



**MANSFIELD ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN  
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Thursday, January 15, 2015  
Conference Room B, Town Hall  
MINUTES

**Members Present:** Sara Anderson (staff), Susan Daley, Jordana Frost, Rachel Leclerc, Pat Schneider, Mary Sposito

**Regrets:**

| <b>WHAT<br/>(Topic)</b> | <b>DISCUSSION</b>  | <b>OUTCOME</b>   |
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| CALL TO ORDER           | Sara Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:09 am.   |  |
| CONSENT AGENDA          | Approval of the Minutes of November 17, 2014 and December 11, 2014 meetings.   | <i>The November 17, 2014 Minutes were approved by consensus.<br/><br/>Minutes for December 11 do not need approval, not enough members in attendance</i> |
| OLD BUSINESS            | <p><b>TEAM UPDATES</b><br/><b>Successful Learners:</b> Susan Daley</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Special meeting with Amy Sevell-Nelson on 1/22 to discuss K-transition plan with SL team.</li> <li>2. Initially it was thought we could have 4 or 5 meetings with Amy, but Sara thinks it may be limited to 2 or 3.</li> <li>3. School Readiness Site Visits: Visits will begin in January; Sara will attend with the newly contracted site monitor as able.</li> </ol>   | <i>1. Sara will look into how many meetings we can have with Amy.</i>  |
| NEW BUSINESS            | <p><b>Interim Report:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Graustein Interim Report - Sara went over the draft report with the group and input/updates were discussed, some of which follow: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Parent/Community Involvement – MAC has reached out and asked for PTO representation but has not gotten it yet. MAC has seen new parent involvement and/or re-engagement by previously involved parents.</li> <li>o BOE – MAC has and will continue to present to BOE yearly. It was discussed that this should be done for the Town Council as well.</li> <li>o Mary and Sara discussed meeting quarterly to discuss budget/spending.</li> <li>o Sara A. and Sarah D. have been and will continue to work proactively to track</li> </ul> </li> </ol> |  |

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|                | <p>spending.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The group commented that it is appreciated to hear what the Graustein funds cover and what would be affected if these funds were reduced or no longer available. The group discussed the need for advocacy (details that were discussed are listed under Sustainability below)</li> </ul> <p><b>Sustainability, Next Steps:</b> Sara Anderson</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It was discussed that MAC and MAC initiatives are in jeopardy if/when the Graustein funding goes away and that advocacy for the program will need to be implemented quickly.</li> <li>2. Pat suggested that MAC needs to show to potential funders/grantors that it is organized, essential, relative and in line with Town goals.</li> <li>3. Mary suggested drafting a letter to the Town Council and/or BOE letting them know the funding status and timelines as well as highlighting what MAC has done, is doing, and wants to do in the future. Susan thought maybe it could be in the form of a Thank You letter.</li> <li>4. The need for an Advocacy Plan was discussed to address sustainability as well as the need for a sub-committee or group to draft this plan.</li> <li>5. Town Council Notice for MAC to contact legislators: Sara drafted a letter to go to the Town Council notifying them that MAC intends to contact state legislators to advocate for keeping funding for community plans in the OEC budget.</li> <li>6. Sara passed around a draft Overview of MAC, <i>Who are we? What have we done? Where would Mansfield be without MAC?</i> – based on the Sustainability Questions &amp; Responses from the Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> full MAC meeting. She asked for input from the group. It was discussed that a synopsis or abstract (abbreviated version) be created for communicating with potential funders as they may not read 2 pages.</li> </ol> <p><b>Communication Consultant Interviews:</b> Start on 1/16</p> <p><b>February Meeting Agenda:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SL's – to meet with Amy Sevell-Nelson</li> <li>2. Pat suggested that Team Leaders send notice to teams to notify them of what will be discussed at the upcoming meetings.</li> </ol> | <p><i>4. Jordana agreed to draft an email to go out to the MAC members asking for a few people (3or4) to get together and draft this plan as soon as possible. Jordana will send the draft to Sara A. who will have Sarah D. distribute accordingly.</i></p> <p><i>5. The group agreed that letter was appropriate with a few minor changes that were discussed.</i></p> |
| <p>ADJOURN</p> | <p>The meeting adjourned at 11:38 am.</p> <p>Next MAC Meeting:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wednesday, February 4, 2015</b><br/> <b>5:00pm – 5:30pm</b> Arrival and Dinner<br/> <b>5:30pm – 7:30pm</b> MAC Meeting<br/> Council Chambers</p>   |  |

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|  | <p>Next Executive Council Meeting:</p> <p><b>Thursday, February 12, 2015</b><br/><b>10:00am – 11:30am</b><br/>Conference Room B, Town Hall</p> <p>Agenda topics: Please send to Sara Anderson at<br/>AndersonSD@mansfieldct.org</p> <p>Respectfully submitted,<br/>Marie Hodrinsky<br/>MAC Accountability Manager</p> |  |
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*“All Mansfield Children ages birth through 8 years old are healthy, successful learners, and their families are connected to the community.”*