

**MINUTES OF THE
MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
September 21, 2016**

Visit the MAC website at <http://www.ct.gov/MAC>

Welcome and Introductions

Ram Aberasturia, MAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Ram welcomed managers attending as guests from the Office of the Healthcare Advocate and the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Approval of Minutes

The draft minutes of the July 20, 2016 MAC meeting were distributed to the membership via the list serv. The minutes were approved unanimously, with a typographical correction to add a period to the end of the sentence dealing with Speakers and Logistics.

Treasurer's Report

Maura Welch, MAC Treasurer, reported that the balance in the treasury remains at \$2,770.33 as of August 31, 2016. There was no activity in the account since the last report. The Treasurer's report was distributed to the membership via the list serv and was approved unanimously, as submitted.

Credentials Report

Deb Paradis, MAC Credentials Chair, indicated that there were no changes to report since the last meeting.

Old Business

Speakers and Logistics for Upcoming Meetings. The presentation by the Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs, Sean Connolly, will be rescheduled, with a tentative date of October 19, 2016. An invitation has been extended to Julie Paolino, a managing partner at Integrated Rehab, with a date as yet to be determined. Integrated Rehab has been named a top employee in the Hartford area five times.

Web Content/Communications/Orientation Committee. Nancy Nicolescu indicated that she is doing regular updates and invites the membership to submit items of interest. The Office of the Secretary of the State maintains a calendar of public meetings on its website, and the MAC meetings have been included on this calendar. For more information on this calendar, see:

<https://egov.ct.gov/pmc>

Other Old Business. There was no other Old Business.

New Business

Report from Managers Day 2016 Planning Committee and Update on MACPack donation program. Registration stands at 165. Peggy Zabawar indicated that the Department of Administrative Services has closed its books. Any additional registration would have to be handled directly through MAC. Discussion ensued about extending our thanks to the Office of Policy and Management. We could not have put together the great program we have without their support for speakers' expenses. We are very grateful for their assistance. The planning committee has been very active wrapping up preparations and will hold a Minutes of the Management Advisory Council
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final meeting following the adjournment of today's regular business meeting. There was a workday held on August 24, to fill the MACPacks. Over 200 MACPacks have been distributed to agencies serving homeless children throughout the state. The participation of state agencies with their donations was overwhelming. This initiative will be showcased at Managers Day by having a brief presentation, having a recipient agency speak and having photo opportunities. There will also be a poster which is currently under development.

Feedback on Discussions with the Administration. Ram reported that he is pursuing an appointment with the Office of Policy and Management. Discussion ensued. Members expressed that managers are being treated as low-hanging fruit, and the savings to be realized are negligible. This has caused low morale and attrition and, in some agencies, a loss of deep institutional knowledge. The MAC Representatives are getting asked by managers within their agencies why MAC is not seeking unionization for managers. The Board was clear that the role of MAC is as part of the Executive Branch. There is an avenue for managers who support unionization, but that it is not through MAC. As discussed in the past, the Association of Managerial Employees in Connecticut State Service (AMECSS) has supported unionization for other than Bureau Chief level managers, but has not had the support of its managerial members to appear and testify or speak to their legislators. There was a question as to how a manager is defined. This is another area where AMECSS has also unsuccessfully sought legislation in the past, to define managers more narrowly. A member offered as a point of information only that attorneys in the Office of the Attorney General are pursuing unionization and will be holding a vote on October 4.

Other New Business. A member inquired as to the status of the Masters of Public Administration program at the University of Connecticut. Peggy offered to follow up and bring back whatever information she could identify to the next meeting.

Adjournment

The business meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m., with members of the planning committee asked to remain for a brief meeting. The list of those in attendance at the September 21, 2016 meeting is attached and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Department of Transportation in Newington. Information on a guest speaker will be circulated as it becomes available.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Managers Day 2016 Planning Committee. The committee convened at 10:14 a.m., following the business meeting. The following individuals were in attendance: Ram Aberasturia, Chris Beloff, Elise Kremer, Nancy Nicolescu, Deb Paradis, Wanda Seldon, Blanche Tucker, Maura Welch, and Peggy Zabawar. Numerous issues were discussed to firm up all the final preparations. Wanda has graciously agreed to serve as emcee for the event, and Jim Thornton will be coordinating the Distinguished Managerial Service Awards ceremony. The committee meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

MAC ATTENDANCE ROSTER
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<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rep/Alt/Guest</u>
Administrative Services	Peggy Zabawar	R
Comptroller	Stephen Perkins	R
Comptroller	Elena Vazquez	A
Consumer Protection	John Suchy	R
Developmental Services	Carl Jordan	R
Education	Deb Paradis	R
Education	Chris Beloff	A
Freedom of Information Commission/Office of State Ethics/State Elections Enforcement Commission	Nancy Nicolescu, Vice Chair	R
Health Care Advocate	Laura Morris	G
Insurance	Maura Welch, Treasurer	R
Labor	Ram Aberasturia, Chair	R
Mental Health and Addiction Services	Roxana Rosario	G
Motor Vehicles	Cindy Zuerblis	R
Policy and Management	Carolyn Kozak	A
Public Health	Elise Kremer, Secretary	R
Secretary of the State	Blanche Tucker	R
Transportation	Wanda Seldon	R