



MANSFIELD ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN
Wednesday, November 2, 2016

MINUTES

Members Present: Maggie Ferron (staff), Danielle Annibalini (staff), Sarah Dufresne (staff), Katie Bell (staff), Pat Schneider (staff), Lisa Dahn, Marianne Legassey, Barb Giardina, Miguel Colon, Johannah Gorgone, Lisa Young

Regrets: Rachel Leclerc, Judy Stoughton, Acey Neel, Pam Roberts, Heather Lasky, Jen Scanlon, Jordana Frost, Dr Hughes, Jane Goldman, Susan Daley, Kathy Ward

Guests: Curt Vincente, Director of Mansfield Parks and Recreation

<i>WHAT</i>	<i>DISCUSSION</i>	<i>OUTCOME</i>
CALL TO ORDER	Maggie Ferron called the meeting to order at 5:46 pm.	
CONSENT AGENDA	The September minutes were NOT approved as there was no quorum present	<i>The September 7, 2016 meeting minutes were NOT approved.</i>
Staff Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Quality and Sourcing group: Stephanie Richard presented at the Board of Ed meeting and expressed her support for the farm to school concept. Jiff Martin and Ben Wiles are in the process of applying for a State of CT Dep't of Agriculture "Farm Viability" grant, which would allow for buying equipment and paying a consultant to help implement the program. • MAC plan- December- Ginny Walton will come to discuss food waste and her challenge for local families. January- we will discuss drug and alcohol prevention strategies for young kids and how this can work for even the youngest kids. 	
TOPICAL DISCUSSION: Curt Vincente, Parks and Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed the economic model of the community center and Parks and Rec. The community center is expected to pay for itself, which is why there is cost associated with it. CV explained that he would like to see the programs offered at a lower cost; but that this is not always possible given the expense associated with running the department. • Membership expressed that swim lessons, in particular, are an important life skill and should be subsidized. • CV and Pat Schneider explained the town's fee waiver program, which allows low-income families to waive fees for certain town services. The 	

	<p>community center participates in this; though it can also be used to pay for trash services, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons who receive free passes when they renew their memberships may donate them to Youth Services so that they can be used for their families and programs. • CV discussed parenting workshops as a possible expansion, and as something that MAC may also be interested in working on. 	
<p>School Readiness Program Reports – how music, art, and other creative expression is integrated into the classroom</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDL: Barb does music with preschoolers on Fridays. However, CDL integrates music and art into the classroom all day long. They use music for transition times to ease stress, also have instruments available throughout the day. Marianne also explained that art and science are inextricably linked conceptually and so are constantly present throughout the day. • CCC: Music and art are a part of the natural flow of the day at CCC. They pay close attention to the language of art and link it with verbal development. They also created a “mud kitchen” using materials from Desiato. The kids can play and explore with the texture and appearance. • MDD: They have visitors come and present to the kids and share music and art. This includes alumni and Mia from MAD. They have music in all the classrooms throughout the day. 	
<p>ADJOURN</p>	<p>The meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.</p> <p>Next Regular MAC Meeting, Wednesday, December, Mansfield Town Hall Council Chambers</p> <p>Respectfully submitted, Maggie Ferron, Early Childhood Services Coordinator</p>	