Mansfield Community Campus Partnership Minutes

November 12, 2009

Present: Jim Hintz, Kevin Grunwald, Mike Ninteau, Ashley Hudd, John Sobanik, John Jackman, Nancy Silander, Daniel Padover, Tina Hadley, Beth DeRicco, Thomas Ryba, Akeya Peterson, Liz Stolow, Ande Bloom, Geralyn Laut, Thomas “Jake” Knecht

1. Welcome
   Introductions around the room

2. UMass Area Coalition
   Jim- The hope is to have them present at the next meeting. The committee will be updated on the status of their visit before the meeting on December 10th.

3. Updates
   a. Fall outreach Feedback- A Survey was sent out via Survey Monkey for all of the volunteers from the door-to-door visit
   b. Town- University Relations Committee
      - Nancy- The committee met on Tuesday to discuss the sidewalks being put in though Mansfield. There is a discussion as to what order the jobs should be in and what areas are in immediate attention. Right now the discussion is around the Rt. 195 and Rt. 275 areas (near the senior center). The senior center put in this request a long time ago. Other areas of interest are Birch road and Separatist Road to Hunting Lodge.
      - The Storrs Central Project has almost 8 businesses committed to leases for the new locations.
      - The Spring Weekend Report is still in review and once it is available to the public Jim will provide a copy to the group.
      - The discussion of parking passes for all rental homes is still in discussion.
   c. Server Training- Kevin, Liz and Jim are certified TIPS trainers. Beth- would like to provide training in January and hopes to extend the invite to managers and owners of local bars and package stores. Personal invitations would be best and explaining that this can help with insurance. Currently training is voluntary however this committee should look into possibly making this a town ordinance. It will reduce serving to intoxicated customers as well as underage clientele.
   d. Census 2010- Jim, the US Government will count everyone in the country and the purpose of this is to see where resources are needed. The University is
attempting to encourage students to register. The Complete Count Committee is meeting soon to discuss further advertising and outreach strategies.

e. Police Survey Study- the town is looking to hire a consultant to review policing in Mansfield. Jim will reach out to Matt Hart, the Town Manager to see if our committee can be involved with this discussion.

f. Other Grants- Kevin, iParent is a Tri-Town Coalition to reduce underage drinking in Ashford, Tolland and Mansfield. The online survey is focused on parents. This initiative was funded by a small grant from the Northeast Regencies Against Substance Abuse. This program also looked into party patrols in the area. State Trooper Chris Barletta does lots of work and trainings in this area. Beth- NECASA is putting out a new grant that this committee should look into. She will provide more information to the committee in the future.

4. Partnership Projects
   - Jim- Kevin, Jim and Beth will work on a survey to look at why people have decided to live where they do. This will help us find out if someone feels connected to the community.
     Research shows that those who feel less connected to the community show less respect. When conducting this survey we need to be very clear as to what we want to accomplish and to look at resident and student concerns.

5. New Issues
   - Mike Ninteau- the littering that is taking place on the walkway of Hunting Lodge Road has become a huge problem. This issue is taking up too much staff time to patrol the area and ticket those in violation. Community awareness needs to be built around this issue and be open to suggestions as to what to do.
     Jim will speak to Fraternity and Sorority Life about possible fraternities and sororities “adopting a road”. The idea of containers to collect the trash has been addressed and is thought to be an attractive nuance for potential fires and graffiti.
     Dan Padover- Most of the trash that is along Hunting Lodge Road is coming from students who live on campus and are on their way to a party off campus. Students throw their trash all over the road as they walk to either keep from carrying it when it is finished or to keep from getting caught with an open container.
     Liz Stolow- As a resident of Hunting Lodge Road it is annoying to clean up trash that is not yours however my roommates and I have come to an agreement that we need to. We have a rhythm and we each take turns cleaning our yard.
Jim- Signage holds responsibility so if students partake in the Adopt-A-Road program and we acknowledge them for their work then it will motivate others. This will help define expectations and Jim will speak with Town Manager Matt Hart about funding for these signs.

- The graffiti at Carriage House apartments has gotten worse and is now all over the SNET electrical boxes and dumpsters. These boxes are out of Mansfield jurisdiction so it is up to SNET and Willimantic Waste to fix this. Research shows that when graffiti is not cleaned up it will only attract more.

6. Other

- John Sobanik- In Celeron Square we are happy to report that less and less cars are being towed.
- Carriage house is starting an ID program in hopes to have a better parking and guest situation.
- Jim- Is there a Town Ordinance around Snow Removal and if so what is the expectation from our students?
  Mike Ninteau- Mike will check the housing code but to his knowledge there is no responsibility to the students and the town will plow and sand.
- Jim- There is new ownership of Hunting Lodge Apartments. Corridor Property is now the manager of Hunting Lodge Apartments. New projects such as new roofs, volleyball and basketball courts and a picnic area are underway. They are still contemplating the idea of security cameras around the property.
- Updates on Pond Place- Nancy Silander, water is still and issue and as of right now there is no formal application with planning and zoning.
- Our next meeting will be on December 10th, 2009 at 4pm