



Southington Education Foundation Full Board Minutes

September 12, 2017
6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Hatton School, Media Center

Quorum: 5 Executive Board members

8 Executive Board Members Present:

J. Belanger, E. Bellinger, G. Duffy, G. Fournier, P. Knight, M. LeBrun-Griffin, J. McAloon,
T. Connellan (Absent: K. Maccione)

5 Full Board Members Present:

D. Carabetta, J. Cekauskas, J. Galati, J. Kelleher, A. Taylor,

3 Guests for Science at Sloper Presentation:

Mark Pooler, Shane Altwies (YMCA) John Duffy (Science Coordinator)

1. **Call to Order** - 6:10 p.m. by Gail

2. **Secretary's Report** - Ellen

Minutes of 6/6/17

Motion to approve - George

Second - Gail

Approved by all.

Communications: Thank you notes were received from the two scholarship recipients and the Flexible Seating grant recipients.

2. **Treasurer's Report** - George

CHECKING—\$14,755.05

SAVINGS/MONEY MARKET---\$41,473.87

BALANCE/ASSETS—\$56,228.92

Motion to approve - Joyce

Second - Gail

Approved by all.

Joyce moved (seconded by Gail) to maintain an operating budget of \$3,000 for 2017-18 and reserve another \$3,000 for 2018-19.

Approval – all in favor.

3. **Committee Work**

a. Program Development

i. **Science at Sloper Presentation**

Mark described the 4th grade science lessons at Camp Sloper held in fall (Ecosystems – Pond, Forest & Wetland) and spring (Weather and Water Erosion). Shane showed a video of students involved in this learning. John explained how the program aligns with new science standards and how the outdoor experiences could not be duplicated in a regular school setting.

Members praised the program itself but questions were raised about future funding and possible ways to lower the cost to SEF. A lack of details in the budget request and a weak evaluation plan in the application were noted.

Gail moved (seconded by Paula) to accept the *Science at Sloper* application, up to \$7,000, provided a detailed budget and a clear plan for student evaluation is included.

Approved - All in favor.

ii. **Status of L.E.A.F. Project**

A check for the project was returned to SEF because the town council had not established a funding partner. Since then the council established a new partnership with a *Farm Heritage Committee*. Questions were raised about the grant application, which needs to be re-written on a program application with the inclusion of a detailed budget, evaluation plan, and timeline for implementation.

b. Grants/Scholarships - Jan

i. **Review of Grant Procedures**

Denise, Kelly, and Jan worked on revisions to the current grant policy and grant application as well as writing a new procedures document for the grant committee. Jan highlighted some of the proposed changes and received input from board members. Michelle clarified the difference between the two types of grants: Mini-Grants are one shot/short term, usually generated by teachers. Program Grants are longer in duration and are generated through SEF partnerships. These documents will be shared with board members via email prior to the next meeting. The revised Grant Award Policy will require a formal vote at the October meeting.

ii. **Beehives - Apiculture in Agriculture (“Bee Grant”)**

The superintendent discussed liability issues. He was advised by the board’s legal counsel and insurance representative that liability language be removed from the grant application because the funding source for school sanctioned activities are not named in law suits.

Motion – Jerry moved (seconded by Gail) the approval of \$4,398.00 for Bee Grant, provided liability language be removed from the application.
Approval – All in favor

- c. Board Development - Jan
 - i. **Review of Outline** - Tabled

 - d. Resource Development - Gail
 - i. **Main Event**
Members were requested to think about a main event fundraiser for discussion at the October meeting.

 - e. **Marketing/Outreach** – Paula
 - i. Flyer Update needed - Tabled
4. **Work Plan** 2017-2018 – Michelle and Gail
- 2017-18 Goals:**
- 1. Increase membership
 - 2. Increase revenues.
 - 3. Solidify Procedures
5. **Next Meeting** – October 10, 2017, 6-7:30 p.m., Hatton Media Center
6. **Motion to Adjourn** –by Gail at 7:40 p.m. Second by George. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Bellinger
Secretary

Mission: The Southington Education Foundation, Inc. is committed to instilling a life-long love of learning in all children through innovative, creative learning experiences that expand upon existing educational opportunities. The Foundation will partner with the community to secure resources, inspire excellence, and enrich student achievement.

Core Values: Innovation, Learning, Equity, School-Community Partnership, Integrity