

**Seventeenth Annual/Business Meeting  
Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc.  
Thursday, June 6, 2019  
6 PM**

**Center for Hellenic Studies Paideia, 28 Dog Lane, Mansfield**

**DRAFT Minutes**

**1) Call to Order and Welcome**

President Steve Bacon called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm. Mr. Bacon thanked Ilias Tomazos from afar (as he is currently teaching students in Greece) for again hosting the Partnership at the Center for Hellenic Studies Paideia.

Mr. Bacon asked for a motion to move agenda item A.J. Pappanikou Volunteer of the Year to the beginning of the meeting. Betsy Paterson made such a motion which was seconded by Paul Shapiro. The motion was approved.

**2) A.J. Pappanikou Volunteer of the Year**

Mr. Bacon said the Board of Directors was honored to recognize late Board member June Krisch as Volunteer of the Year. Mr. Bacon noted that he met June's husband Henry in 2007 when they worked together on the Mansfield charter revision commission. He was exposed at that time to the Krisch brand of civic engagement! June and Henry were some of the concerned citizens who supported the Partnership and recognized the importance of Storrs Center to the community, during some difficult budget times. They were active in this support.

June soon became a member of the Partnership's Membership Development Committee and became a Board member in 2015. June was extremely conscientious and a great colleague. She worked as a liaison with the downtown businesses, and was invested in their success. June also helped at many events and was a fixture at the headquarters booth at the Festival.

Fellow Board member Shamim Patwa shared thoughts on her friendship with June.

Mr. Bacon presented the A.J. Pappanikou Volunteer of the Year award to Henry Krisch, and June's son Daniel, daughter Jennifer, and granddaughter Mary.

**3) Continued Welcome**

Mr. Bacon recognized Partnership committee and Board members and asked them to stand to be recognized.

Mr. Bacon thanked the Town of Mansfield and the University of Connecticut for their on-going support. He also recognized major Partnership sponsors Karen and Bill Kennedy, LAZ Parking, LeylandAlliance, The Oaks on the Square, Betsy Paterson, People's United Bank, and Wilcox & Reynolds.

Mr. Bacon recognized Representative Gregg Haddad for his on-going support of Downtown Storrs.

Mr. Bacon also recognized and thanked Partnership staff Cynthia van Zelm, Kathleen Paterson, and Denise Kegler for their work.

**4) Approval of Minutes from June 7, 2018 Annual Meeting**

Jessie Richard made a motion to approve the June 7, 2018 minutes. Bonnie Kumiega seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**5) Presentation – Update on Town of Mansfield and University of Connecticut**

Cara Workman, UConn Director of University Events & Conference Services, gave an update on events at UConn. She said her office puts on approximately 75 to 100 conferences a year. Only 14 percent are for people over the age of 18. Adult participants at conferences want to be able to walk to venues and restaurants.

Ms. Workman said there will be an event in Mansfield to say good bye to outgoing President Herbst on July 18. The invocation for new President Katsouleas will be August 1 with an inauguration on October 4.

Derrick Kennedy, Mansfield Town Manager, updated the group on the potential new elementary school, new sewer service at Four Corners, the branding and marketing initiative, the new Lenard Hall which will house the Community School for the Arts, and the Opportunity Zone in the northern part of Mansfield that provides tax benefits to investors/developers

Sean Vasington, UConn Associate Director & University Landscape Architect, gave an update on the new construction on campus including the student recreation center, the fields for baseball, and soccer, as well as general recreation, the Gant Science building, School of Fine Arts improvement, additional sidewalks and lighting on Horsebarn Hill Road, Northwest Science Quad, and the new hotel. Mr. Vasington said design will kickoff on the new hockey arena next week. The arena will be adjacent to the current arena on campus.

**6) Election of Directors to the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc. Board of Directors**

On behalf of the Governance Committee, Committee member Diana Pelletier presented Bonnie Kumiega for election to a three-year term on the Board of Directors. She asked if there were any other nominations from the Floor. Seeing none, she asked for a motion to approve the appointment of Ms. Kumiega to a three-year term on the Board of Directors. Mr. Vasington made the motion. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bacon. The motion was approved.

Mr. Bacon recognized Board member Tahj-Anthony Jean who served for the last year as the UConn student Board representative. Mr. Jean will be moving back to New York City to open another Farmhouse Crepes franchise. Mr. Bacon thanked Mr. Jean for his service and bringing several perspectives as a Board member who was also a student, Downtown Storrs business owner, and Downtown resident. Mr. Bacon presented Mr. Jean with a plaque/photo collage of recognition.

Peter Millman asked for support of an advocacy group that has formed to support the new elementary school.

Toni Moran asked for an introduction of new Board member Prabhas KC. Mr. Bacon said Prabhas is the new UConn student Board representative. Prabhas grew up in Mansfield, attended E.O. Smith High School, and has served as a camp counselor in the Mansfield Parks and Recreation Dept.

**7) Adjourn**

Hearing no other business, the Annual Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.