



**TOWN OF MANSFIELD**  
**OFFICE OF THE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU**

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Patricia Michalak, MA  
Youth Service Bureau Coordinator

**Mansfield YSB Advisory Board**  
**Minutes**

Tuesday, December 14, 2010  
12:00 noon @ Mansfield Town Hall  
Conf. Rm. B

**Board Members**

*Present:*

Ethel Mantzaris, Chair  
Frank Perrotti, Co-Chair  
Patricia Michalak, YSB Coordinator  
Kathleen McNamara, YSB Senior Social Worker  
Kevin Grunwald, Director of Human Services  
Chuck Leavens, EOS Counselor  
Teri Hebert, Educational Consultant  
Jeff Smith, Resident  
Eileen Griffin, Social Worker, LCSW  
Sevan Angacian, UConn Ph.D. Candidate

**I. Call to Order**

- Meeting called to order at 12:03PM by Chair, Ethel Mantzaris

**II. Approval of minutes: November 9, 2010**

- Meeting minutes from November 9, 2010 were accepted and approved

**III. Reports**

*Director's Report – Kevin Grunwald*

- Holiday Programming
- Ethel asked how people find out about holiday programming, how people are eligible, and record keeping
- Can we get a donor list?
  - List will be published and will be out next week

*Coordinator's Report – Pat Michalak*

- Regional YSB's met again
- COPE program is expanding
- Post cards were mailed to each COPE family

- Kathy and Sevan met with parents at Goodwin during parent-teacher conferences
- UConn baseball boys continue to be great role models
- Planning underway for Grief Matters group
- Initial meeting took place with 19 participants and 5 volunteers present
- We already have 13 families for March 2011
- Kathy confirmed that past families come back as well
- Initiated a new program for boys at MMS – Called Boys Counsel
- Matt (YSB intern) and EO Smith senior, Dave, are helping with this; Dave is well-loved (as stated by Chuck)
- Big Friend
- Little friends and big friends went to UConn arcade
- Community Outreach provided transportation and dinner for this
- People's Bank provided basketball tickets
- Pat provided photos for the Board to look at
- Kathy indicated this is good collaboration and great for transition programming

#### **IV. Old Business**

*There has not been a Challenge meeting yet:*

- Kevin reported that Matt Hart was supposed to schedule it with Fred and it hasn't happened as Matt has been intensely involved with the downtown partnership. Frank and Kevin will attempt to meet with Matt after this meeting.

*Universal Intake Form:*

- Kevin said he has not made any particular progress here because he is working on holiday programming
- Kevin will report back to the Board in January regarding the Universal Intake Form. (in which we will not be having a formal meeting)

*YSB Budget*

- Kevin is working on it at this point Matt has not requested any changes

#### **V. New Business**

*Assisting at-risk students with transitions:*

- Leap, Challenge, Jump programs –
- Leadership program before Challenge for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students with Ken Caputo was discussed
- Might this tie it in more with what we do here at YSB? – Suggested by Kathy and Pat
- Chuck discussed all at-risk kids in Challenge versus some kids who are models for those at-risk involved in Challenge
- Kathy suggested that the Challenge kids have been disconnected from YSB – Can we get them back involved in YSB to be the role models we need in our programming?

## **VI. Other**

Chuck mentioned that Scott Driscoll, a police officer from Glastonbury, will be coming to EO Smith to talk about Internet safety and cyber-bullying

- Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-1:05, and 1:10-2:10
- He will also address faculty at the end of that day
- Eileen mentioned idea of having a meeting for parents with him, as well
- The Board is invited to this event
- Eileen and Chuck will report back in February about this

*Teri brought up Safe Choices programming:*

- Safe Choices is in planning stages for high school girls
- Will be held at Eastern this year

*Jeff brought up the Soroptomists – group of professional young women:*

- The Ball is coming up on February 5, 2011 at the Elks
- \$40/ticket

*Jeff also brought up insight about society:*

- Are boys being left behind?
- Are male minorities being left behind?
- Need to start at the grassroots –

*Jeff also mentioned alternative high school (at Depot) and where it fits in with us here at Adv. Board:*

- Chuck mentioned that the school is at capacity now and addressed the success of having a different setting for skill sets that are not necessarily engaged in the mainstream program
- Student needs to have attempted other programming within the mainstream to prove that the alternative model needs to be used for their individual success
- Pat asks – should we be more involved with this and how?
- Children can be unpredictable in that they seem to be coming in with concerns and then flourish; the opposite can also occur –
- Transitioning can be a concern, so at what point do we make the call that the student should be placed in a different setting?
- It is harder to get into Windham Tech than ever before
- Openings are limited
- Discussed educational model and trends in general

## **VII. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 12:54PM

Minutes submitted by Sevan Angacian