Minutes
Topic: Mansfield Youth Services Advisory Board May Meeting
Time: May 10, 2022 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
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In accordance with PA 21-2 § 149 and social distancing guidelines recommended by the CDC to slow community spread of COVID-19, this meeting will be held virtually. A video recording of the meeting will be available on YouTube at “MANSFIELD CONNECTICUT STREAMING CHANNEL” (https://mansfieldct.gov/video) within seven (7) days after the meeting. Public Comment will be accepted by email at BellKJ@mansfieldct.org or by USPS mail at 4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268 and must be received prior to the meeting (public comment received after the meeting will be shared at the next meeting). Please email BellKJ@mansfieldct.org or call 860.429.3319 by 11:30 AM on the day of the meeting to receive instructions for how to view, listen, or comment live.

Present:
Ethel Mantzaris, Chair
Laura Wright
Debra Hultgren
Joseph Csiki
Lisa Girard
Henry Christensen

Staff:
Patricia Schneider, Director of Human Services
Katie Bell, Youth Services Supervisor
Sarah Dufresne, Youth Services Early Childhood Services Coordinator
Imoni Petgrave, Youth Services Social Worker
Lesley Magarian, Office Assistant

I. Call to Order
- Meeting called to order by Ethel Mantzaris at 12:09 pm

II. Introductions
- Imoni Petgrave was introduced. She joined Youth Services on 4/26/22 and filled the vacant Youth Services Social Worker position.

III. Approval of minutes: April 12, 2022
- Minutes approved by consensus at 12:10 pm
IV. Reports

- Human Services Report – Pat Schneider (12:13 pm)
  - Staffing Updates: The Town Council adopted budget included an additional full time Social Worker in Youth Services (allows for expansion of work with high school students beyond service referral hub and diversion), a full time position in Human Services, working with Helping Hands program that is transitioning to us (that is also ending in December). The position will also handle Farms to Families and fee waivers, distribution of Holiday programs, and an increase in hours for the existing Nutrition Coordinator position (from 25-30 hours), as well as additional money for a more advanced interpreter service.
  - A Town Meeting is being held 5/10/22 at 7 p.m. at the middle school. Town citizens will get the chance to vote on the budget.
  - Town is in the process of looking into all buildings it owns and assessing current challenges with space.

- Youth Services Report – Katie Bell (12:22 pm)
  - Staffing Updates: Imoni Petgrave joined Youth Services as a Social Worker on 4/26/22.
  - Sarah Dufresne hosted an Earth Day Extravaganza where approximately 100 children participated in an egg hunt with about 200 total individuals in attendance. The event focus was on sustainability. Plants were sold that had been grown at the Mansfield middle schools.
  - In conjunction with the MMS Gardening Club, the food the students are growing is going into the Mansfield Food Services lunches.
  - Virtual elementary and middle school mentoring programs wrapped up prior to the Mansfield BOE April vacation.
  - A virtual Volunteer Recognition event was held.
  - “Grub Club” Elementary Lunch Program has wrapped up for the school year.
  - MY Voice & MY Pride are still running through mid-June. Participants continue to create public service announcements. There will be a screening of their work later in May.
  - Youth Diversion received no additional cases during April. As such, there will be no WAMRDT meeting this week.

V. Old Business

- No updates from YSAB members. (12:33 pm)

VI. New Business

- Update from Katie. Plan for Summer Camp support will all be funneled through Helping Hands grant. (12:34 pm)
- The Town Council advised that Camp Mansfield has been approved to complete their summer grant application with the state, this could be a potential source for families to obtain free camp. A determination on awards that can go out will happen if Parks and Rec department receives funding however, we will not know this until the end of the month. Fee waiver is still available as an option to pay for Camp Mansfield.
• There has been a state level expansion for the ability of boards and commissions to continue to meet virtually beyond what was originally expected, at this time, indefinitely.
• Next months YSAB meeting will be the last one held until we resume meeting in September.

VII.  Other

VIII.  Opportunity for Public Comment
• No public comment received

IX.  Adjournment
• Meeting adjourned at 12:39 pm

Next Meeting: June 14, 2022 at 12 pm