



MANSFIELD ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN
Wednesday, October 2, 2013
Council Chambers – Town Hall
MINUTES

Members Present: Sara Anderson, Terry Cook, Lisa Dahn, Susan Daley, Sarah Delia (staff), Jane Goldman, Cindy Guerreri, Kathleen Krider (staff), Mark LaPlaca, Mary Jane Newman, Esther Soffer-Roberts, Judy Stoughton and Lisa Young

Regrets Anne Bladen, Rachel Leclerc, Ben Wiles

Guests: Chelsea Burns, Jill Coghlan, Julia DeLapp, Mary Hodgson, Cherie Trahan, Linda Williams, Kelly Zimmerman

<i>WHAT</i>	<i>DISCUSSION</i>	<i>OUTCOME</i>
CALL TO ORDER	K. Krider called the meeting to order at 5:39pm.	
CONSENT AGENDA	Approval of the Minutes of September 25, 2013 meeting.	<i>The September 25, 2013 Minutes were approved without changes.</i>
TEAM UPDATES	<p>Staff Reports: Kathleen Krider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terry Cook has agreed to be the chair of MAC. • Brett Reynolds is the new intern for Early Childhood Services and will be working on social media, marketing, website design and with the Playground Committee. • Pat Schneider is the new Director of Human Services and will be attending the November MAC meeting. • Anne Bladen will be stepping back in her commitment to MAC as she has a serious illness in her family. • The Pumpkin Bread was provided by Sarah Delia. • Scorecard is a computer program that allows the user to track data, run reports and figure out accountability. For a limited time this program will be offered at a reduced rate; MAC will be purchasing this program for Mansfield. There will be an informational conference call on Thursday, Oct 3 from 1:00pm -2:00pm to discuss Scorecard. All are invited to this call. • School Readiness; there are no new updates. <p>Playground Committee: Sara Anderson and Julia DeLapp</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Playground Committee meets the 2nd 	

	<p>Thursday of every month. There are several ways members of MAC could help the Playground Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need to create a survey for <i>after</i> the playground is built to see how the Committee functioned. • The Committee is doing a mass mailing of about 6000 pieces in mid to late November. They will need help stuffing envelopes and organizing the bulk mailing. • The Committee will need assistance managing their Facebook page; Linda Williams volunteered to administer the Facebook page. • They will also need help with Press Releases. • There are openings on the Fundraising Committee for specific events such as the Silent Auction and the 5K Run in June. • There are also openings on the Food Committee and the Childcare Committee. • One member suggested a flyer to place at the child care centers in town to promote the volunteer activities available. • The Committee is shifting their notification system to the Q-Notify system. • The Committee is trying a new approach for fund raising; small gatherings of people who are community involved. If anyone is interested in hosting such an event please contact Julia DeLapp. • Sara Anderson passed around a signup sheet for members to write down their interests while Julia explained the rendering of the playground. 	
NEW BUSINESS	<p>Introduction of Members</p> <p>Educational Playcare: Kathleen Krider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational Playcare is a child care facility in Connecticut owned by Jane Porterfield and Gerry Pastor. • The organization will be building a facility in Storrs Center, contingent upon zoning approval. • The project dates are construction in fall of 2013 and opening in fall of 2014. • There is a website to get more information; Kathleen has not yet talked directly to the owners. • She said there is no intention to provide before and after school care at this time. Educational Playcare is intending to provide Pre-K and Infant and Toddler care. • There are still questions about transportation and opportunities for community involvement. • K. Krider was concerned that there be a central 	

	<p>site to coordinate communication efforts from Howard Kaufman, Cynthia van Zelm and Linda Painter. She was also concerned that Educational Playcare know about Early Childhood Services and MAC and hopes that they will partner with MAC and ECS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a Public Hearing on October 17 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers; this will be specifically about the zoning permit application for Educational Playcare building design and whether it fits into the Storrs Center Special Design District specifications for Storrs Center. • Discussion among the members followed. Some concerns expressed included quality of care, pricing, indoor and outdoor spaces, and lower enrollment projections. 	
TEAM TIME	<p>Planning for the year: Kathleen Krider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K. Krider explained the MAC Plan for Young Children. She spoke about Results Based Accountability (RBA) and the language involved and how it was used in the Plan for Young Children. • There was discussion about one Health initiative called <i>Fit by Fourth</i>, in which physical fitness tests would be taken in fourth grade to see if students had improved in fitness. It was noted that pre-schools do a lot of physical activity in their programs, but that as students aged, they might not have the opportunity to do as much physical activity. MDD uses a program called <i>All for Kids</i>. Testing should be used at the end of pre-school or kindergarten to judge the level of fitness. • It was decided to invite the Elementary School Physical Education teachers to the next MAC meeting in November to talk about what they do with the students and how they test physical fitness. • What about parent education? Parents will need to be invested in any program that takes place outside of school or care hours. 	<p><i>Sara Anderson will invite the Goodwin physical education teacher; Esther Soffer-Roberts will invite the Southeast teacher and Sarah Delia will invite the Vinton teacher.</i></p>
PARKING LOT	1. Transportation	
ADJOURN	<p>The meeting adjourned at 7:31pm.</p> <p>Next MAC Meeting, Wednesday, November 6, 2013, 5:30pm – 7:30pm at Town Hall, Council Chambers.</p> <p>Agenda topics: Please send to Kathleen at kriderk@mansfieldct.org</p> <p>Respectfully submitted, Sarah Delia</p>	

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