Mansfield Community-Campus Partnership (MCCP) Meeting
September 9, 2010 4:00-5:30pm

Present: Jim Hintz, Mayor Betsy Paterson, Maria Capriola, John Jackman, Ashley Trotter, John Sobanik, James Kodzis, Kevin Grunwald, Derek Debus, Officer Thomas Ryba, Morgan Miller, Major Ron Blicher, Chris Casa, Nancy Silander, Christine McGrath, Thomas “Jake” Knecht, Gabe Botero

1. Welcome
2. Presentations:
   UConn Police Department:
   Major Ron Blicher of the UConn Police Department – Major Blicher has been a part of the Division of Public Safety for 34 years. The Department of Public Safety at UConn includes the Police Department, Fire Department, Environmental Health & Safety, Building Inspectors and the Locksmith Department. The UCPD is an accredited department. The emergency management receives over 30,000 calls annually with close to 500 criminal arrests including warnings and infractions. UConn consists of 17,000 undergraduate students, 6,000 graduate students and 3,900 employees.
   Officer Tom Ryba- Officer Ryba has been with the UCPD for 7 years with 4 of them serving in the Community Policing Unit. The primary objective of the Community Policing Unit (CPU) is to provide educational programs for the University community including students, faculty, staff and visitors. Primary goals include safety and crime prevention and developing community relationships. You can find the full list of programs on the CPU website: www.police.uconn.edu/communitypolice
   On the CPU website you will also find the request form to have an Officer present for your group or department. The CPU is present at orientations and teaches over 3,400 freshmen in the First Year Experience program. This is a 50 minute class held at the Police Department and includes a tour of the facilities.

   Connecticut State Police:
   Sergeant James Kodzis: Sgt. Kodzis has over 18 years service with the Connecticut State Police. He has served for both Troop D & E and is now a Resident Trooper for the Town of Mansfield.

Overview of the Mansfield Resident Trooper Program:
   • Towns currently pay 70% of Trooper’s salary. This includes related expenses such as vehicle, gasoline, fringe benefits, telephone costs, longevity, and similar costs.
   • The Resident Trooper Program is an ideal program for towns with no tax base to support their own Police Department.
   • Towns with high volume of calls for service are often too busy to rely exclusively on Troop patrol.
   • Special Interest Organizations:
Comparable Towns:

**Mansfield CT:**
- Town Population: 25,000
- UCONN Students: 29,000
- Police Personnel:
  - 1-Sgt / 7-Troopers
  - 4 part time officers
- Police Budget: $954,230
- Hours of Operation:
  - 0630-0230
  - (Troop C patrols 0200-0630)
  - Average staff per shift: 2

**Calls of Service for UConn's Spring Weekend:**
- 2009:
  - Troop C: 836
  - Mansfield Resident Troopers: 684
- 2010:
  - Troop C: 995
  - Mansfield Resident Troopers: 727

**Town Ordinance Violations:**

**2009 Fall Semester:**
- Possession of alcohol by a minor 19
- Open container of alcohol 24
- Referrals to UConn Off-Campus Student Services 48
- State Police hours devoted to Mansfield (no charge) since 2009 semester started
- Traffic Service Unit: 357 hours
- LT: 65 hours
- Troopers assigned to Troop C: 113 hrs

**2010 Fall Semester (1st Weekend Only):**
- Possession of alcohol by a minor 11
- Open container of alcohol 30
- Referrals to UConn Off-Campus Student Services 41

Storrs Mansfield, CT had a personal crime rate of 9 per 10,000 residents and property crime rate of 8 per 10,000 residents.
Jim Hintz- Referrals are helpful. When we receive the list of referrals we can address the Student Code of Conduct with them. If they are not UConn students then their names are passed along to the other colleges in the state.

Mayor Betsy Paterson- The Mayor met with the Eastern Connecticut State University Town Gown Committee to discuss the efforts of trying to push the State schools to allow the Student Code of Conduct to follow student’s off-campus.

The police study that is taking place in the town of Mansfield will give a better understanding as to what is needed. Looking at other models will also allow the town to administer and deliver better services.

Sgt. Kodzis- Young folks have parents call with every excuse as to why their child should not have received a citation or been arrested which is only enabling the student. Parents cannot go through the appeals process for their student.

Jim Hintz- This generation is much more connected parents and students. The best way is to partner with parents and work with them within the FERPA guidelines.

John Sobanik- Is something being done about the large crowds that gather to head to or are attending parties?

Major Blicher- There are many variables that go into crowds such as weather, events, holidays, etc. By virtue of students gathering it doesn’t make them bad people, it’s those few within that crowd who act up and make destructive and disruptive behavior. The crowd mentality inhibits efforts causing a presence of destructive behavior which then makes things difficult.

Jake- the increase of the student population each year also is another factor. As it continues to go up so do the friends of those students and that creates larger crowds.

Major Blicher- UConn has a unique environment. There is nothing else in Connecticut that is similar to our situation. The majority of arrests come from students/folks who do not attend the University. Being responsible for guests and showing respect is something that needs to be practiced more. On Spring Weekend alone it is noted that 70%-80% of the arrests are not UConn students.

Chris Casa- All preventable measures are immeasurable. We only find out about things after the fact that it has already happened.

3. **Updates**: Jim Hintz
   - **Town University Relations Committee**: The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 14th at 4pm.
• **Quality of Life Committee** - The committee met last Thursday. New members were added including property managers. A draft of the Nuisance Housing Ordinance was presented. Providing Lease Language from property managers and a tenant registry were briefly discussed and still on the table for future discussions.

• **Hunting Lodge Road Litter Plan & Adopt-A-Road Program** - Some progress in getting the trash pickup date changed has been made. The University is providing the trash and recycling bins that will be placed along Hunting Lodge Road. They are still being ordered. Maria Capriola is working with Ginny Walton on the Adopt-a-Road program.

4. **Fall Outreach Visits** - There are two more dates for visits, September 15th and 16th. All volunteers received a coupon for a free ice cream at the Blue Cow in the Student Union. The next cookout event will be at Hunting Lodge Apartments on September 23rd from 5:30-7:30pm.

5. **MCCP Promotion at Events** - The Know Your Towns Fair and Festival on the Green was staffed by Off-Campus Student Services staff members who are paid to attend. Volunteers for future events would be appreciated.

6. **New Issues/ Ideas for Future Meetings**
   Kevin Grunwald contacted Officer Christopher Bartolotta from the Connecticut State Police to present on what he is doing regarding underage drinking on college campuses and party patrols. The invite will be extended to the Quality of Life Committee to attend this presentation.

   Jim Hintz - Matt Farley from Community Outreach at UConn can also speak with the MCCP about possible outreach efforts and areas of collaboration.

7. **Other**
   The next MCCP Meeting will take place on Thursday, October 14th from 4-5:15pm in Mansfield Town Council Chambers.