Mansfield Community-Campus Partnership (MCCP)
August 18th, 2011 4pm-5:30pm

Present: Jim Hintz, John Jackman, Kevin Grunwald, Ashley Trotter, Carolyn Lin, Chris Kueffner, Cat Carter, Adam Fountaine, Katie Andrighetti, Tina Hadley, Karen Howard, Thomas Ryba

1) Welcome

2) Minutes

Minutes from the June 9th meeting were reviewed and approved.

3) Updates
   a. Town-University Relations Committee – No updates.

   b. Quality of Life Committee- No updates.

   c. Healthy Campus Initiative Grant Update- The MCCP provided a workshop for all local landlords to come and participate in a discussion around landlord tenant law. G. Adam Schweickert, Esq., who specializes in landlord tenant law, addressed issues and concerns, provided a dialogue on how to utilize law in Connecticut, and explained how to be a successful landlord. The workshop was informative and well perceived by all of the landlords who attended. Many landlords have contacted G. Adam Schweickert since this workshop.

   The MCCP and University of Connecticut Police Department invited members from local police departments to attend a workshop designed to assist law enforcement professionals in effectively addressing irresponsible party hosting and underage drinking off-campus. Sgt. Michael Baden from The New Britain Police Department was the presenter. His work with the community surrounding Central Connecticut State University to address irresponsible party hosting has been recognized as effective practice. The Police Officer Standards and Training Council credits were also offered to law enforcement attendees. Eleven police officers attended including police from the UConn PD, Eastern Connecticut State University, the State Police and the Coventry Police Department.

   Carolyn Lin- Additional research on community building and getting to know the needs and concerns of the community will help provide a better understanding behind the goals that need to be achieved. Gathering strategies to implement a social media message campaign lead by Off-Campus Student Services and Celeron Square Apartments will give students the opportunity to feel leadership and respect. The MCCP will be moving along with grant work and rolling out new strategies in the fall.

4) Mansfield Police Study

   At the next MCCP meeting, representatives from the Police Study will attend to help create a dialogue and discuss what the MCCP member’s thoughts and feelings are around some of the proposed changes. Some suggested changes that have come forward from this review have been to keep things the same, for Mansfield to create their own police force, use the UConn PD more, or to expand on the Resident Trooper Program. A public hearing will take place once this review goes to the Town Council.

   Chris Kueffner- Has the UConn PD been asked for recommendations or been surveyed?
   Thomas Ryba- No Comment, this would be referred to the administration.
5) Fall Welcome Visits/Neighborhood Cookouts
A continued effort to do welcome visits again this fall is underway. Jim Hintz has reached out to property managers as well as the President’s Office to have the new President, Susan Herbst attend. Many flyers, coupons and brochures from local business have been provided to Off-Campus Student Services for the welcome bags.

Chris Kueffner- Are there visits to the neighborhoods where residents have expressed their frustrations with students? Are they really “neighborhood cookouts” or are they actually held in student run complexes?
Jim Hintz- Off-Campus Student Services maintains a list of problem homes and reaches out to them during these visits. The cookouts are held at Phil Barry’s House and at Hunting Lodge Apartments with invitations extending to all of the surrounding residents and students. Last year around 100 people attended each of these cookouts.
John Jackman- These visits add a lot of value and offer time for residents and students to mingle. They require an immense amount of planning and organizing to get volunteers to attend.
Jim Hintz- This year, the MCCP will reach out to visit Renwood Apartments to keep awareness as to where the needs are. Trainings will be provided to all of the volunteers on speaking points. Information has been provided to the USG with the hopes to have them involved this year.
John Jackman- A pre-move in meeting was held with local landlords and stakeholders in July. This meeting was to give folks time to plan for the fall semester. Generally, properties plan to have an active presence and temporary fencing at locations such as Celeron and Carriage House Apartments. Celeron is also looking into limiting access on the bike path this year.

6) New Issues/Ideas for Future Meeting Presentations
The Nuisance Ordinance has passed and tenants can be sited for violation on noise, trash, parking and more which will result in a fine or infraction for each individual tenant. If disturbances continue to occur, landlords will be contacted and potentially held responsible. Information about this ordinance will be included in the welcome bags and in the talking points when going door-to-door.

Information about the decriminalization of marijuana will also be included in these packets. Students need to be aware of these changes and what the new laws are that follow this.
Thomas Ryba- Explained the decriminalization of marijuana and the violations that is included. All students who are cited will also be referred to the Office of Community Standards for violating the Student Code of Conduct.

7) Other
Jim Hintz- Will reach out to President Susan Herbst to see if she is available to attend the October MCCP meeting.

Jim Hintz- Introduced the two new Graduate Assistants to the Office of Student Services and Advocacy. Adam Fountaine and Cat Carter will be working with Off-Campus Student Services and assisting with the Healthy Initiative Grant.