



MANSFIELD ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN
Wednesday, May 1, 2013
Council Chambers – Town Hall
MINUTES

Members Present: Sara Anderson, Gloria Bent, Anne Bladen, Terry Cook, Lisa Dahn, Sarah Delia (staff), Jane Goldman, Kevin Grunwald, Cindy Guerreri, Kathleen Krider (staff), Rachel LeClerc (staff), Mary Jane Newman, Esther Soffer-Roberts, Judy Stoughton, Bill Waite,

Regrets: Ande Bloom, Susan Daley, Vicki Fry, Lisa Young

Guests: Maria Capriola, Ben Wiles

<i>WHAT</i>	<i>DISCUSSION</i>	<i>OUTCOME</i>
CALL TO ORDER	G. Bent called the meeting to order at 5:37pm.	
CONSENT AGENDA	Approval of the Minutes of April 3, 2013 meeting.	<i>The April 3, 2013 Minutes were approved without changes.</i>
GUEST SPEAKERS	<p>G. Bent introduced Assistant Town Manager Maria Capriola.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Capriola asked for responses to the three questions she and Toni Moran had posed when they visited the April meeting. • Comments from the members included: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Concern over not losing the grandparent/grandchild connection as many grandparents are caregivers 2. Affordable care 3. Requesting institutional support from the Town 4. Kevin Grunwald (Director of Human Services) key to forwarding MAC goals 5. Public Transportation key to connectedness, health and well-being 6. Health and Fitness is related to walkability and bikability 7. Programmatic support crucial – Communication Services are available 8. Transportation Study done by UConn students , looking at similar cities/towns 9. M. Capriola asked if MAC has gone to the Traffic Committee; G. Bent stated that yes , they have gone to this meeting but were not happy with the outcome 10. Partnering with Parks and Rec for Fit by Fourth. 11. Mention of the Foster grandparent program; how much communication crosses specialties 	

	<p>12. If needs grow, shouldn't resources grow as well. Projecting out 40-50 years, needs may grow in that time.</p> <p>13. Human Services seem to be functioning as silos, how would you turn them into a field, ie working together</p> <p>14. There are lots of ideas on how to change things, we rely on Kevin/staff to actually make things happen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Capriola thanked the members for their responses. 	
<p>TEAM UPDATES</p>	<p>Kevin Grunwald – Personnel update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is Kevin's last MAC meeting. • He feels his role in MAC really works and produces something. He is incredibly grateful for the RBA model and he uses it in all he does. This has been rewarding work for him. • Gloria Bent stated that she was very grateful for all the work that Kevin has done. <p>One Book: Mary Jane Newman reported on a very successful event at the library.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tent collapsed so they did sidewalk dancing which was very successful. • Jeff Smithson did an improve of the book, "Hop, Hop, Jump" • Stations were set up for crafts, healthy snacks, and coloring. • Parent surveys and children surveys as well as volunteer surveys were collected. • Feedback was obtained from home care providers and day care workers. • Thanks from Jane Goldman for the entire committee especially Mary Jane Newman and Judy Stoughton. <p>Transportation: No report from Transportation.</p> <p>Playground Committee: Sara Anderson reported on the Playground Committee activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members were on the Wayne Norman show on WILI 1400 AM. • The Take Note Concert will be on Sunday May 19 at the Storrs Congregational Church. • On June 1 there will be an Applebee Flapjack Fundraiser. • There will be a 5K Fun Run on Saturday, June 8; the committee is asking for RSVPs. The event is also listed on Facebook. • Grocery bags with the Playground logo are available for a \$3 donation. • There was an idea for a business card for MAC 	

	<p>School Readiness: Anne Bladen reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The School Readiness Grant and the Quality Education Grant are being written. • Slot allotment is fairly set for the fall. There is a waiting list for students who do not yet have a slot. <p>Kathleen Krider made an announcement about the newly named John E. Jackman Tour de Mansfield. There will be a new bike rodeo for kids.</p>	
NEW BUSINESS	<p>Development of MAC membership/Co-Chairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloria Bent stated that she will remain as Co-Chair until September and then someone would need to fill the Co-Chair position. <p>(There were questions about the School Readiness program from guest Ben Wiles.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues regarding the Before and After School programs and the costs involved came up. • Care for Kids helps parents pay for child care 	<p><i>K. Krider will learn more about the Before/After School Care @MCC. She will get more information about the fee schedule and the hourly rates.</i></p>
OLD BUSINESS	J Goldman mentioned the Community Champion, it was decided to place it in the Parking Lot.	
TEAM TIME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Partners, The membership split into groups to work on filling out the Key Partners of the Plan. The group re-convened. 	
PARKING LOT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Plan • Community Champion 	
ADJOURN	<p>The meeting adjourned at 7:29pm.</p> <p>Next MAC Executive Council Meeting, Wednesday, May 8, 2013, 2:00pm – 3:30pm at Town Hall, Conference Room B.</p> <p>Next MAC Meeting, Wednesday, June 5, 2013.</p> <p>Agenda topics: Please send to Kathleen at kriderk@mansfieldct.org</p> <p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <p>Sarah Delia Assistant to the Early Childhood Services Coordinator</p>	

All Mansfield Children ages birth through 8 years old are healthy, successful learners, and their families are connected to the community.”