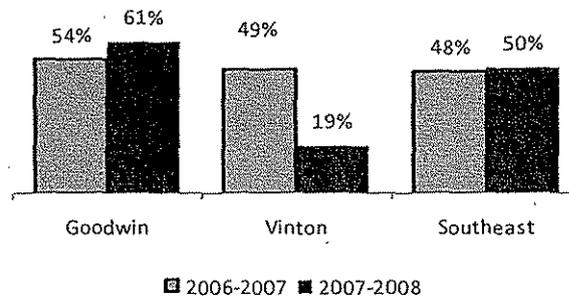


■ Within BMI range ■ Under BMI range ■ Exceeds BMI range

⁴ Diette, MD, Gregory B. et al. “Nocturnal Asthma in Children Affects School Attendance, School Performance, and Parents’ Work Attendance” in ARCH PEDIATR ADOLESC MED/VOL 154, SEP 2000.

PERCENT OF MANSFIELD STUDENTS PASSING ALL FOUR PHYSICAL FITNESS TESTS IN GRADE 4

Source: Mansfield Strategic School Profiles 2006-2007, 2007-2008



Story behind the health curves: We took a hard look at additional factors behind each of these data points to help us understand why these trends are occurring and to start to develop the most appropriate strategies to turn the curve. The Mansfield story behind these data points includes:

- Billions of brain cells are developed during the first months of fetal life. The very first step to healthy children is adequate prenatal care. Access to medical care during this time can help prevent threats to healthy development and can provide early diagnosis and appropriate management if problems emerge.
- While the percentage of births with non-adequate care seems to be rising from the percentages, it is important to remember that the numbers are small in Mansfield, with only about 100 births per year. Indeed, this increase from 12.9% to 15% is caused by three more mothers who did not receive adequate prenatal care in 2006 (from 13 to 16). While it may indicate an emerging trend, it also could be the result of normal variations on a year-to-year basis.
- The steadiness or slight increase in non-adequate prenatal care does not tie with an increase in teenage births, since the rate of teenage births fell during this time period.
- The same time period also saw a slight increase in the number of children who were born with very low and low birth weight.
- Possible factors related to the lack of adequate prenatal care may be parental choice, lack of access to services, lack of health insurance, and/or lack of information about the importance of prenatal care.
- Given that 1 of every 7 Mansfield children are born without adequate prenatal care, work needs to be done to ensure that these children have adequate healthcare after they are born to provide opportunities for early identification of any health or development problems.
- While the BMI data is not particularly alarming, the fitness numbers reflect concern in the community that while obesity may not be the most pressing concern, physical fitness is a pressing concern. Community members are expressing interest in recreational activities to counteract obesity trends. As one survey respondent said, "With childhood obesity becoming a significant problem nationally and its profound effects on health and development, it is worthwhile to explore and/or maintain activities that promote life-long interest in outdoors, team or individual sports, hobbies, etc. The health benefits are indisputable along with the opportunities for building strong social skills, an appreciation for our surroundings, and a decreased reliance on videos, iPods, and other socially isolating phenomena."

Our Strategies to turn the curve: After sifting through the data and the stories behind the curve, we developed major strategies and sub-strategy ideas to undertake in order to turn the curve.

Strategy #1: Improve information about & access to medical, dental, & mental health services in children 0-8 and their families

Sub-strategy ideas:

- ▶ Learn why some women are not receiving adequate prenatal care
- ▶ Increase access to information about prenatal care
- ▶ Increase access to information about well-child care
- ▶ Increase access to information about developmental screenings
- ▶ Connect families with young children to appropriate health insurance coverage
- ▶ Connect families with young children to appropriate social services and supports
- ▶ Improve Dial-a-Ride and rideshare services and explore supplementing these programs with a volunteer driver program

Strategy #2: Promote wellness & prevent illness in children 0-8 and their families

Sub-strategy ideas:

- ▶ Widely publicize information about nutrition, exercise, and healthy lifestyles
- ▶ Create cooking shows on public TV showing healthy options and bagged lunch ideas
- ▶ Create ideas for healthy bagged lunches at grocery stores in the community
- ▶ Expand programs for young families through Parks & Recreation (e.g., Saturday morning hike)
- ▶ Promote organized sports programs
- ▶ Encourage sports programs to waive fees for financially challenged families
- ▶ Make better use of community facilities to promote physical activity after school and on the weekends
- ▶ Add sidewalks & bike paths that are oriented toward community and recreational facilities

D. Successful Learners

About this strategic area: In order for children to be successful in life, we need them to be successful learners – both inside and outside of school.

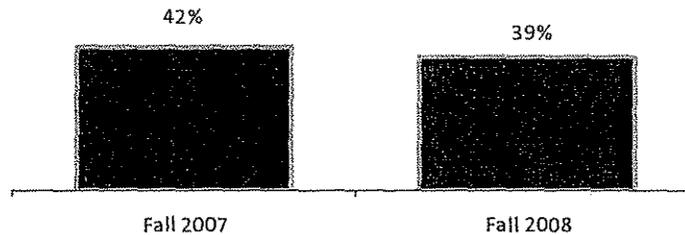
Headline indicators: These two indicators were chosen as the best representations of successful learners in the community.

Connecticut Entry to Kindergarten Inventory is based on six skill domains that reflect a set of skills expected of children entering kindergarten. These skills are: language, literacy, numeracy, physical/motor, creative/aesthetic, and personal/social skills. Students are graded on three performance levels. Students at Level 1 demonstrate emerging skills in the specified area and require a large degree of instructional support. Students at Level 2 inconsistently demonstrate the skills in the specified area and require some instructional support. Students at Level 3 consistently demonstrate the skills in the area and require minimal instructional support. The use of the Inventory was piloted in 2006.

The *Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT)* is a test administered to students in grades 3 through 8 in mathematics, reading, writing, and science (science was administered for the first time in March 2008 for fifth and eighth grade). The CMT is graded on a scale from 1 to 5 in each area tested. On this scale, 5 is considered "advanced," 4 is considered "goal," 3 is considered "proficient," 2 is considered "basic," and 1 is considered "below basic."

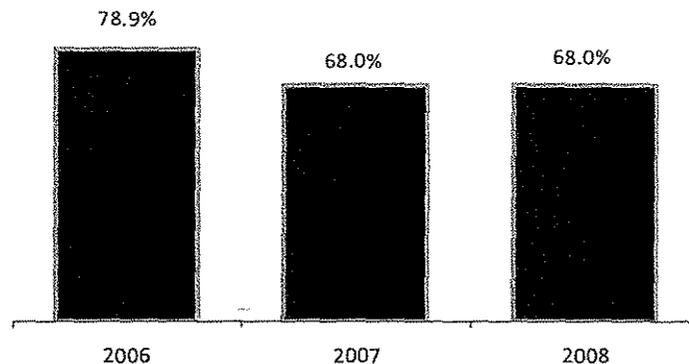
AVERAGE PERCENT OF MANSFIELD CHILDREN SCORING LEVEL 3 (CONSISTENT SKILLS) ON KINDERGARTEN INVENTORY

Source: Mansfield Public Schools



PERCENT OF MANSFIELD CHILDREN SCORING AT LEAST GOAL ON THIRD GRADE READING CMT

Source: State Department of Education



Story behind the successful learning curves: We took a hard look at additional factors behind each of these data points to help us understand why these trends are occurring and to start to develop the most appropriate strategies to turn the curve. The Mansfield story behind these data points includes:

- Although the Kindergarten Inventory appears to be decreasing slightly, it is a very short trend with only two years of data and could be attributable to changes in only two or three students, given the small numbers in Mansfield.
- Further, of the Kindergarten Inventory scores, the highest readiness is found within creative/ aesthetic skills and personal/ social skills. The lowest readiness areas are language and numeracy skills. In general, Mansfield students perform slightly better than the State overall. The numbers point to a possible focus on kindergarten transition and overall training on the pre-kindergarten benchmarks.

Kindergarten Inventory Scores						
Source: Mansfield Public Schools						
K Inventory	Fall 2007			Fall 2008		
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Language skills	14%	42%	44%	19%	44%	37%
Literacy skills	18%	43%	39%	16%	46%	38%
Numeracy skills	16%	46%	38%	10%	53%	37%
Physical/Motor skills	10%	43%	47%	7%	55%	38%
Creative/Aesthetic skills	11%	47%	42%	9%	51%	40%
Personal/Social skills	13%	47%	40%	9%	49%	42%
Average	14%	45%	42%	12%	50%	39%
STATE SCORES						
	Fall 2007			Fall 2008		
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Language skills	25%	40%	35%	23%	40%	37%
Literacy skills	29%	42%	29%	25%	41%	34%
Numeracy skills	24%	44%	32%	20%	44%	35%
Physical/Motor skills	13%	44%	43%	12%	42%	46%
Creative/Aesthetic skills	14%	42%	44%	12%	41%	47%
Personal/Social skills	19%	43%	38%	17%	43%	40%

- The percent of students with at least some pre-kindergarten experience is growing in Mansfield. In 2003, 76.5% of children entered kindergarten with some pre-school experiences, compared with 81.1% in 2007. However, it is important to note that no systematic way exists in Mansfield to gauge unmet need for pre-school experiences, and – even further – no information exists yet about the quality or depth of these pre-school experiences. No statewide quality standard exists.

% of children entering Kindergarten with preschool experience					
Source: Strategic District Profiles					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Percent	76.5%	79.4%	81.2%	79.7%	81.1%

- Further, no information exists about why 20% do not participate in preschool experiences. As one parent said, “I am uncomfortable with the prevailing belief (which I realize comes down from state and federal funding guidelines) that the best way to educate and nurture a young child is to have them placed in a preschool or daycare setting. More part-time options need to be explored and supported for those of us who are interested/able to spend more time at home with our children.”
- Decreased reading scores on the CMTs suggest a greater need in the community for greater focus on early literacy and reading. Boys have outperformed girls on CMT test for

the past two years. The children receiving free & reduced price meals have been improving in performance over the two-year period for which data is available.

Subpopulations	2006	2007	2008
Male	77.8%	77.8%	68.8%
Female	80.8%	60.8%	67.2%
F/R Meals	—	52%	61.9%
Full Price	81%	71.8%	69.3%

- Very little information exists on infant & toddler needs and parent satisfaction of the available care. Efforts in connection with UConn are needed to identify and quantify the needs and develop ways to meet the needs that exist.

Strategy #3: Identify and meet the demand for quality infant, toddler, and preschool slots

Sub-strategy ideas:

- ▶ Establish a systematic way to determine unmet need for early care & education including infant and toddler slots
- ▶ Support legislative advocacy around increasing the number of quality and affordable slots
- ▶ Increase awareness of what makes a quality program

Strategy #4: Raise and improve literacy skills in the community

Sub-strategy ideas:

- ▶ Inventory and publicize existing literacy programs and activities (e.g., library bus)
- ▶ Create additional literacy-building programs in the community

E. Community Connectedness^{NU}

About this strategic area: Throughout this entire process, anecdotal information kept rising up in conversation about the quality of life for families with young children in Mansfield, and how it is different from other towns in Connecticut. The rural nature of the town, the lack of a designated town center, lack of sidewalks and easy transportation, a partially disconnected population of graduate students with young children caused the group to look hard – really hard – at the concept of community connectedness and the role of having a connected community in the lives of Mansfield’s young children.

Headline indicators: After long conversations and searching for appropriate existing measures, Mansfield has concluded that no measurement of community connectedness is currently being collected in Mansfield. In fact, the first strategy for this focus area is to develop a way to measure a baseline for community connectedness.

Mansfield Community Connectedness Survey will be developed to identify the extent to which Mansfield residents feel connected with their community. The first strategy is to develop a way to measure a baseline for community connectedness.

Story behind community connectedness: Good secondary data does exist to help round out the community connectedness piece in Mansfield. The Mansfield story behind these data points includes:

- Mansfield has a significant student population. The median age for the Town of Mansfield is 23 years, compared with the State median age of 40 years. As one graduate student survey respondent noted, it can be challenging to connect this population in with the rest of the towns events, saying “I am not familiar with some of these events. I don’t know if it’s because I am a graduate student and don’t receive local papers.”
- Some of Mansfield’s families experience a sense of isolation, in part because of the more transient student population combined with the rural surrounding geography. According to the 2000 Census, one-quarter of the population (26.1%) had moved to Mansfield in the past year and 52.1% had moved to Mansfield in the past five years. These numbers are high compared with the entire State, in which 17% had moved to the State in the past year and 44.2% had moved to the State in the past five years.
- Because of the rural nature of Mansfield, transportation is an issue for residents. Data from the Willimantic-Storrs bus shows steadily increasing ridership with 63,586 rides in FY2008. Bus service routes do not always connect with key “connection” places in town.

Willimantic-Storrs Bus Ridership					
Fiscal Year	FY '04	FY '05	FY '06	FY '07	FY '08
Total Ridership	34,579	36,583	49,173	56,833	63,586

- Mansfield does not have any central point for information about the resources that exist for its families with young children.
- Mansfield has an asset map of spaces that are important to the community (see Appendix). Mansfield does not know how much these spaces are used, or if there are enough spaces.
- Some parents report having a tough time getting connected with other parents of young children. One survey respondent said, “The low social density of housing in Mansfield discourages interaction among parents.” Another said, “New moms can feel very isolated in Mansfield... There could be a place (physical place or online) where get-togethers can be posted without the moms going through “official” organizations/clubs.”

- The town's limited sidewalk infrastructure and limited public transportation seems to contribute to the feeling of isolation. As one respondent to the survey said, "The roads are dangerous to walk on. We don't have sidewalks through most of town. Children cannot safely go to neighbors houses without being driven for the most part, or ride their bikes safely to important places in town like the community center and the library. Families would be healthier and happier with more ways simply to get around town together, slower, in community, in harmony with the beauty of this town." Another said, "I would really, really, really appreciate it if there were a bus stop at the library. My kids and I don't feel safe walking up 89, but we would really like to utilize the public transportation system."

Strategy #5: Develop a baseline understanding of and measurement of community connectedness in Mansfield

Sub-strategy ideas:

- ▶ Develop a survey to measure community connectedness. This survey would also function to identify the places where connections occur and the types of improvements that people suggest to improve connectedness (e.g., installation of park benches)

Strategy #6: Improve communications with Mansfield families with young children to raise awareness about community resources for families with young children

Sub-strategy ideas:

- ▶ Develop the Town of Mansfield's website as a virtual resource center
- ▶ Create a public awareness campaign to promote the website as the ideal home page for every computer in Mansfield
- ▶ Coordinate communication efforts with UConn
- ▶ Improve the ability of Mansfield residents to connect to the internet
- ▶ Explore community-building opportunities (e.g., playground in new downtown, benches in key community-building sites, picnic tables, social connection activities)

Strategy #7: Improve transportation options to make key community locations accessible

Sub-strategy ideas:

- ▶ Establish bus stops at key locations in the community
- ▶ Extend bus service routes and schedules to improve connections to key community locations
- ▶ Refine the current Ride Share program to address the needs of families with young children

5. Implementation Considerations^{NU}



"Childhood is a short season."
~ Helen Hayes

Oriole bird and dam photos courtesy of Art Kostapapas

A. Key Partners^{Nu}

The success of this plan will rely on our community and our partners pulling together to work collaboratively to achieve these results. The table below identifies partners that are relevant to each strategy of this plan. We anticipate reaching out to each of these partners to open dialogue and identify avenues for involvement in the plan. We also anticipate working collectively with our partners to develop a common set of performance measures. These measures will help us understand how much we did, how well we did it, and if anyone is better of as a result of our efforts.

Strategy →	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Access to health services	Promote wellness	Early Education Slots	Literacy Skills	Measure Connectedness	Communication	Transportation
↓ Partners							
Town Partners							
Town Council			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Health Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Social Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Youth Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
School nurses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
MAC IT Group			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Parks & Recreation		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MCC		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Board of Ed Partners							
Board of Education			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Superintendent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
School administrators			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
School support staff				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Enrichment teachers				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
ELL coordinator				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Teachers			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Literacy Coaches				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Special education coordinators				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
School nurses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Speech pathologists				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
School Readiness / MAC			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
UConn Related							
UConn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
UConn Work Life			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
UConn Human Development Services			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
UConn Transportation Pool						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
UConn Departments (mapping)						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
UConn Grad Student Council						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
UConn clinics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Regional Entities							
Windham Region Community Council	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Region 19						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Windham Regional Transit District						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
United Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
EastConn				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Eastern CT Reading Council				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

Strategy →	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Access to health services	Promote wellness	Early Education Slots	Literacy Skills	Measure Connectivity	Communication	Transportation
↓ Partners							
Community Organizations & Members							
Library				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Childcare centers		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Home care providers			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Local businesses						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Generations Health Clinic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Local midwives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Family practices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Pediatricians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Mental health clinicians	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Hospital social workers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
OB/GYNs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Naturopaths	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4H (The Extension Service)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Faith-based communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Camps		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Jump Start				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Parent groups		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
iParent Network						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Parent Planner						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Museums						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Dial-A-Ride						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Charter						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
WAM Horizon						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
KYT Fair						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
INDP						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Festival on the Green						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
State & National Entities							
Infoline 211	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
WIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
American Cancer Society / American Heart Association		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
NAEYC/CTAEYC/HAYEAC			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Literacy Volunteers				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
America Reads				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
CT Reading Council				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
State SDE			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
State DEP						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
State DCF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
State Husky Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
State DMHAS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Birth to Three	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Governor's Cabinet on ECE			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Funders of children's initiatives			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Council for Exceptional Children				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Media							
Channel 13 & 17						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
WCMH, WHUS, WILJ						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Reminder & Chronicle						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

B. Financing Plan^{Nu}

In recognition of the challenging economic times and the strain on everyone's budgets, the plan that was developed focused on strategies that are no-cost and low-cost for the first two years. The following chart details the anticipated costs associated with each of the activities. A \$0 base investment means that the activity is not currently occurring. A base investment marked with a line (---) indicates that activities are occurring, but it is extremely difficult to estimate. A \$0 cost item means that the cost of the item is negligible, if not free. A summary of the financing plan is below, and additional detail is provided on the following pages. The financing plan provides detail that focuses on Years 1 and 2, since the activities for Years 3-5 will depend significantly on the results achieved and lessons learned from Years 1 and 2 implementation.

Strategies	Base Investment	YEAR 1	Year 2
		Jul 2009- Jun 2010	Jul 2010- Jun 2011
1. Improve information about & access to medical, dental, & mental health services in children 0-8 and their families	\$70,000	\$1,500	\$8,000
STRATEGY 2: Promote wellness & prevent illness in children 0-8 and their families	\$87,000	\$1,472,500 (already committed)	\$5,000
STRATEGY 3: Identify and meet the demand for quality infant, toddler, and preschool slots	\$0	\$1,000	\$5,000
STRATEGY 4: Raise and improve literacy skills in the community	\$0	\$250	\$1,000
STRATEGY 5: Develop a baseline understanding of and measurement of community connectedness in Mansfield	\$0	\$5,000	TBD
STRATEGY 6: Improve communications with Mansfield families with young children to raise awareness about community resources for families with young children	\$0	\$22,250	\$5,000
STRATEGY 7: Improve transportation options to make key community locations accessible	\$0	\$250	TBD
TOTAL	\$157,000	\$1,502,750	\$29,000
Committed	\$157,000	\$1,472,000	\$0
Funding Still Needed	\$0	\$30,250	\$29,000

ADDITIONAL FINANCE PLAN DETAIL (STRATEGY 1)

STRATEGY 1: Improve information about & access to medical, dental, & mental health services in children 0-8 and their families	Base Investment	Jul 2009- Jun 2010	Jul 2010- Jun 2011	Jul 2011- Jun 2012	Jul 2012- Jun 2013	Additional Detail
1. Learn why some women are not receiving adequate prenatal care	\$0	\$250 (in kind)	TBD	TBD	TBD	Year 1 will start with interviews with discharge planners; Year 2 is TBD – can do survey & home births and other hospital systems if needed
2. Increase access to information about prenatal care	-----	\$250 (printing)	TBD	TBD	TBD	Baseline includes current providers, health clinics, Mansfield OB/GYN, insurance companies, high school education; Year 1 includes printing for fliers; Year 2 is TBD depending on what is found in Year 1
3. Learn about how many Mansfield children are regularly accessing well-child care	-----	\$0	TBD	TBD	TBD	Year 1 will start by working with Mansfield Public Schools to incorporate this question onto Kindergarten entry information request; In Year 2, consider building this into a Transition institute and consider meeting to obtain information from homeschooled population
4. Improve access to information about developmental milestones	-----	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	Baseline includes pediatricians, schools, UConn, health clinics, online, Infoline; Annual budget includes distribution of information (e.g., Ages & Stages) to families
5. Connect families with young children to appropriate health insurance coverage	-----	\$50 (rental for booth, very limited printing)	\$ (in kind DSS)	TBD	TBD	Baseline includes daycares, public schools, Infoline, emergency rooms, Mansfield family information packet; Year 1 includes using existing service providers to distribute DSS fliers; Year 2 includes enrollment assistance at fairs, on book bus, location-based strategies; Years 3-5 includes funding to transport
6. Learn about the local providers (medical & dental) that accept HUSKY	-----	\$0	TBD	TBD	TBD	Year 1 includes MAC asking this question when they develop the list of medical & dental providers and will include it in the Mansfield Family Information Packet
7. Connect families with young children to appropriate social services and supports	-----	\$150 (food for 2 meetings)	TBD based on results of meeting	TBD	TBD	Baseline includes word of mouth, Healthcare system, library, information packet, website, infoline; Year 1 includes research really good information, connect providers, consolidation of information – formalized results
8. Improve Dial-a-Ride and rideshare services and explore supplementing these programs with a volunteer driver program	\$70,000	\$300 subsidy	\$7500	TBD	TBD	Baseline includes the Town's contribution to Dial-A-Ride; Year 1 includes publicity in diff. languages, subsidize cost of rides, volunteer translation, in kind by town for printing costs; Year 2 includes expansion to Windham Hospital (\$50/hr for approx. 1 trip a week)

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ADDITIONAL FINANCE PLAN DETAIL (STRATEGY 2)

STRATEGY 2: Promote wellness & prevent illness in children 0-8 and their families	Base Investment	Jul 2009-Jun 2010	Jul 2010-Jun 2011	Jul 2011-Jun 2012	Jul 2012-Jun 2013	Additional Detail
9. Widely publicize information about nutrition, exercise, and healthy lifestyles	-----	\$0 (meeting included above)		TBD	TBD	Baseline includes schools, health district, Be well programs, local healthcare providers, farmers markets; Year 2 includes compiling information that exists, use provider meeting; publications, website, include in monthly newsletter, farmers' market
10. Create cooking shows on public TV showing healthy options and bagged lunch ideas	\$0	\$0 (in kind, student)	\$0 (in kind, student)	TBD	TBD	Baseline includes public TV; Years 1 and 2 include a student project where student would coordinate & produce shows, including possible donated produce from local farms, UConn nutrition extension, E.O. Smith culinary programs, incorporation of kids, including in-kind coordination from the Health Department
11. Create ideas for healthy bagged lunches at grocery stores in the community	\$0	\$0 (coordination)	TBD based on partnerships	TBD	TBD	Baseline includes gathering information & ideas & in kind partners; Years 1 and 2 include coordination, perhaps by a family consumer science unit or student project, including partnership with local grocery stores and publicizing ideas in newsletters
12. Expand programs for young families through Parks & Rec (e.g., Saturday morning hike)	-----	\$500	TBD	TBD	TBD	Baseline includes all places in Mansfield for recreation; Year 1 includes program expansion with space provided by partners (e.g., churches, library) with possible subsidized organized weekly program at the community center not just for members for very young children
13. Promote non-competitive sports programs	-----	\$0 (student intern)	TBD	TBD	TBD	Baseline includes all existing non-competitive sports programs (dance, swim, open gym, skating, etc.); Year 1 includes research of what non-competitive options exist; Years 2-5 will be developed based on research findings
14. Educate public about available fee waivers for sports/camp programs	\$87,000	\$0	\$5000	TBD	TBD	Baseline includes current fee waivers; Year 1 anticipates no additional fee waivers, but Year 2 includes activities to educate about fee waivers, with anticipated increased fee waivers of \$5000 through schools, medical offices
15. Make better use of community facilities to promote physical activity after school and on the weekends	-----	\$0	TBD	TBD	TBD	Baseline includes schools, fields, playgrounds, parks, community center, UConn; Year 1 includes working with partners to explore ways to better use facilities and advertising places available in town for different ages; Years 3-5 include fencing for the library
16. Add sidewalks & bike paths oriented toward community and recreational facilities	-----	\$1.472 million	TBD	TBD	TBD	Baseline includes existing sidewalk network; Year 1 includes the \$1.17 million in federal funds and \$302,000 in local bond financing for sidewalks, both of which are approved

ADDITIONAL FINANCE PLAN DETAIL (STRATEGIES 3, 4, & 5)

STRATEGY 3: Identify and meet the demand for quality infant, toddler, and preschool slots	Base Investment	Jul 2009-Jun 2010	Jul 2010-Jun 2011	Jul 2011-Jun 2012	Jul 2012-Jun 2013	Additional Detail
17. Establish a systematic way to determine unmet need for early care & education including infant and toddler slots	-----	\$0 (in kind collaboration)	TBD	TBD	TBD	Limited baseline exists in waitlists & Infoline calls requesting information; Year 1 includes working with providers to identify a way to collect unmet need information including possibly a survey at K level of what need parents experienced to date; Years 2-5 will include implementation
18. Support legislative advocacy around increasing the number of quality and affordable slots	-----	\$500	\$4500	\$500	\$500	Baseline includes advocacy on a statewide basis; Year 1 includes budget for advocacy efforts (e.g., transportation to capital, letter-writing campaign); Year 2 includes a possible parent advocacy program (e.g, PEP, PLTI)
19. Increase awareness of what makes a quality program	-----	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	Baseline includes a multitude of materials that already exist to educate aspects of quality programs as well as info already distributed in Mansfield Family Information Packet; annual budget includes printed materials & posters (e.g., Born Learning) for distribution

STRATEGY 4: Raise and improve literacy skills in the community	Base Investment	Jul 2009-Jun 2010	Jul 2010-Jun 2011	Jul 2011-Jun 2012	Jul 2012-Jun 2013	Additional Detail
20. Inventory and publicize existing literacy programs and activities(e.g., library bus)	-----	\$250	\$0	\$0	\$0	No existing inventory of all literacy activities exist; Year 1 includes developing this list as an intern project and limited printing; Future years will require minimal updating
21. Create additional literacy-building programs in the community	Inventory (#20 above)	\$0	\$1000	TBD	TBD	Baseline includes all literacy activities (which will be listed in the inventory). Year 1 will focus on creating the inventory; Year 2 includes \$1000 for program expansion (e.g., MotherRead/FatherRead, library program expansion, school program expansion, story hours at housing sites, pediatricians 'prescribing' books).

STRATEGY 5: Develop a baseline of community connectedness in Mansfield	Base Investment	Jul 2009-Jun 2010	Jul 2010-Jun 2011	Jul 2011-Jun 2012	Jul 2012-Jun 2013	Additional Detail
22. Develop a survey to measure community connectedness.	\$0	\$5000	TBD	TBD	TBD	No baseline exists except other surveys created by others, the Asset Map, and one-on-one community conversations; Year 1 includes time, paper, and postage/online survey costs.

ADDITIONAL FINANCE PLAN DETAIL (STRATEGIES 6 & 7)

STRATEGY 6: Improve communications with Mansfield families with young children to raise awareness about community resources for families with young children	Base Investment	Jul 2009-Jun 2010	Jul 2010-Jun 2011	Jul 2011-Jun 2012	Jul 2012-Jun 2013	Additional Detail
23. Develop the Town of Mansfield's website as a virtual resource center	Existing town website	\$10,000	TBD	TBD	TBD	Baseline includes current town website and IT staff. Also, Mansfield is currently interviewing a team for website improvements, so the \$10,000 allocation in Year 1 is to incorporate specific elements into this website overhaul effort that is already underway
24. Create a public awareness campaign to promote website as the ideal home page for every computer in Mansfield	\$0	\$0	\$5000	TBD	TBD	No baseline exists, as no public awareness campaign exists about the website. After website is developed in Year 1, Year 2 budget includes public awareness paraphernalia (e.g., posters, t-shirts, shopping bags)
25. Coordinate communication efforts with UConn	----	\$250	TBD	TBD	TBD	Year 1 includes creating links between UConn and Town websites and sharing information
26. Improve the ability of Mansfield residents to connect to the internet	----	\$10,000	TBD	TBD	TBD	Baseline includes wireless internet at Town Hall & internet connections at the Library & Community Center; Year 1 includes making the library wireless and adding four new computers to other locations in town
27. Explore community-building opportunities (e.g., playground in new downtown, benches in key community-building sites, picnic tables, social connection activities)	----	\$2,000	TBD	TBD	TBD	Year 1 includes holding a community conversation (League of Women Voters) about what community-building sites are most needed and advocating for child-friendly spaces in the downtown area; Year 2 activities will depend on results of community conversation (e.g., benches built by Boy Scouts, new picnic areas)
STRATEGY 7: Improve transportation options to make key community locations accessible	Base Investment	Jul 2009-Jun 2010	Jul 2010-Jun 2011	Jul 2011-Jun 2012	Jul 2012-Jun 2013	Additional Detail
28. Establish bus stops at key locations in the community	----	Included in other line items	TBD	TBD	TBD	Baseline: Current transit operations & bus shelters; Year 1 includes research on where expansion should occur; Year 2 includes changes as a result of the research
29. Extend bus routes and schedules to improve connections to key community locations	----	Included in other line items	TBD	TBD	TBD	Baseline: Current transit operations & bus shelters; Year 1 includes research on where expansion should occur through community connectedness research; Year 2 includes changes as a result of the research
30. Refine the current Ride Share program to address needs of families with young children	----	\$250	TBD	TBD	TBD	Baseline: Current Rideshare online bulletin board; Year 1 includes \$250 for publicizing & raising awareness of the resource that already exists

C. Data Development Agenda^{Nu}

A data development agenda is a list of areas where additional data is needed. While it is nearly impossible to have all the data needed, a data development agenda identifies the highest priority areas for new data collection. Below are the areas where additional data would be useful during implementation of the plan.

Health

- ▶ 15% of the Mansfield births have non-adequate prenatal care; what are the primary reasons why these mothers are not achieving adequate prenatal care?

Successful Learners

- ▶ Longer trend for Kindergarten Inventory data
- ▶ 80% of the population entering kindergarten has pre-k experience, as reported by their parents (nursery school, pre-school, or Head Start); what level of quality were these experiences?
- ▶ 20% of the population entering kindergarten does not have pre-k experience, as reported by their parents; what are the primary reasons?
- ▶ What is the unmet need for early care and education services?

Community Connectedness

- ▶ % of community members feeling connected to community
- ▶ Utilization rate of community locations
- ▶ Effectiveness of community locations for building sense of connectedness

“There is no greater power than a community discovering what it cares about.”

~ Margaret J. Wheatley

Photo courtesy of Karen Taylor



D. Possible Performance Measures^{Nu}

As part of this plan, the community of Mansfield committed to establishing performance measures. Performance measures are established to evaluate how well a program, agency, or service system is working. These measures help us understand how much we did, how well we did it, and if anyone is better off as a result of our efforts. While we know that we need to develop a full set of performance measures as part of this initiative, we would like to establish our partnerships and have those agreements in place before finalizing the performance measures, so our partners have an opportunity to help us develop this collective set of measures that we all agree to use. In this section, then, we have developed possible performance measures for certain strategies, to provide a starting point for our conversation.

How will we know if anyone is better off as a result of this plan?

Strategy #1: Improve information about & access to medical, dental, & mental health services in children 0-8 and their families

Sub-Strategy Ideas	How much did we do?	How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Increase access to information about prenatal care ▶ Increase access to information about well-child care ▶ Increase access to information about developmental screenings ▶ Connect families with young children to appropriate health insurance coverage ▶ Connect families with young children to appropriate social services and supports ▶ Improve Dial-a-Ride and rideshare services and explore supplementing these programs with a volunteer driver program 	<p># newly pregnant women receiving education about value of prenatal care</p> <p># families with young children receiving information about social services & supports</p> <p># families with uninsured children receiving information about enrollment assistance efforts</p>	<p>% of newly pregnant women with a new understanding of the value of prenatal care</p> <p>% of families receiving insurance enrollment that completed an insurance application</p> <p>% of families receiving information about services that used these services within 3 months</p>	<p># / % of newly pregnant women receiving adequate or better prenatal care</p> <p># / % of children with new health insurance</p>

Strategy #4: Raise and improve literacy skills in the community

Sub-Strategy Ideas	How much did we do?	How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Inventory and publicize existing literacy programs and activities (e.g., library bus) ▶ Create additional literacy-building programs in the community 	<p># events held to build library awareness</p> <p># library bus runs</p>	<p>% of families attending event that signed up for a library card</p> <p>% of children using library bus at least once over the summer</p>	<p># / % of families who signed up for a library card and used it within two months</p> <p># / % of children maintaining literacy skills over the summer</p>

Strategy #7: Raise and Improve communications with Mansfield families with young children about opportunities for recreation & socialization

Sub-Strategy Ideas	How much did we do?	How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Develop the Town of Mansfield's website as a virtual resource center ▶ Create a public awareness campaign to promote the website as the ideal home page for every computer in Mansfield ▶ Coordinate communication efforts with UConn ▶ Improve the ability of Mansfield residents to connect to the internet ▶ Explore community-building opportunities 	<p># events posted on town website</p> <p># resources listed in a central location</p>	<p>% increase in hits to events page on website</p> <p># of people who look at this resource list</p>	<p># / % of families with young children aware of community events</p> <p># / % of people who are aware of community resources</p>

Strategy #8: Improve transportation options to make key community locations accessible

Sub-Strategy Ideas	How much did we do?	How well did we do it?	Is anyone better off?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Establish bus stops at key locations in the community ▶ Extend bus service routes and schedules to improve connections to key community locations ▶ Refine the current Ride Share program to address the needs of families with young children 	<p># new or expanded routes</p>	<p>% increase in ridership</p>	<p># / % of families with new access to transportation</p>

E. Governance & Accountability^{N_U}

Definition: Governance means oversight. Governing bodies have the responsibility to oversee, provide direction, and coordinate implementation of certain activities. Governing bodies also have a responsibility to verify whether and to what extent results have been achieved. In most cases, the governing body is straightforward. For example, for non-profits, the Board of Directors has a governing responsibility for the initiatives of that organization. In the case of community planning, though, the governing entity is not always clear. It is difficult to identify because the plan includes cross-sector initiatives from a wide variety of agencies, institutions, and interests within the community. No one agency can achieve the outcomes on its own. Therefore, this plan requires a governance structure that will provide the most efficient and effective shepherd for this community-wide plan.

MAC Governance: Typically, the governance structure can be formed three different ways: (1) through a connection to local government, operating as an agency of that authority; (2) as a separately-standing legal entity with the ability to accept funds; or (3) as an informal organization without explicit legal standing, where a collaborative group accepts responsibility for oversight of the plan. However, in Mansfield, there is a hybrid group that already exists – called the Mansfield Advocates for Children (MAC). The MAC is a hybrid group because it serves as an advisory body for the Town Council and its members are appointed by the Mayor and the Town Council, but it does function independently as a collaborative group, and often with a separate non-profit fiscal agent. The MAC is the right group to shepherd and guide the implementation of this plan because: (a) it is a pre-existing group; (b) it is recognized by and has productive ties with the local government; (c) it could be easily connected with implementation of the Mansfield 2020 Plan; and (d) it retains some of the flexibility of an informal structure; and (e) it has a ready fiscal agent.

Who will own the plan? Who will coordinate the partners? Who will see it through? Who will report back to the public at regular intervals to explain what results have been achieved? What governance structure is best for this community plan?

When MAC assumes responsibility for this plan, the responsibilities will include:

- ▶ Convening partners
- ▶ Coordinating agreement on a set of outcomes
- ▶ Coordinating implementation
- ▶ Providing direction
- ▶ Measuring progress in meeting set of results
- ▶ Engage, educate, and regularly inform the community about progress being made to improve results
- ▶ Providing ongoing reports to the public on an annual basis to regularly provide information about the performance, results, and continuously seek input and feedback on this community-wide effort to improve the health, learning success, and connectedness of children and their families

In order to be successful, though, MAC will need enhanced active membership from Leadership Work Group members who participated in developing this plan and from other partners who are vital to successful implementation.

Demonstration Project for Mansfield 2020 Plan: Throughout the planning process, the planning group has recognized that Early Childhood is one component of the Mansfield

2020 Plan. As such, the group has taken care to closely coordinate with the Town to ensure that efforts between these two planning initiatives are synchronized. At this point in time, this community planning process has moved at a slightly quicker pace than the Mansfield 2020 Plan. As a result, it is suggested that this plan could be connected to the Mansfield 2020 Plan for the Early Childhood vision point. Further, this plan could serve as a demonstration project for implementing the different vision points within the Mansfield 2020 Plan, serving as a guide for the other vision points within the town's strategic plan.

F. Conclusion & Next Steps^{Nu}

While this plan represents our community's work to date, it remains a work in progress. It is a concrete beginning to initiatives and efforts that are vital for our young children's success. We look forward to working with all of our community partners to collectively deepen our planning efforts, take on actions that genuinely will turn the curve for our children, and hold ourselves accountable for the progress that we make.

In order to move from the planning to the implementation phase – from talk to action – we first need to bring together the partners that will be vital to carrying out implementation and make the transition from our planning body to our implementation body. In order to do so, the following next steps are needed to put this plan into motion and progress toward improved results:

- ▶ MAC accepts responsibility for the plan's governance
- ▶ MAC and LWG collectively identify all partners needed for implementation, approach potential partners and determine where common interests may lie and where commitments exist
- ▶ MAC adds new membership to support the plan's oversight and implementation
- ▶ With partners, finalize our performance measures and develop specific action plans
- ▶ All partners begin to implement their portion of the action plans, collecting performance measures and reporting to governing body as agreed upon

Appendix 1^N_U

^N_U

CHRONICLE ARTICLE ABOUT THE LIBRARY BOOK BUS

CHRONICLE, THE (WILLIMANTIC, CT)

STUDENTS OFFERED BOOKS ON A BUS

By: Caitlin M. Dineen, Chronicle Staff Writer

Published: May 18, 2009

MANSFIELD - Just because *Mansfield* students will be on summer vacation at the end of June does not mean they can avoid books during the break.

Mansfield Board of Education officials are working to make sure library books can be easily accessed throughout the summer. Currently, education officials are hashing out the details for "Books on a Bus." With funding provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, two school buses will be loaded with books and driven around town so pupils from the three elementary schools can check out books without heading to the library.

"It kind of matches the governor's reading program," said Superintendent Frederick Baruzzi. "It makes it more reachable for students." Baruzzi said not all students have access to the public library during the summer and this program caters to them.

According to Baruzzi, routes will begin following the July 4 weekend and will run until the week before school. Pupils from Goodwin, Annie Vinton and Southeast Schools will each have one day a week when a bus will drive on a route designed to supply that school zone with books.

A library assistant from each school will be on the bus during their school's specific day. Baruzzi said each day the buses will follow a specific route and make several stops. Each stop will be approximately 10 to 15 minutes long. He said he anticipates students will check out one or two books at a time, but expects more avid readers will check out four or five.

According to Baruzzi, only one bus will run at a time, but a second bus will be pre-filled with books to replenish the operating bus if book levels become low. He said no limits would be set for the number of books pupils can check out. "We don't want to take away the enthusiasm for reading," he said. As the program will be funded through stimulus grants, Baruzzi said the board has enough funding to operate the program for two summers.

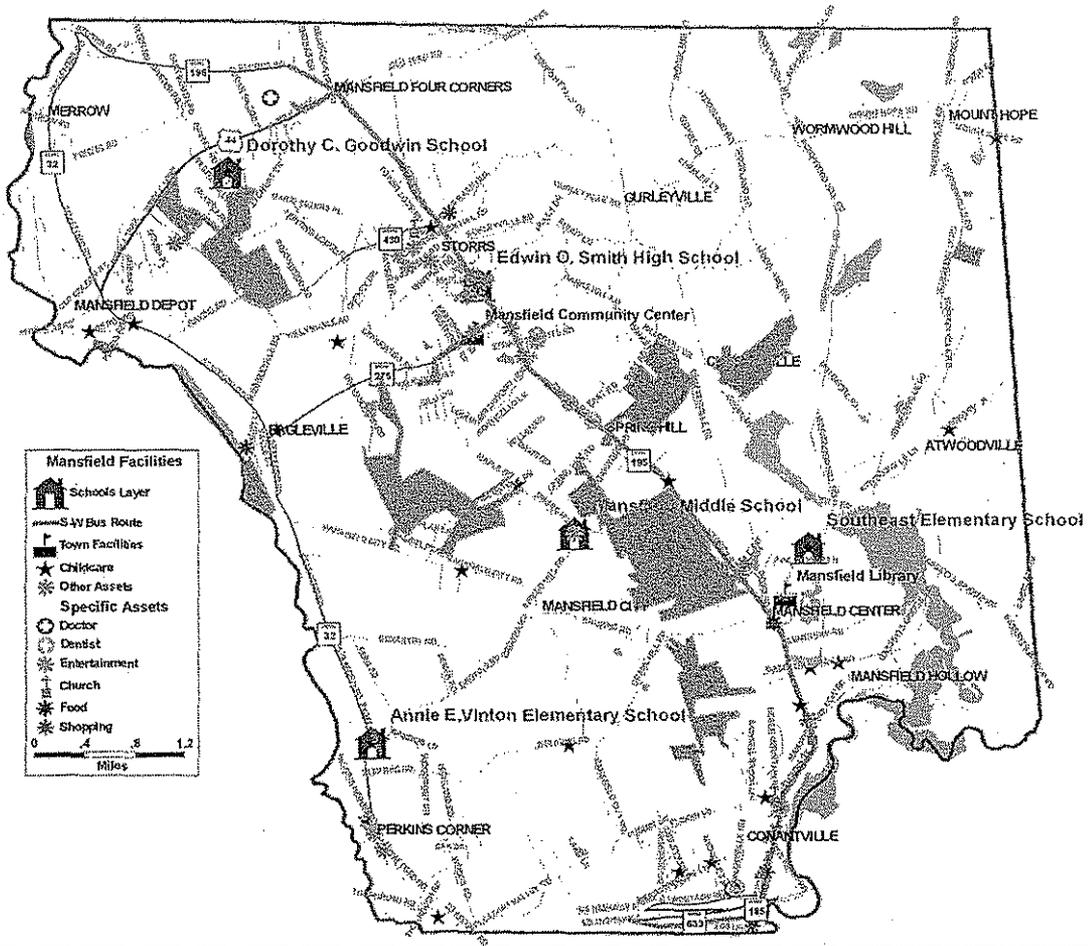
Costs incurred from the program include paying an hourly rate for bus drivers and the library assistants. Each route is expected to take five hours. Although funding will end before the summer of 2011, Baruzzi said if the program is successful the board would look to add funding for it in the town's education budget.

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Appendix 2^{NU}

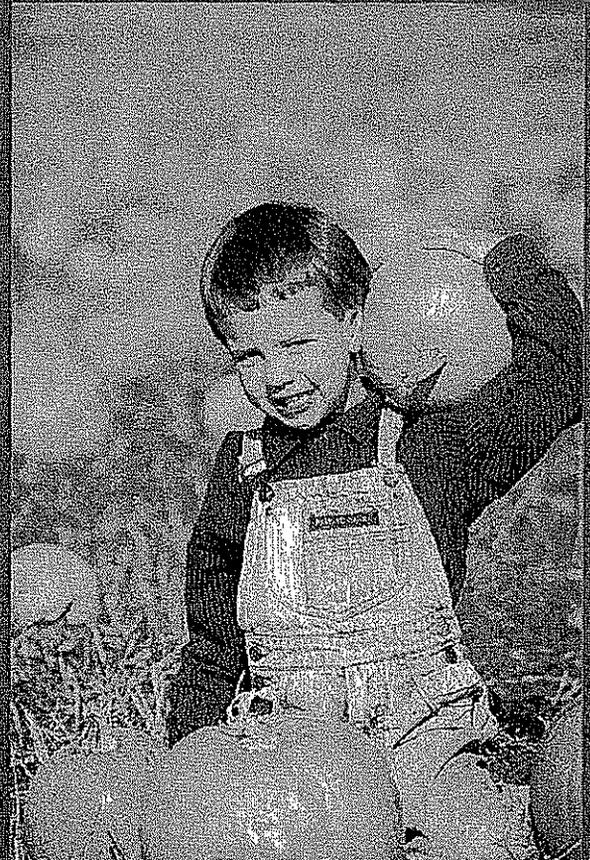
TOWN OF MANSFIELD ASSET MAP

The following map was developed to pinpoint the location of Mansfield's most precious assets. By no means is the map complete, but it provides a starting point for the conversation about how to build a strong community.



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”^{NUNU}

- Margaret Mead



UConn Farm and Barn photos courtesy of Art Kostapapas

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**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *MWH*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager; Kevin Grunwald, Director of Human Services
Date: August 10, 2009
Re: Volunteer Driver Program

Subject Matter/Background

There is interest within the community in expanding existing transportation options for seniors and residents with disabilities. A request has been made to explore whether or not the Town or the Mansfield Senior Center Association would be able to coordinate a volunteer driver program.

The Council has been asked to request an exploration of policies and procedures required to implement a volunteer driver program, either under the auspices of the Town or the Senior Center Association. Questions to be considered in this process include a needs assessment, liability, staffing and other associated costs. This exploration should also include an analysis of best practices involving driver screening and training, vehicle inspections and background checks.

Financial Impact

There would be an impact on staffing to coordinate this program if this is operated by the Town, along with a potential increase in insurance premiums based on our claims experience.

Legal Review

Any plan for volunteer transportation should be reviewed by the Town Attorney to determine the degree of liability that the Town would be assuming through this program.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that we proceed with an exploration of options to develop and implement a volunteer driver program for seniors and people with disabilities. Once this examination is completed staff will make a recommendation to the Council as to how to proceed.

If Council concurs with this recommendation, it can indicate its support via consensus or by resolution.

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**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *MWH*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant to the Town Manager; Cynthia van Zelm, Executive Director, Mansfield Downtown Partnership; Lon Hultgren, Director of Public Works
Date: August 10, 2009
Re: Establishment of Parking Steering Committee for Storrs Center

Subject Matter/Background

The Storrs Center project will create a variety of parking – an intermodal facility, on-street and surface parking - to accommodate the mixed-use downtown which will include shops, restaurants, offices, housing, parks and open space. The goal is for parking at Storrs Center to be user-friendly, convenient and affordable.

In June 2007, the Storrs Center Special Design District Master Parking Study was approved by the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission as part of the Storrs Center Special Design District. The parking study requires that a specific number of parking spaces, by use, be included in Storrs Center.

Storrs Center received one of its last major approvals (a permit for improvements to Storrs Road) on June 16, 2009, and the project is continuing to progress toward construction, necessitating the need to move forward on a parking management plan.

On July 13, 2009, Town and Mansfield Downtown Partnership staff provided the Council with an overview of research staff has conducted on parking management systems. Staff recommended that the Town Council establish a parking steering committee to oversee the preparation of a parking management plan. During the discussion of this item, Council members inquired about expanding the charge of the steering committee to include subjects other than the preparation of a parking management plan. Council member Nesbitt distributed a communication to this effect. Staff was directed to review the feasibility of expanding the scope of the committee's purview and to prepare and present the Council with a draft charge for review and consideration.

Draft Committee Charge

For discussion purposes, staff has prepared the attached draft resolutions highlighting a proposed charge and composition for the steering committee. The language contemplates that the steering committee would be responsible for developing a parking management plan for review by the Downtown Partnership and review and approval by the Town Council. The draft also contemplates that the committee would assist with

public transportation issues and information sharing, as well as the review of various construction methodologies and the selection of the design and construction team for the Storrs Center parking facilities. Related to this topic, Council has queried whether a design-build process could be utilized in the construction of the parking garages. The Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) has informed staff that the agency will not allow the use of design-build for the first parking structure (to be built with state and federal funding). The DECD staff has explained that since the project budget is tight and construction costs are still preliminary it would be in the state's interest to first perform the full build design and then go out to bid for construction once costs are better defined. That being said, the steering committee could be of assistance in analyzing whether a general contractor, construction manager or other model would be preferable for the parking garage project.

Staff proposes that the steering committee be comprised of a representative group of key stakeholders, including representatives from the Town, Regional School District #19, the University of Connecticut, the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, citizens, adjacent private property owners, public transportation and parking professionals, and, as discussed above, master developer LeylandAlliance. It would be beneficial if some of the committee members had direct experience and responsibility with parking issues, or business management. To facilitate the process, staff suggests that I propose a slate of appointees for the Council's consideration and the Council identify and appoint its representatives to the steering committee.

Based upon Council's recent discussion, Council members may wish to add elements to the steering committee's charge or make changes to the committee's membership. Working from Council member Nesbitt's communication, I have categorized these items below. To assist the Council with its review, I have attempted to identify the issues associated with each of these subject areas:

- *Review of revenues and expenditures related to the construction, operations and maintenance of the structured and surface parking; and review of alternatives to finance the parking facilities*

It has been suggested that the steering committee could analyze the revenues and expenditures related to the construction, operations and maintenance of the structured and surface parking, and review the alternatives to finance the parking facilities. In reviewing this suggestion, the Council should consider whether assigning these tasks to the steering committee would enhance the public discussion of these subjects and assist the Council in its decision-making. The Council should also be cognizant of the fact that these subjects relate to the Town's negotiation of a development agreement with the master developer and it is important not to interfere with that process. The Town's professional staff, consulting team and Finance Committee are all well-equipped to advise the Council and the community on these topics.

- *Role of master developer LeylandAlliance*

It is important for the Council to discuss the master developer's role on the steering committee. Depending upon the charge to the committee, and whether the committee will play a significant role in advising the Council on matters related to the Town's negotiation with Leyland, Leyland may face a conflict of interest and it would be inappropriate to include them as a voting member. In this instance, it would make sense for the developer to assign a non-voting liaison to the committee. However, if the committee's charge does not include items related to the Town's negotiation with Leyland and to the extent that Leyland will own and manage parking within the project area, it could be appropriate to include them as a voting member similar to other the property owners who comprise the steering committee.

In addition to the items listed above, the Council may have other revisions that it wishes to make to the proposed charge and composition of the steering committee.

Financial Impact

Staff contemplates that existing resources from the Town and the Mansfield Downtown Partnership would initially support the work of the parking steering committee. The management plan will include a section regarding future staffing and resource needs.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Town Council form a steering committee to oversee the development of a comprehensive parking management plan for Storrs Center, as well as various related tasks. Through its research and experience, staff and the Town's parking consultant have concluded that a comprehensive management plan is a critical first step to addressing the parking issues associated with Storrs Center. Depending upon the charge defined by the Town Council, the steering committee may assist with the implementation of the plan and play a continued role with the oversight of parking at Storrs Center. The parking management plan will address implementation and oversight issues, and could recommend the establishment a different structure, such as parking authority.

For Monday's meeting, staff requests that the Council review the draft resolutions necessary to establish a Storrs Center parking steering committee, and discuss what additions and revisions Council might deem appropriate to finalize the recommendations.

Attachments

- 1) Proposed resolution dated August 10, 2009
- 2) G. Nesbitt re: Expanded Parking Steering Committee Discussion



**Town of Mansfield
TOWN COUNCIL**

DRAFT

**Proposed Resolutions to Establish a Parking Steering Committee
for Storrs Center**

August 10, 2009

**A. RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH AND ISSUE CHARGE TO A PARKING
STEERING COMMITTEE FOR STORRS CENTER**

WHEREAS, the Storrs Center downtown project incorporates a mix of uses including shops, restaurants, offices, housing, parks, and open space; and

WHEREAS, a variety of parking, including an intermodal facility, on-street and surface parking, is needed to accommodate the uses associated with Storrs Center; and

WHEREAS, the Storrs Center Special Design District Master Parking Study was approved by the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission as part of the Storrs Center Special Design District on June 18, 2007, which requires that a specific number of parking spaces, by use, be included in the Storrs Center project; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that parking at Storrs Center be user-friendly, convenient, and affordable; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Mansfield will own the initial intermodal facility and the interior streets in Storrs Center; and

WHEREAS, the Storrs Center project received one of its last major approvals (a permit for improvements to Storrs Road) on June 16, 2009, and the project is continuing to progress toward construction, necessitating the need to move forward on a parking management plan; and

WHEREAS, there are several Town, University of Connecticut, and private surface parking lots immediately adjacent to the Storrs Center project area that will be affected by parking for Storrs Center; and

WHEREAS, the input of adjacent property owners, other interested parties and the Mansfield community is necessary for the development of a parking management plan that meets the goals of Storrs Center; and

WHEREAS, an advisory Steering Committee would assist the Town and the Mansfield Downtown Partnership in planning for parking in Storrs Center; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to establish a Steering Committee to assist in the coordination and planning for parking at Storrs Center:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

A Parking Steering Committee is established for the Storrs Center project and is authorized to perform the following charge:

- Oversee development of a parking management plan for Storrs Center (intermodal facility, surface parking, on-street parking, and adjacent parking areas) including but not limited to an evaluation of parking management structures; parking operational systems; development of access control and enforcement strategies; evaluation of the cost of operational and enforcement systems; creation of regulatory and wayfinding parking signage; creation of a public communications strategy about parking options;
- Assist Town of Mansfield staff and the Town Transportation Advisory Committee with public transportation issues;
- Assist Town of Mansfield staff with review of various construction methodologies, and the selection of the design and construction team for parking facilities to be constructed in connection with the Storrs Center project;
- Assist with information sharing and public input for the project amongst adjacent property owners, other interested parties and the Mansfield community;
- Present the management plan to the Mansfield Downtown Partnership's Board of Directors for its review and endorsement; and
- Present the management plan to the Town Council for its review and approval.

B. RESOLUTION TO APPOINT MEMBERS OF PARKING STEERING COMMITTEE FOR STORRS CENTER

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to appoint a Parking Steering Committee for Storrs Center:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED TO:

Appoint a Storrs Center Parking Steering Committee with the following members:

1. Town Council (*one or more representatives?*)
2. One representative from Regional School District #19
3. One representative from the University of Connecticut
4. One representative from the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc.
5. Two Mansfield citizens including at least one adjacent private property owner
6. One representative from a local public transportation provider

7. One representative from Storrs Center master developer LeylandAlliance (*liaison only or full member?*)

Staff and Ex-officio members:

1. Town Manager
2. Town of Mansfield Public Works Director
3. Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc. Executive Director
4. Town's Parking consultant

Expanded Parking Steering Committee Discussion

Matt's initial proposal is to focus on the management aspects of Storrs Center parking. I submit that all of the issues related to parking in the Storrs Center area should be openly discussed and most should become part of the charge of a Parking Steering Committee. Many of these are policy related and have not been discussed in any open format.

Specific issues

1. Management (oversight) of parking – Management authority?
2. Operations
 - review of assumptions used for expenditure/cost projections (all components of parking including garage 1 and garage 2, surface parking, adjacent parking areas)
3. Public transportation component (coordination with regional and state authorities)
4. Parking garage 1
 - a. Construction
 - Fixed cost basis vs. contingencies for cost-overruns (relates to Design build vs contract)
 - Design
 - Construction oversight for town
 - If cost overruns- source of additional funding
 - b. Dissemination of information to the public
5. Parking garage 2
 - a. Costs and financing alternatives including different types of bonding (revenue vs general obligation)
 - b. Dissemination of information to the public
6. Members of Parking Steering Committee
 - Suggest:
 - a. Contractor familiar with both design build and traditional contracts
 - b. Public transportation person (both from design and operational aspects)
 - c. Parking garage operations/management experience member
 - d. Mansfield residents-
 - e. U-Conn
 - f. Mansfield Downtown Partnership
 - g. E.D Smith
 - h. Council representation

I envision the Parking Steering Committee will review, study, and make recommendations to the Council that will lead to defined policies and recommendations related to the various issues associated with parking in and around Storrs Center. I would use town staff and town consultants as resources, not appointed members of the steering committee. Since several of the items are town policy issues that must be defined prior to a Town-Leyland contract, I would not include Leyland as a separate representative. They would still have input through the MDP.

This committee would not be expected to be a long-standing Management/operations advisory committee, but rather would be charged with developing recommendations in all of the areas noted.

The Council would need to provide administrative support to the Committee. The Committee would need to have access to all information that is not proprietary from the Town, Consultants and MDP..

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TOWN OF MANSFIELD
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF JUNE 8, 2009

Members Present: C. Schaefer, B. Clouette, Mayor Paterson (ex officio)

Other Council Members Present: Helen Koehn, Gene Nesbitt

Staff Present: M. Hart, J. Smith, C. Trahan, C. Gamache

Guests: None

Meeting to order at 6:00pm.

1. Minutes from 5/11/09 meeting approved as presented
2. The Purchasing Ordinance was discussed further. Proposed language changes for timely invoicing was discussed as well as environmentally preferred purchasing. Some previous changes to text need to be included in the document as well. Carl Schaefer made a motion that the Finance Committee will present the Purchasing Ordinance with all discussed revisions at the next Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Bruce Clouette.
3. A request to transfer uncollected taxes to the Property Tax Suspense Book was discussed. Helen Koehn questioned whether this list could be posted on our website. Cherie Trahan will find out more information for further discussion by the Finance Committee. A motion was made and seconded to recommend the Town Council to move the uncollected tax list (totalling \$95,536.61) to the Suspense Book.
4. Capital Projects closeouts and adjustments. Cherie Trahan reviewed the list of capital projects that need funding adjustments and those that can be closed. Two projects can be cancelled – Police Cruiser and Refurbish ET 507. Funding from the Board of Education into the Deferred Maintenance Account needs to be officially recognized by the Town Council and appropriated in the Capital Projects Fund. The net adjustment is an increase of \$19,267. The Committee agreed to recommend the adjustments as presented to the Town Council.
5. Inter-local agreement with Columbia. Cherie Trahan gave a status report on the current agreement with Columbia. She also presented a proposed agreement for services from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 in the amount of \$30,000. The Committee agreed to bring the proposed agreement to the Town Council on June 22, 2009. Cherie Trahan will provide a breakdown of the proposed revenues and costs involved.
6. Future Agenda items – Rescue Billing.
7. Other Items – Jeff Smith reported that energy savings estimates have been overstated. At this time it appears that we will not have significant savings, but should remain within budget.

Motions:

Motion was made to accept the May 11, 2009 minutes by Carl Schaefer and seconded by Bruce Clouette. Motion so passed.

Motion was made to present the revised Purchasing Ordinance to the Town Council on June 22, 2009 by Carl Schaefer and seconded by Bruce Clouette. Motion so passed.

Motion was made to recommend the Town Council transfer \$95,536.61 in uncollected property taxes as listed by the Collector of Revenue to the Property Tax Suspense Book by Carl Schaefer and seconded by Bruce Clouette. Motion so passed.

Motion was made by Carl Schaefer and seconded by Bruce Clouette to adjourn. Motion so passed.

8. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cherie Trahan
Controller/Treasurer



CEMETERY COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 26, 2009

3:30 pm

ROOM B

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING

Present: Isabelle Atwood (Chair), Barry Burnham, Rudy Favretti, Mary Landeck, Ethel Larkin,

Staff present: Lon Hultgren, Mary Stanton,

- The Chair recognized Karen Taylor who spoke about her wish to clean up the Durkee Cemetery. Ms. Taylor noted that there is a branch over hanging the stones that should be examined. The Public Works Department will do so.
- Maintenance Spring and Summer 2009 – The Committee agreed to continue with the same maintenance plan as in 2008. Mr. Hultgren will forward a letter to Mr. Dillman outlining the maintenance work.
- Ms. Atwood suggested wording for the template that the Committee was asked to provide to the Strategic Planning Committee. All members were in agreement with her suggestions. The Town Clerk will provide the information to the Town Manager's office.
- Restoration – Ms. Atwood and the Town Clerk will contact Tri County Memorials regarding restoration of the brown monolith in the Mansfield Center Cemetery. Mr. Favretti has the needed specifications for the restoration.
- Gurleyville Burial Grounds- Mr. Hultgren showed slides of the work to date. His Department will finish the work in the next few weeks including cleaning roots and rocks out of the area designated for urns. Mr. Favretti suggested the Town receive authorization from families prior to the scattering of ashes. He will provide a copy of an authorization form. Mr. Favretti will also compile pricing information and rules prior to the next meeting.
- Brochure – The cemetery brochure will have to be revisited so as to include the new cremation burial grounds information and pricing. Ms. Landeck suggested that a reference be made to material regarding the cemeteries that is stored in the Town Clerk's vault. Members were in agreement.

The next meeting of the Committee will be scheduled for midsummer.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 P M

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

APPROVED MINUTES

Town of Mansfield
Communications Advisory Committee
June 15, 2009, 7:00 pm
Audrey P. Beck Building, Conference Room B

I. Called to Order at 7:15. Attending: R. Pellegrine, A. Booth, T. Moran (Chair), P. McGlamery (Reporting), J. Blyska, Jaime Russell.

II. Approval of Minutes. R. Pellegrine motioned to pass, T. Moran seconded. Minutes accepted.

III. Public Comment: None

IV. Old Business

A. Budget Process:

a) Chair Moran's letter was approved and signed.

b) The Committee suggested that for the Referendum vote, signs be put up in the Town Hall reminding voters that the Town Budget document is available in the Town Clerk's and Town Manager's offices.

c) The Committee discussed the proposed survey at the Referendum and the difficult logistics involved. General agreement was that the initial survey performed at the Town Meeting serves the purpose of the Committee. R. Pellegrine moved to cancel the Referendum survey, A. Booth seconded., motion passed. There will not be a survey at the Referendum Vote on Tuesday, June 16th. T. Moran will contact L. Fecho, alerting her that she does not have to reformat the survey.

B. Membership Issues:

Joe Blyska was welcomed. T. Moran announced her resignation. T. Moran announced that L. Fecho has agreed to serve as Chair. Committee agreed unanimously and wished Chair Moran well.

C. Communications Channels:

P. McGlamery agreed to convert spreadsheet format to Word, single page format. Members will print their own and submit a sheet for each channel. J. Blyska agreed to share Static - Web; Digital - Wiki, Blog, social network (Facebook, Myspace, etc.); Static - signage, bulletin boards; Human - Face to Face with P. McGlamery.

- D. Survey Results:
 - T. Moran asked for help compiling.
- E. Communication Policy Development:
 - P. McGlamery will send link to Web Heuristics.

V. New Business:

Note was made of the FOI meeting on June 25th.

R. Pellegrine, in thinking of "Print Media" noted the obscure nature of Ordinance language. A discussion of "plain language" ensued. T. Moran suggested a review of all ordinances published by the Town in the last 12 months with an intent of advising a Elements of Style for ordinances in order to enhance communication.

VI. Reports: None

VII. Communications: None

VIII. Agenda for the Next Meeting: Budget, Communication Channel Inventory, Survey Results and Communication Policy Development.

IX. Adjournment: 8:15

ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 Meeting of Tuesday, 03 March 2009
 Mansfield Community Center (MCC) Conference Room
 MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05p by Acting Chair Kim Bova. *Members present:* Jay Ames, Kim Bova, Thomas Bruhn, Joan Prugh, Blanche Serban. *Members absent:* Leon Bailey, Scott Lehmann. *Others present:* Jay O'Keefe (staff).
2. The draft minutes of the 06 January 2009 meeting were approved as written.
3. No public comments were received since the last meeting.
4. **Correspondence.** Taylor Anderson would like to have a reception on Wednesday, April 1st, at 3:30 p.m. He plans to show the committee the invitations before he sends them out.
5. **Coffee house readings.** Mary Francis organized a Memoir Reading session to be held at the Community Center on Tuesday, march 3rd, 7 to 9 p.m. Joah Prugh plans to participate.
6. **Downtown Partnership.** Kim reported that the town is planning for the Mansfield Festival to be held on September 11-12-13. Due to changes in the budget, a tent for displaying art might not be available, and the town proposes to show the art inside the empty building space behind Store 24/7. The Saturday firework show could be replaced by a local talent show. A local entertainment could also be organized on Friday evening. Thomas will inquire at the Ballard Institute of Puppetry about the possibility of organizing a puppetry performance.
7. **Insurance** for the art on display at the Community Center. Jay O. reported he had filled a request to include art displayed at the MCC in its insurance coverage, and is waiting for the insurance response. He will be able to specify the value of the coverage to the next meeting. The exhibition application was revised so that insurance coverage would be offered to the artists who list and value their works individually, while the artists who do not do so thereby would waive insurance coverage
8. **Membership update.** The committee welcomed Thomas Bruhn as a new member. J.O. reported that Leon Bailey resigned. The Committee again has an opening.
9. **MCC art displays.**
 - a. The town is interested in organizing an art display celebrating the **Earth Day** between April 15th and May 1st. Also, the town will like to reserve the glass cases for a display advertising the **Town Festival** during the month of September.
 - b. Joan found out that **Alex Delehanty** is interested in using both glass cases for the sculpy show.
 - c. **Coming exhibitions.** Kim will invite a local artist to exhibit her quilts. Jay A. and Blanche will bring applications for exhibitions to the next meeting. The Committee discussed ways to involve the local elementary and middle schools to organize an exhibition of children's art. The members agreed that spring might be the best time for such a show, and that the art teachers should be in charge of selecting the artwork. Blanche will inquire informally about this at Goodwin Elementary School. Jay A. volunteered to draft a letter to the art teachers inviting them to put together an exhibition next year.

Exhibit Period	Entry cases		Sitting room		Hallway	
	Double-sided	Shelves	Upper (5)	Lower (3)	Long (5)	Short (2)
Winter 15 Jan – 15 Apr	<i>Nancy Conlon</i> (decorated boxes, frames, etc.)		<i>Joan Cole</i> (lithographs)	<i>Taylor Anderson</i> (photos)		
Spring 15 Apr – 15 Jul	<i>Alex Delehanty</i> (sculpy work)					
Summer 15 Jul-15 Oct	<i>William Stallman ?</i> (sculptured made from found objects)					

8. **Adjourned** at 7:05 p.m. Next meeting: Tuesday, 07 April 09, 7:00 p.m.
 Blanche Serban, Acting Secretary, 03 March 09

ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting of Tuesday, 07 July 2009
Mansfield Community Center (MCC) Conference Room

MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:04p by Chair Kim Bova. *Members present:* Jay Ames, Kim Bova, Tom Bruhn, Scott Lehmann, Joan Prugh, Blanche Serban. *Members absent:* none. *Others present:* Jay O'Keefe (staff).

2. The draft minutes of the 02 June 09 meeting were approved as written.

3. **Correspondence.** Derri Owen has asked about the Committee's reaction to her proposed show to benefit the Social Services Department (item 3b, 05 May 09 minutes), which apparently was not communicated to her. Kim will do so.

4. **Coffee House programs.** When Tom Terry gets back in town, Joan will contact him about having his flamenco guitar group do an informal program at the MCC similar to those it has given at WindhamARTS.

5. **Festival on the Green Art Show.** Kim has volunteered to install the Festival on the Green's Art Show on 13 September, but she would like some help, as she is also the Festival's photographer; Jay A. can probably do this. Display panels are needed for hanging flat art; Jay A. suggested that the AAC investigate purchasing such panels, but it is not clear that we have any money. Jay O'K will investigate the status of our \$500 budget line.

6. **Art display form.** The new art display form will be put into use as soon as Scott sends it to Jay O'K.

7. **MCC art displays.**

a. **Michael Allison** has applied to show colored wooden bowls in the display cases. His pieces have appeared at the MCC as part of the Woodturners exhibit in winter 2005 and also last fall's exhibit of prize pieces from the 2008 Festival on the Green Art Show. On the basis of photos of some of the works he proposes to show, the AAC approved the exhibit for the winter quarter of 2010 – subject to seeing all the pieces (or photos thereof) before they are installed, in accord with policy. Joan will call Mr. Allison to let him know.

b. **Jay Ames** offered to exhibit works in the sitting room in the fall if nobody else steps forward.

c. **Blanche Serban** was disappointed that relatively few people attended the **artist's reception** for herself and Alex Delehanty (Friday, 12 June, 5-6 PM). Press releases sent to the media generated no publicity, alas, and the time may have been inconvenient.

Exhibit Period	Entry cases		Sitting room		Hallway	
	Double-sided	Shelves	Upper (5)	Lower (3)	Long (5)	Short (2)
Spring 15 Apr – 15 Jul	<i>Alex Delehanty</i> (sculpy work)		<i>Blanche Serban</i> (oils)			
Summer 15 Jul – 15 Oct	8/15 – 10/15 <i>Festival on the Green</i>		<i>Liviu Cupceanu</i> (various media)			
Fall 15 Oct – 15 Jan	<i>William Stallman?</i> (found object sculpture)				<i>Sylvia Smith</i> (water media)	
Winter 15 Jan – 15 Apr	<i>Michael Allison</i> (colored wooden bowls)					

7. **Know Your Towns Fair.** Scott will get information on reserving a table at Know Your Towns Fair (Sep 12) to advertise display opportunities and local arts groups; details can be discussed at the August meeting.

8. **Adjourned** at 7:35p. Next meeting: Tuesday, 04 August 09, 7:00p.

Scott Lehmann, Acting Secretary, 09 July 09

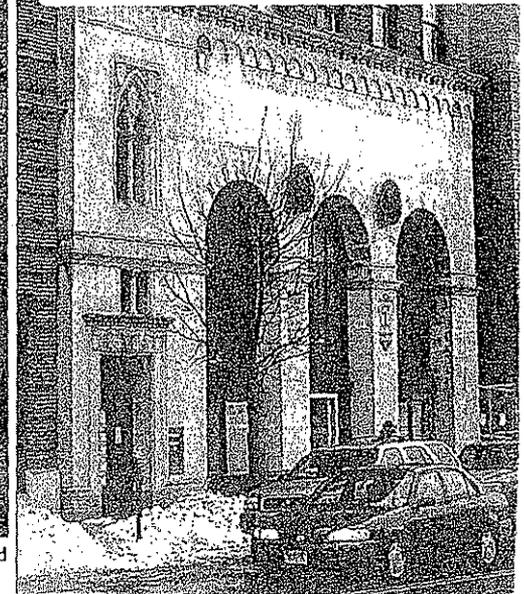
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Robert Gordon

Item #7



Medad Stone Tavern, Guilford



The Commercial Trust Company building, New Britain

A Tavern, A Bank, and A Dam

Three sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places illustrate the effects of larger events on Connecticut history, from the politics of road construction, to financial booms and busts, to the vast expansion of the federal government's local role in the 20th century.

Despite its name, the **Medad Stone Tavern**, in Guilford, never actually served as a tavern. It was built as a gamble, in 1800, along the road that Stone, a Guilford tavernkeeper and postmaster, hoped would become a new turnpike carrying traffic from New York to Boston. Unfortunately for Stone, the turnpike was built elsewhere, and his expansive tavern became a farm-

house. It passed down through successive generations of the Davis-Hubbard family until it was willed to the Guilford Keeping Society in 2001.

The little altered house retains its original tavern layout and features, including unusually massive framing (perhaps to accommodate wear and tear of public use), a large kitchen and other work areas, formal parlors for entertaining, numerous bedrooms, and a two-story veranda that wraps around the front and one side.

Family papers held by the Guilford Keeping Society document the property's history, including the division of the house among various family members. When

Joel Davis died in 1861, his will divided ownership of the house's rooms among his survivors. Joel's widow, Acsah, received one-third of the living space, including

continued on page 9

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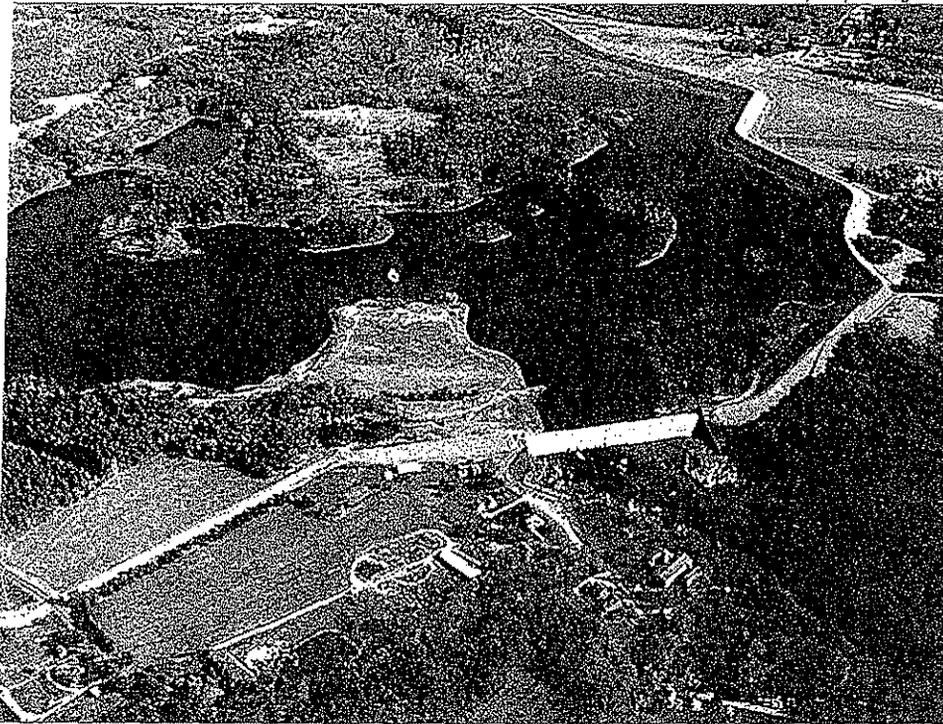
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Mansfield Hollow Dam, Mansfield

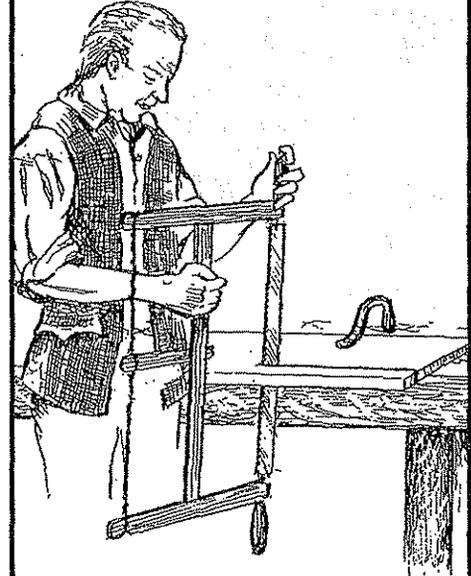
the Smoke Oven room and two bedrooms; she and her daughter Sarah also shared the old kitchen. Sarah received four other rooms on her own. Joel's son Joel Leonard received the first- and second-floor halls and four other rooms. While dividing rooms of a single dwelling among different owners was well known in colonial Connecticut, by the second half of the 19th century it had become very rare.

The house sits among woodlands and pastures surrounded by stone walls. Also on the site are a large barn built in 1898, a 19th-century corn crib, and a garage constructed with timber felled by the 1938 hurricane.

In New Britain, the **Commercial Trust Company building** is a symbol of both the prosperity of the late 1920s and of the hardship that hit financial institutions after the stock market crash of 1929. Organized in 1915 to serve New Britain's booming hardware industry and its employees, the company soon erected a new headquarters on a prominent downtown site. When it opened in November of 1927, the building, designed by the New York firm of Hopkins and Dentz, was featured in a special section of the *New Britain Herald*.

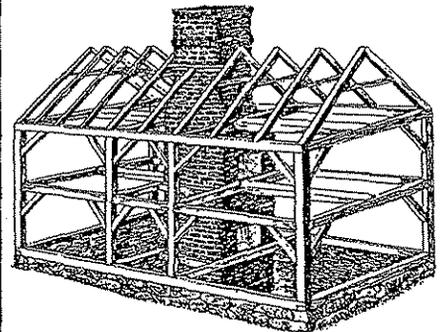
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West River Restoration

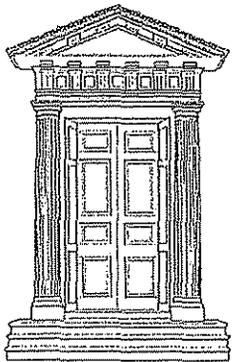


18th and early 19th century structural repair, restoration and recreation.

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Designed to express Commercial Trust's strength, stability, and good taste, the building employed expensive materials such as limestone, marble and bronze, along with careful attention to well-coordinated details, such as classical moldings and repeated use of the company's logo, a blacksmith's anvil, all employing a mix of stylistic influences that includes neo-classical, Venetian Gothic, and Italian Renaissance Revival. The banking hall was described as "early Florentine Classic." The seven-story building is the tallest in its streetscape, providing in addition to the banking facilities, rental offices on the upper floors.

Less than two years after the new building opened, the stock market crash decimated financial markets as panicked depositors rushed to withdraw their money. Commercial Trust closed its doors on December 13, 1930. In 1938 the property was acquired by New Britain National Bank, and it continued to serve as a bank until 1996.

The building sat vacant for over ten years, until Aron Eisenberg, a developer from New York, secured equity and debt financing to convert it to 28 apartments for senior citizens, along with ground-floor retail in the banking hall, which still contains the original sconces and chandeliers, and marble walls, as well as much of its brass trim at the doors, bank vault and elevator. A seven-story elevator tower at the back of the building will allow it to meet modern code requirements.

More than one-third of the project's cost will come from Federal and State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits, which has meant that the work must meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The balance of the financing is coming from Bank of America debt financing, Housing Credits, Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, owner equity and the City of New Britain. Residential occupancy is scheduled for April 2010.

The **Mansfield Hollow Dam**, in Mansfield, was the first flood control project constructed by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers in Connecticut. After severe floods paralyzed New England in 1936, Congress passed the Flood Control Act of 1936, which gave the Corps the responsibility for carrying out a national policy on floor control. Additional flooding caused by the hurricane of 1938 led to the creation of a flood control plan for the Thames River basin, to protect communities and industrial facilities, which had suffered extensive damage. The plan called for seven reservoirs, four located in the upper Quinebaug basin in Massachusetts, and three in the upper Shetucket basin in Connecticut.

The Mansfield Hollow Dam was authorized in 1941, but civil works projects not directly related to World War II ceased in 1943 and did not resume until 1947. Construction at Mansfield did not start until 1949, after the Corps modified its plan to reduce the amount of property taken and the number of houses to be relocated or demolished and eliminated the relocation of two cemeteries—all in response to vocal community opposition in Mansfield. Further delays resulted when bids came in substantially above government estimates.

The dam was completed in 1952 and showed its worth in 1955, when torrential rains from Hurricane Diane fell across southern New England. While flooding still was extensive, the Mansfield Hollow reservoir filled to 67 percent of its capacity and was estimated to have reduced damage by more than \$3 million.

The dam is located on the Natchaug River about five miles above its confluence with the Shetucket River at Willimantic. It consists of a rolled-filled earth dam approximately 14,000 feet long and 15 feet wide, a spillway with a concrete ogee weir, and mechanical works to control outflow. Six earth-fill dikes extend the dam, and provide storage capacity for recreation and flood control. Other related structures consist of a control house, and administration building/garage, and an early 20th-century house used as dam operator's quarters until 2002.

The dam actually was listed on the National Register in 2003, but due to the Army's signoff procedures the listing was not publicly announced June of this year. ❖

NOTICE OF PUBLIC OFFERING HISTORIC PONY TRUSS STRUCTURE

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (ConnDOT) has completed a design for the rehabilitation of Bridge No. 03852, which carries Hales Road over the Metro-North Commuter Railroad in the town of Westport. The proposed construction, which is being performed under State Project No. 158-200, is anticipated to begin in April 2010.

The project involves the replacement of the bridge superstructure, which is a circa 1891 riveted steel Warren-pattern pony truss structure. The trusses span 53 feet between bearings, and the width between truss centers measures 25 feet. The trusses and their connecting floorbeams possess historical and engineering significance. The bridge is featured in ConnDOT's *Historic Bridge Inventory* dated May 1991 and in ConnDOT's 1991 publication entitled, *Connecticut's Historic Highway Bridges*. Connecticut's State Historic Preservation Office has deemed the bridge to be eligible for inclusion in the *National Register of Historic Places*.

ConnDOT is seeking to donate the steel pony truss structure for the purpose of establishing its off-site adaptive re-use. Anyone wishing to take possession of the structure upon its removal must express a bona fide intention to utilize it in a manner consistent with preservation of this historic engineering resource. Interested parties may obtain additional information by contacting Ms. Mary E. Baker, Transportation Engineer at ConnDOT's Bureau of Engineering and Construction, Division of Consultant Design, during office hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., excluding holidays, at (860) 594-3402. **This offer will terminate 2 weeks from the date of this publication.**

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UCONN STUDENTS LIVING ON-CAMPUS AT STORRS, 1989-2009
UPDATED AS OF JULY, 2009

<u>Acad. Year</u>	<u>Undergrad/ Non-Degree</u>	<u>Grad.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Spring, 1989	8,911	437	9,348
Fall, 1989	8,772	432	9,204
Spring, 1990	8,067	425	8,492
Fall, 1990	8,655	433	9,088
Spring, 1991	7,915	405	8,320
Fall, 1991	8,191	441	8,632
Spring, 1992	7,437	430	7,867
Fall, 1992	7,628	424	8,052
Spring, 1993	6,889	428	7,317
Fall, 1993	7,152	465	7,615
Spring, 1994	6,390	456	6,846
Fall, 1994	6,702	421	7,123
Spring, 1995	6,100	414	6,514
Fall, 1995	6,567	390	6,957
Spring, 1996	6,020	410	6,430
Fall, 1996	6,675	414	7,089
Spring, 1997	6,089	372	6,471
Fall, 1997	6,473	418	6,819
Spring, 1998	5,969	378	6,347
Fall, 1998	7,212	414	7,626
Spring, 1999	6,635	417	7,052
Fall, 1999	7,818	430	8,248
Spring, 2000	7,142	411	7,553
Fall, 2000	8,259	440	8,699
Spring, 2001	7,952	421	8,373
Fall, 2001	9,247	543	9,790
Spring, 2002	8,223	425	8,648
Fall, 2002	9,868	449	10,317
Spring, 2003	9,409	560	9,969
Fall, 2003	10,567	423	10,990
Spring, 2004	10,257	485	10,742
Fall, 2004	10,658	497	11,155
Spring, 2005	10,323	509	10,832
Fall, 2005	11,010	514	11,524
Spring, 2006	10,731	416	11,147
Fall, 2006	11,135	512	11,647
Spring, 2007	10,749	490	11,239
Fall, 2007	10,751	556	11,307
Spring, 2008	10,322	519	10,841
Fall, 2008	11,427	523	11,970
Spring 2009	11,025	492	11,517

**These numbers include Mansfield Apartments as well as Northwood Apartments, Charter Oak and Hilltop Apartments.
 Since Fall of 2007 these numbers include all complexes that are part of the Residential Life housing stock.
 Source: Division of Student Affairs, Housing Services, University of Connecticut

UCONN STUDENTS ENROLLED AT STORRS CAMPUS, 1989-2009
 UPDATED AS OF JULY, 2009

mic r	Undergrad. F/T	Undergrad. P/T	Total Undergrad.	Total Grad.	Total
1989	11,612	1,344	12,956	-----	
1989	12,276	1,399	13,675	6,591	20,266
1990	11,286	1,397	12,683	-----	
1990	12,307	1,265	13,572	7,001	20,573
1991	11,220	1,416	12,636	-----	
1991	11,321	1,249	13,128	4,329	17,457
1992	10,838	1,329	12,167	4,131	16,298
1992	11,321	1,170	12,491	4,399	16,890
1993	10,353	1,228	11,581	4,206	15,787
1993	10,830	1,075	11,905	4,549	16,454
1994	9,849	1,149	10,998	4,229	15,227
1994	10,328	1,058	11,386	4,503	15,889
1995	9,546	1,144	10,690	4,118 (est.)	14,808
1995	10,271	1,059	11,330	4,405	15,735
1996	9,475	1,184	10,629	4,068	14,697
1996	10,271	1,059	11,330	4,405	15,735
1997	9,557	1,106	10,663	3,882	14,545
1997	10,362	956	11,318	3,863	15,181
1998	9,567	1,142	10,709	3,287	14,355
1998	10,740	942	11,682	3,646	15,328
1999	9,894	732	10,626	3,187	13,813
1999	11,411	576	11,987	3,347	15,334
2000	10,662	718	11,380	3,152	14,532
2000	12,234	728	12,962	3,246	16,708
2001	11,309	728	12,037	3,222	15,259
2001	13,017	571	13,588	3,367	16,955
2002	12,103	928	13,031	2,867	15,898
2002	13,688	525	14,213	3,705	17,918
2003	13,136	869	14,005	3,539	17,865
2003	14,318	845	15,163	3,927	19,090
2004	13,642	899	14,541	3,815	18,507
2004	14,752	508	15,722	3,692	19,857
2005	14,170	937	15,107	3,807	19,073
2005	15,277	814	16,091	4,031	20,122
2006	14,482	843	15,325	3,851	19,176
2006	15,594	745	16,339	3,834	20,173
2007	15,027	1,056	16,083	3,408	19,491
2007	15,607	733	16,340	3,845	20,185
2008	15,693	776	16,469	3,790	20,259
2008	16,073	681	16,754	4,009	20,763
2009	16,135	785	16,920	3,795	20,715

*These numbers include Mansfield Apartments as well as Northwood Apartments, Charter Oak and Hilltop Apartments.
 Since Fall of 2007 these numbers include all complexes that are part of the Residential Life housing stock.

Source: Division of Student Affairs, Housing Services, University of Connecticut



REC'D AUG 04

Light The Night 2009

July 13, 2009

Honorary Chair
Dr. Mel Goldstein

Town Manager Matthew Hart
Beck Municipal Building
4 South Eagleville Rd.
Mansfield, CT 06268

Executive Director
Jean Montano
(203) 427-2053

Dear Town Manager Hart,

Deputy Executive Director
Dina Mariani
(203) 427-2047

Every four minutes someone is diagnosed with a blood cancer. Every ten minutes someone dies. The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) is working diligently to change these odds by finding a cure for blood cancers. With nearly 20,000 people in Connecticut living with a blood cancer, the time to find a cure is now.

Light The Night Staff

Campaign Director
Danielle LeBrando
(203) 427-2074

With your help, we could be one step closer to a cure. We hope that you will help us Light The Night. Our annual Light The Night Walks are held in four communities throughout Connecticut. Light The Night is a unique evening event that celebrates and commemorates lives touched by cancer. Survivors carry illuminated white balloons, supporters carry illuminated red balloons and gold balloons are a tribute to those who have lost their fight. Over 5,000 participants, adults and children from all walks of life, and cities and towns all throughout Connecticut will join us as we take steps toward a cure.

Campaign Manager
LuAnn Leclerc
(203) 427-2073

We invite you to join us and help start our walk. Or, you and your family can come and walk with our families at whatever walksite is most convenient for you.

Campaign Coordinator
Christianna Ward
(203) 427-2043

Waterford	Wednesday, September 30	Harkness Memorial State Park
South Windsor	Thursday, October 1	The Promenade Shops at Evergreen Walk
New Haven	Saturday, October 3	Lighthouse Point Park
Norwalk	Thursday, October 8	Calf Pasture Beach

Patient Services

Patient Services Manager
Jennifer McGarry
(203) 427-2046

Please let us know by August 7th, if you will be able to join us on this important night, so that we may plan accordingly. On behalf of our patients and their families, we thank you for your support in finding a cure for blood cancers.

Patient Services Manager
Phyllis Osterman
(203) 427-2075

Relentless for a cure,

Jean Montano
Executive Director
(203) 427-2053

Danielle LeBrando
Light The Night Director
(203) 427-2074

Jennifer McGarry
Patient Services Manager
(203) 427-2046

Connecticut Chapter

300 Research Parkway, Suite 310, Meriden, CT 06450
tel. 203.379.0445 fax. 203.379.0451 toll free 888.282.9465



PROCLAMATION FORMAT

Resolution Recognizing September as Leukemia, Lymphoma & Myeloma Awareness Month

WHEREAS, blood cancers currently afflict more than 894,543 Americans with an estimated 138,530 new cases diagnosed each year, and

WHEREAS, leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma will kill an estimated 52,910 people in the United States this year, and

WHEREAS, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, through voluntary contributions, is dedicated to finding cures for these diseases through research efforts and the support for those that suffer from them, and

WHEREAS, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society maintains offices in Fairfield County and Meriden, Connecticut to support patients with these diseases and their family members in the City of _____, and

WHEREAS, the City of _____ is similarly committed to the eradication of these diseases and supports the treatment of its citizens that suffer from them, and

WHEREAS, the City of _____ encourages private efforts to enhance research funding and education programs that address these diseases,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of _____ joins with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in designating the month of September 2008 as Leukemia, Lymphoma & Myeloma Awareness Month to enhance the understanding of blood related cancers and to encourage participation in voluntary activities to support education programs and the funding of research programs to find a cure for them.

Conn., Monday, July 27, 2009 3

Mansfield Dem slate unveiled for election

By CAITLIN M. DINEEN
Chronicle Staff Writer

MANSFIELD — Leaders of the local Democratic town committee said they are proud of their slate of endorsed candidates because it is a mixture of incumbents and new candidates.

"I think one of our strengths of the slate is our great combination of experience and fresh energy," said Democratic chairman Gregory Haddad.

Haddad said committee members were pleased with the number of residents expressing interest in a position.

"We're really pleased we attracted well qualified candidates," Haddad said.

According to Haddad, the party determines what qualities candidates would bring to their respective positions.

He said by late summer or early fall, the party develops a strategy and determines key issues for the fall campaign.

"We are a well-prepared slate of folks really committee to Mansfield," he said. "I think people appreciate that."

Although the town's mayor is selected by members of the town council after elections, current Mayor Elizabeth "Betsy" Paterson said she would not be opposed to serving as mayor again and would welcome more time.

She said the position is decided by council members, but if she were selected, she would serve again.

Paterson is currently the longest serving mayor in Mansfield history.

This fall she will complete her 10th year in the position.

According to Paterson, she is "very, very pleased" with the slate the committee is presenting to town residents.

"The committee spent a lot of time and effort interviewing candidates," she said, adding she thinks the slate of endorsed candidates would be "really good" for Mansfield.

Party-endorsed candidates include:

- Town council — Gregory Haddad, seeking re-election; Peter Kochenburger, new candidate; Toni Moran, new candidate; Elizabeth Paterson, seeking re-election; William Ryan, new candidate; and Carl Schaefer, seeking re-election.

- Mansfield board of education — Carrie Silver-Bernstein, seeking re-election, two year term; Holly Matthews, new candidate, six year term; and Randy Walikonis, new candidate, six year term.

- District 19 board of education — Jim Mark, new candidate; and John Meyers, new candidate.

- Planning and zoning commission — Barry Pociask, seeking re-election; Michael Beal, new candidate; Gregory Lewis, alternate, seeking re-election; and Ken Rawn, alternate, new candidate.

- Zoning board of appeals — Martha Fraenkel, seeking re-election; Julie Wright, seeking re-election; Sarah Accorsi, alternate, seeking re-election; and Bey Gotch, alternate, seeking re-election.

- Board of assessment appeals — Carol Thomas, seeking re-election; and Anne Greineder, new candidate.

**PAGE
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Mansfield GOP confident in election slate

By CAITLIN M. DINEEN
Chronicle Staff Writer

MANSFIELD — Officials with the Mansfield Republican Town Committee say they think their recently announced slate is the strongest group of candidates in years.

"I'm very excited with the people here," said committee Chairman Peter Plante. "This is the best and most confident slate we've put up in a while."

Plante said he was confident because each GOP candidate is unique and brings a "diversity" to a heavily Democratic Mansfield.

"The diversity they bring is very important in town and something we need," said Plante. "For too long, it's been a one-party operation."

According to Plante, the party is running on a fiscally conservative platform and town council candidates want to re-analyze town spending.

Plante said party-endorsed council candidate Lee Girard, specifically, is a good candidate

because he can apply his work life to the operations of Mansfield.

Girard is a systems analyst and would look to find "better and cheaper" ways to operate the town, said Plante.

In addition to re-vamping town operations — or get the "biggest bang for our buck" — Plante said Republicans hope to establish a timeline for the proposed \$220 million Storrs Center project.

He said a timeline should be established so in five years, so local residents can see progress instead of just talking about the project.

"At some time, you need to set goals," he said.

Incumbent Councilman Gene Nesbitt agreed with Plante and said candidates presented would work across party lines to best serve Mansfield. "It's not Democrats versus Republicans," said Nesbitt. "It's about who can do the job and provide what residents want."

According to Nesbitt, the Republican slate is "well qualified" and brings various interests

to the board and commissions they are running for. "It certainly doesn't hurt having a good balance of different interests and expertise," said Nesbitt. "As long as you provide strong leaders for the town."

GOP candidates in Mansfield, as endorsed by the party last Thursday, are:

- Town council: Gene Nesbitt, seeking re-election; Meredith Lindsey, seeking re-election; Chris Paulhus, seeking re-election; Denise Keane, new candidate; Lee Girard, new candidate; and Ric Hossack, new candidate.

- Zoning board of appeals: Carol Pellegrine, seeking re-election.

- Board of assessment appeals: Eric Holinko, seeking re-election.

- Planning and zoning commission: Ross Hall, seeking re-election; and Vera Stearns, alternate, new candidate.

- Mansfield Board of Education: Katherine Paulhus, seeking re-election.

- Regional School District 19 Board of Education: April Holinko, new candidate.

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the Chronicle, Willimantic, Conn., Saturday, August 1, 2009 3

Mansfield looks ahead to 2020

By CAITLIN M. DINEEN
Chronicle Staff Writer

MANSFIELD — Town council members unanimously adopted the town's strategic plan and its nine proposed "supporting" vision points earlier this week.

The plan — entitled "Mansfield 2020: A Unified Vision" — addresses "overarching themes" for Mansfield's future.

Themes, also known as the plan's "vision points," include: K-12 education and early childhood development; historic and rural character, open space and working farms; housing; public safety; recreation, health and wellness; regionalism; senior services; sustainability, and planning; and university/town relations.

In addition to those nine points, a "town government" vision point will be presented to the council in August.

Before approving the plan and the vision points — which have been in progress since 2007 — Council member Helen Koehn said she thought it was "premature" to take action on the plan.

"I think to support the vision points as presented is premature at this point," said Koehn during the council's meeting Monday night.

Koehn said there had not been a public forum regarding the points and thought feedback given to the council Monday from advisory committees and elected boards was not well documented.

She said she would have liked to know the meeting dates where the strategic plan was discussed and who was involved in the discussion.

Koehn said she would like this information because it was important for "citizens to know how the final product came together."

Mansfield Mayor Elizabeth "Betsy" Paterson said she did not understand the need to have that much detail for residents.

"I don't necessarily care who voted for what as long as the majority voted in favor of it," she said.

According to Maria Capriola, assistant to the town manager, committees and boards were asked to give their input and give suggestions regarding the vision points.

Capriola said, although committees and boards were given a template to follow, she did not control how they documented feedback.

She said it took months to both distribute the strategic plan and its vision points to committees and boards in town and collect their feedback.

Councilman Gene Nesbitt agreed with Koehn and said he would like another workshop to discuss the vision points further.

The council had a workshop in fall 2008 to discuss the plan.

However, Paterson said she thought it was necessary for council members to approve the vision points to stimulate future discussion.

"My concern is I think, sometimes, you can talk something to death," she said. "I see no problem supporting the vision points and then continue working with various group to work to get something down."

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Parents ticked at 'Toddler Time' demise

By CAITLIN M. DINEEN 7/22
Chronicle Staff Writer

MANSFIELD — Town council members say they are not sure if five identical letters sent to them were part of a campaign by library officials or a small group of citizens sharing the same thought.

The letter — addressed to all council members — expressed a displeasure some residents had in the “Toddler Time” program being cut from the Mansfield Public Library.

Toddler time was a play group and mini-story time designed for children younger than 3 years old and their caregivers.

It took place every Friday from 10:30 a.m. to noon and was offered nine months throughout the year, but not in April, August or December.

“It is my understanding that, due to constraints the town council has placed on the library, the library will no longer be able to offer their Toddler Time program on Friday mornings,” reads the letter, which was not dated.

The letter was typed and those who sent them signed their name and listed their home address at the bottom.

After reviewing the letter during the council meeting Monday, Mansfield Mayor Elizabeth “Betsy” Paterson said she was offended by it.

“I’m offended by the library letter,” she said. “The council did not get rid of the Toddler Time program. That was a decision by the director of the library.”

Mansfield Library Director Louise Bailey could not be reached for comment.

Paterson said the letter upset her because, during the recent budget season, council members were responsible for cutting funds to craft a passable budget that had to be fair to all town-funded entities.

“We had a job to do and we did it,” said Paterson. “We cut from all different departments.”

One letter sender, Mansfield resident and longtime library user Bryan Connolly, said he and his wife had typed the letter at home and printed additional copies for other parents who utilized the “Toddler Time” program.

According to Connolly, he brought the letters to the last day of the toddler program at the end of June and distributed several copies so people could send them if they wanted to.

Connolly said, due to budget constraints, the program ended a month earlier than usual.

He said he thought it was necessary to bring his displeasure to the attention of council members in hopes they would see the negative impact of reduced funding.

“It’s always about numbers,” said Connolly. “The squeaker the wheel, the more likely you’ll be to get the desired outcome.”

Compared to last year’s \$604,570 in library funding, the library received \$573,120 in municipal funding for this fiscal year.

During the recent budget cycle, \$6,660 in funding was cut specifically to reduce the library’s hours of operation and another \$19,690 was reduced from the library’s funding for purchasing new materials.

Connolly said he hoped the letter would force council members to rethink cutting library funds again.

Other council members said they weren’t offended by the letter, but were thankful residents feel comfortable enough to express their concern to them.

“I think anytime people take the time to write us that should be respected,” said council member Bruce Clouene.

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Revamped panel has spring fling oversight

By **CAITLIN M. DINEEN** 8/1
Chronicle Staff Writer

MANSFIELD — Mansfield officials have recently finalized who they want on the recently re-organized Town-University Relations Committee.

The committee accepted the responsibility of becoming the oversight committee for the University of Connecticut's Spring Weekend in April.

Spring Weekend is traditionally held near the end of the university's spring semester and is said to be a way for students to unwind before preparing for final exams.

The official weekend — which is sponsored by UConn officials — is often overshadowed by unauthorized

parties and events that are marked by excessive student drinking and rabble-rousing, mostly at off-campus locations such as the Carriage House apartments on North Eagleville Road.

Currently, the committee consists of a mix of university and town officials and Mansfield residents.

When committee members accepted the new task, they agreed unanimously to redesign the makeup of the committee.

"To facilitate this new responsibility, the committee is recommending a change and expansion in its membership," reads the agenda item summary from Town Manager Matthew Hart.

Town officials said the new recom-

mended composition of the committee puts all the "key players around the table."

The expanded committee would include the following town, university and student body representatives:

- From Mansfield: mayor, town manager, a member of the planning and zoning commission, an additional town council member, three residents.

- From UConn: The president or his designee, vice president and chief operating officer, vice president for student affairs, associate vice president for administration and operations, associate vice president for public and environmental safety and the director of off-

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New spring bash oversight

(Continued from Page 1)
campus student services.

- From UConn student body: president of the Undergraduate Student Government or his designee and the chairman of the external affairs committee of USG or his designee.

With the new member recommendations, the committee will maintain the same total number of committee members, but will represent different aspects of both Mansfield and UConn communities.

Council members agreed with the expansion, but Councilman Helen Koehn said she thought the mayor seat should be changed to the mayor or his or her designee.

She said this change would give the mayor authority to appoint someone to attend meetings for

him or her if necessary.

Although council members agreed unanimously with the change, they said they understood the need to have the mayor present on various boards and committees.

"I think it's useful to have the mayor," said Councilman Bruce Clouette. "In something like this we're trying to move the university."

According to Clouette, he thinks the town's mayor — although a ceremonial position — has more clout than regular town council members.

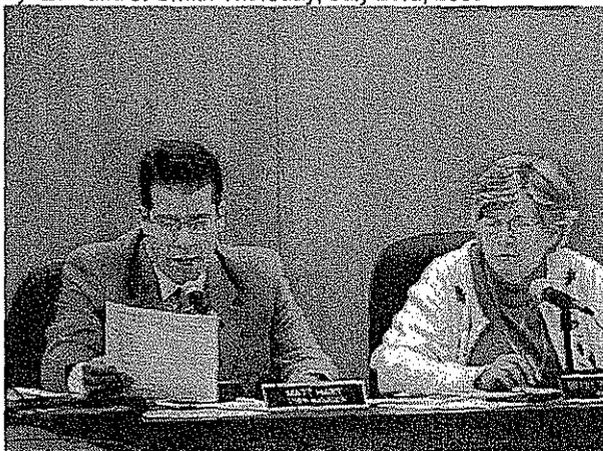
He said the mayor would act as a "point person" for the town council.

"Perhaps (this is) just to show we're putting in the top dog," said Clouette.

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You don't speak for me...

by: Edmund J. Smith Thursday, July 23rd, 2009



Town Manager Matt Hart and Mayor Betsy Paterson. File photo © by Brenda Sullivan.

To the Editor:

I attended the Mansfield Town Council meeting July 13 to take stock of how well things were going in our town. What I learned in that nearly three-hour meeting impressed as well as disturbed me.

I was impressed by the professionalism and knowledge of Town Manager Matt Hart, Mayor Betsy Paterson, Councilman Bruce Clouette, Director of Public Works Lon Hultgren and several others. Our town is lucky indeed with the quality of its staff and elected officials.

But I was disturbed to find that our town has acquired a small group of individual citizens who, in my estimation, have crossed the line from helpful gadflies to disruptive cranks.

Unelected, these individuals are attempting to take power away from you and I by throwing a proverbial wrench into the machinery of our elected government. They do this through their confrontational behavior at town meetings and through what I believe is the misuse of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act.

Every informed American supports citizen participation in government, the essence of our democracy. But with this right also comes an obligation to respect the voice of the majority, as well as to interact with government employees and officials using civility and respect.

I, myself, have filed one FOI request and am glad it was there as a tool to use. But when our town staff receives a glut of requests, to the extent that it is possibly taking a part-time position to address them, it is my right to ask those doing the frequent filing to explain their reasons. It is my and your tax dollars paying for our staff members to answer these requests.

Personally, I didn't elect you and I don't want you talking to my elected officials like you are their superior. Their bosses are all the citizens of Mansfield and we speak with one polite voice the first Tuesday in November when we elect them. They do not answer to just you and few others who are at any particular town meeting, while the rest of us are back with our families, at work, doing house chores or relaxing from a long day. In doing this, we have confidence and trust in our elected leaders to make good judgments during our absence.

Further, when you can't comprehend the simple logic our elected officials provide in response to your questions, please don't drag the meeting on when I'm waiting to speak after you and it is approaching 10:30 p.m.

Your whole affect appeared to me more confrontational and mean-spirited than born of an actual desire to understand an issue.

- Edmund J. Smith - Mansfield

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Town Committees name their candidates for November race

by: HTNP Staff Friday, July 31st, 2009



Republican Gene Nesbitt and Democrat Betsy Paterson are among the candidates for Town Council in the November 2009 elections. File photos © by Brenda Sullivan 2009.

"I think one of the strengths of our slate is our great combination of experience and fresh energy," said Democratic Town Committee Chair Gregory Haddad of his party's choice of candidates for this November's local elections.

"We're really pleased we attracted well qualified candidates," he said.

The town's mayor is selected by members of the town council after elections, but current Mayor Elizabeth "Betsy" Paterson said she'd welcome another term in that position. Paterson is currently the longest serving mayor in Mansfield history, now in her 10th year in the position.

Paterson also said she is "very, very pleased" with the Democrats' slate. "The committee spent a lot of time and effort interviewing candidates," she said.

The Democratic Town Committee-endorsed candidates include:

Town council - incumbents Gregory Haddad, Betsy Paterson and Carl Schaefer and new candidates Peter Kochenburger, Toni Moran and William Ryan.

Mansfield board of education - incumbent Carrie Silver-Bernstein, seeking re-election for a two year term; and new candidates Holly Matthews and Randy Walikonis, both running for six-year terms.

District 19 board of education - two newcomers, Jim Mark and John Meyers.

Planning and zoning commission - incumbent Barry Pociask and Gregory Lewis, (alternate); and new candidates Michael Beal and Ken Rawn (alternate).

Zoning board of appeals - incumbents Martha Fraenkel, Julie Wright, Sarah Accorsi (alternate) and Bev Gotch (alternate).

Board of assessment appeals - incumbent Carol Thomas and new candidate Anne Greineder.

Republicans confident

"This is the best and most confident slate we've put up in a while," said Republican Town Committee Chair Peter Plante.

Each GOP candidate is unique and brings "diversity" to a heavily-Democratic Mansfield, he said. "For too long, it's been a one-party operation."

Plante said the party is running on a fiscally-conservative platform and town council candidates want to re-analyze town spending.

Plante said Lee Girard, specifically, is a good candidate for town council because he is a systems analyst and would look to find "better and cheaper" ways to operate the town.

Republicans also hope to establish a timeline for the proposed \$220 million Storrs Center project, so townspeople can see progress instead of just talking about the project.

Incumbent Councilman Gene Nesbitt said GOP candidates would work across party lines to best serve Mansfield. "It's not Democrats versus Republicans," said Nesbitt. "It's about who can do the job and provide what residents want."

Nesbitt called the Republican slate "well qualified" with a variety of interests.

"It certainly doesn't hurt having a good balance of different interests and expertise," said Nesbitt. "As long as you provide strong leaders for the town."

GOP candidates endorsed by the town committee last Thursday are:

Town council: incumbents Gene Nesbitt, Meredith Lindsey and Chris Paulhus and newcomers Denise Keane, Lee Girard and Ric Hossack.

Zoning board of appeals: incumbent Carol Pellegrine.

Board of assessment appeals: incumbent Eric Holinko.

Planning and zoning commission: incumbent Ross Hall and new candidate Vera Stearns.

Mansfield Board of Education: incumbent Katherine Paulhus.

Regional School District 19 Board of Education: new candidate April Holinko.

Originally reported as two stories by Staff Writer Caitlin E. Dineen - combined and edited by HTNP.com Editor Brenda Sullivan.