



MANSFIELD ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN
Wednesday, MARCH 7, 2012

Minutes

Members Present: K. Grunwald (staff), K. Krider (staff), J. Woodmansee (staff), G. Bent, J. Stoughton, F. Baruzzi (in at 5:37pm), M. LaPlaca (in at 5:53pm) R. LeClerc, J. Goldman, J. Higham, V. Fry, E. Soffer Roberts (in at 5:37pm), S. Anderson, P. Braithwaite, MJ Newman, C. Guerreri, E. Tullman, Y. Kim and J. Suedmeyer (5:35pm)

ITEM	<i>DISCUSSION</i>	<i>OUTCOME</i>
Call to Order	J. Stoughton called the meeting to order at 6:37pm	
Consent Agenda	Approval of Minutes from the February 1, 2012 and the February 11, 2012 Special Meeting/Retreat.	<i>Motion:</i> <i>J. Higham moves to approve the 2/1/12 and the 2/11/12 Minutes as written. V. Fry seconds and the motion passes unanimously.</i>
New Business	<p><i>Retreat Overview</i> – Members discussed the Retreat. K. Grunwald noted that there should be time scheduled to re-visit the Retreat in detail.</p> <p><i>Affirm Results Statement and Indicators</i> - G. Bent noted that the indicators were affirmed at the Retreat with some minor revisions but that the result statement was not.</p> <p>G. Bent proposes that MAC affirm the results statement “All Mansfield Children ages birth through 8 years old are healthy, successful learners connected to the community.”</p> <p><i>Adjust Time frames for MAC</i></p> <p>G. Bent asked to continue the discussion which began during the Rereat regarding the MAC monthly meeting structure. It was briefly discussed during the Retreat that the meetings could be restructured to start the meeting with the full collaborative which would then lead to directions/charges for the work groups and the work groups (or teams, whichever if appropriate depending on the tasks) would meet immediately following the full collaborative.</p> <p>After brief discussion G. Bent proposes that beginning in April there be a “soft” start for the meeting from 5:00 to 5:30 and a “hard” start for the full collaborative at 5:30pm. The exact time to begin the work group meetings will be determined when the full collaborative business is concluded.</p> <p><i>Proposal Presentations</i></p> <p>K. Krider reviewed the following proposals which are designed to have both high alignment and high action:</p>	<p>Members of MAC unanimously affirmed the results statement.</p> <p>Members of MAC affirmed G. Bent’s proposal regarding restructuring the meeting time.</p>

	<p>1. <i>Convene a small work group to improve transportation options for families with young children to support health, successful learning and community connectedness.</i> This proposal relates to Strategies # 7 (from Mansfield’s Plan for Young Children, 2009) in that it can improve transportation options to make key community locations accessible. Action steps include: to collect data on residents of Helinko Estates, etc, to determine transportation needs of families with children ages 0-8; collaborate with WRTD to pilot weekly bus routes from identified areas to key locations; and, identify performance measures/collect data/evaluate impact and need. Volunteers for this work group include K. Grunwald, Y. Kim and V. Fry.</p> <p>2. <i>Convene a work group to plan and implement a selected book project to promote health, successful learning and community connectedness in children aged 0-5 and their families.</i> This proposal relates to Strategies #2 & # 4 (from Mansfield’s Plan for Young Children, 2009) in that it can promote wellness and prevent illness in children 0-8 and their families and raise and improve literacy skills in the community. Action steps for this proposal include: select a book; establish a time frame for planning and implementation; engage local businesses and entities in supporting the project (library, UConn Co-op, Faith Communities, area health care providers, Farmers Market, CSAs, etc.; solicit participation of all early care providers in a common project. (Mansfield Public Schools pre-schools, town early care centers, Montessori Schools, home day care providers); and, identify additional performance measures and collect data. Volunteers for this work group include E. Soffer Roberts, J. Goldman, E. Tullman, MJ Newman, J. Stoughton and P. Braithwaite.</p> <p>3. <i>A small group be formed that includes the MAC Coordinator and a paid consultant to rewrite and update MAC’s Plan for Young Children.</i> Action steps relating to this proposal include to: identify a consultant to work with us; collect new data from Teams; revise and collect new MOU’s; and, a thorough edit of every page of the document. Members discussed if this proposal might lead to a necessary re-write of the Bylaws and a new leadership structure. It was agreed that the Executive Council will discuss the structure of MAC at their next meeting. K. Grunwald noted that the Plan revision cannot wait.</p>	<p>Members of MAC affirmed the proposal regarding the transportation project (J. Suedmeyer abstained from voting).</p> <p>Members of MAC affirmed the proposal regarding the book project (J. Suedmeyer abstained from voting)</p> <p>Members of MAC affirmed the proposal regarding Plan revision.</p>
Team Updates	<p>K. Krider reported that A. Bloom has accepted a position at Yale. All agreed that Ande will be missed by MAC.</p> <p>MJ Newman reported that on Friday, March 9th she will attend a workshop regarding the Kindergarten Assessment.</p> <p>C. Guerreri reported that the GMF grant application will be sent out in the next week.</p>	

	S. Anderson reported that the Playground Committee will meet on Thursday, March 8 th from 7:00 to 9:00 and that a UConn student who has been working on site development will do a presentation.	
To Do List	K Krider explained that we will be including a to do list as a regular Agenda item.	
Adjournment	<p>The meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.</p> <p>Next MAC Meeting, Wednesday, February 1, 2012, 5:00pm – 6:30pm for Team Meetings and 6:30pm – 7:30pm for full meeting.</p> <p>Next Executive Council meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 2012, 1:15pm – 2:45pm at Town Hall in Conference Room B</p> <p>Agenda topics: Please send to Kathleen at kriderk@mansfieldct.org</p> <p>Respectfully submitted, Jillene B. Woodmansee Assistant to the Early Childhood Services Coordinator</p>	

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