

**MINUTES OF THE
MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
October 21, 2015
Visit the MAC website at <http://www.ct.gov/MAC>**

Welcome and Introductions

Ram Aberasturia, MAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 16, 2015 were distributed to the membership via the list serv. These minutes were approved unanimously, as amended to correct a typographical error.

Treasurer's Report

Maura Welch, MAC Treasurer, reported that the balance in the treasury is \$2,763.76 as of September 30, 2015. A dividend of \$1.74 was credited to the account. The Treasurer's report was approved unanimously, as submitted. Maura also reported that the account has been transitioned to her signatory authority.

Credentials Report

John Jaramillo, Credentials Chair, was unable to attend, but submitted an e-mail indicating that there have been no changes in agency representation. He also inquired as to a communication from the MAC Chair to those agencies scheduled to hold elections in even-numbered years, for terms beginning January 1, 2016. There are still two agencies, Department of Economic and Community Development and Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, which have not held elections for terms beginning on January 1, 2015. These agencies have not responded to outreach efforts. Nancy Nicolescu drafted a letter to agencies with pending and upcoming elections; the Executive Board will review and revise the letter, as appropriate.

Old Business

Speakers and Logistics. Nancy Nicolescu has confirmed Thomas Shepherd at Prudential Retirement as our guest speaker for the November 18 meeting at 9:00 a.m. Discussion ensued on logistics. Wanda was asked to check on the availability of Conference Room B, to expand seating capacity. It was also discussed that pre-registration should be required, to avoid exceeding the seating capacity. Ram will contact Peggy Zabawar about using the DAS Learning Center for pre-registration. Maura will invite Commissioner of Economic and Community Development Catherine Smith to present at the January 2016 meeting. She will be asked to speak about her initiatives to promote the State of Connecticut and how managers can support that mission. An invitation will be extended to Commissioner of Administrative Services Melody Currey to speak in March, with one topic of interest being training opportunities for state managers. Wanda will extend an invitation to a speaker from the University of Connecticut, to speak on generational differences in the workplace.

Web Content/Communications/Orientation Committee. Nancy indicated that she continues to make routine updates to the website, and she will post the minutes that were approved today.

Legislative Committee. Elise Kremer noted that there is nothing of substance to report at this time.

Other Old Business. Questions had arisen in previous meetings regarding the Managerial Sick Leave Bank. Specifically, what is being proposed is that managers be able to donate vacation accrual that is lapsing. It was suggested that MAC arrange for a 15-minute presentation from a knowledgeable person in the Department of Administrative Services. It would be helpful to know what the utilization has been, if there is a need for additional hours in the bank, and what some of the concerns have been about using the bank. Ram will follow up with Peggy Zabawar, to ask if she could facilitate a 15-minute segment for the December 16 MAC meeting.

New Business

Meeting with Commissioner Currey. Ram reported that the Executive Board met with Commissioner Currey on September 21. One topic of discussion was training opportunities for state managers. It was requested that funds be earmarked in the biennial budget for leadership development, including State Managers Day. There was also discussion of the New Managers Orientation Program. Potentially, MAC could provide a venue for presentation of segments of the program, to enhance the dissemination of this important information to new and existing managers. Commissioner Currey was open to this idea, and provided a contact person at DAS for follow-up. The change in status of certain managers to unclassified service was also discussed. Commissioner Currey indicated that she does not expect to see further such activity affecting rank-and-file managers; she acknowledged that discussion has taken place in the past relative to agency legal counsel but no action was taken at the time.

Volunteers for Managers Day 2016 Planning Committee. Elisa Nahas and Peggy Zabawar are being asked to join the planning committee. The planning committee met after the September 16 meeting and discussed possible venues that might be more affordable. It initially appeared that Central Connecticut State University might be a more cost-effective venue but, after further research, this may not prove to be a lower cost than the Aqua Turf. A site visit will be made to better define the costs that would be involved.

Adjournment

The regular business meeting was adjourned at 10:17 a.m., with members of the planning committee asked to remain for a brief meeting. The list of those in attendance at the October 21, 2015 meeting is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in Conference Room A at the Department of Transportation. The guest speaker is Thomas Shepherd from Prudential Retirement. The regular business meeting will follow the guest presentation.

Respectfully submitted,

Elise Kremer
MAC Secretary
MAC Representative for the
Department of Public Health

Managers Day 2016 Planning Committee. The committee convened immediately after the regular business meeting. The following individuals were in attendance: Ram Aberasturia, Elise Kremer, Nancy Nicolescu, Deb Paradis, Joshua Santos, Wanda Seldon, and Maura Welch. Discussion continued regarding potential options for alternative venues and food service. There are several options on the table which committee members are further exploring. While understanding the need for fiscal prudence, we would hope to develop a quality event and obtain commitment for support from the Office of Policy and Management. A commitment for the biennial budget cycle would enable more proactive planning. The committee meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

MAC ATTENDANCE ROSTER
October 21, 2015

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rep/Alt/Guest</u>
Children and Families	Debi Freund	R
Comptroller	Stephen Perkins	R
Consumer Protection	John Suchy	A
Correction	Joshua Santos	A
Developmental Services	Carl Jordan	R
Developmental Services	John Bishop	A
Education	Deb Paradis	R
Education	Jim Polites	A
Governmental Accountability	Nancy Nicolescu, Vice Chair	R
Insurance	Maura Welch, Treasurer	R
Labor	Ram Aberasturia, Chair	R
Public Health	Elise Kremer, Secretary	R
Secretary of the State	Blanche Tucker	R
Social Services	Rob Thornton	R
Transportation	Wanda Seldon	R