



Southington Education Foundation

September 14, 2021

6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Zoom

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance

12 Directors - Jerry Belanger, Ellen Bellinger, Gloria Brown, George Fournier, Jan Galati, Nancy Garry, Trish Kenefick, Paula Knight, Michelle LeBrun-Griffin, Joyce McAloon, Ann Taylor, Dianne Quinn

1 Volunteer Member – Lisa Camusso

1 Administrator – Frank Pepe

1 Guest - Jackie St. John

Call to Order – Gloria Brown called the meeting at 6:30pm.

A moment of silence was called for Brian Goralski and Mary DeCroce.

Approval of Minutes - August 10, 2021

First Motion – Ellen

Second Motion – Joyce

All In Favor

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Current totals reflect receipt of \$1250 from the CFGNB and donations for the Brian Goralski Scholarship.

CHECKING-- \$12,859.22

TOTAL ASSETS—\$25,327.59

First Motion – George

Second Motion – Trish

All In Favor

Jan requested that the treasurer make a slight change to how the CFGNB grant monies are recorded.

Brian Goralski Scholarship

Donations are still coming in. The total to date is approaching \$8,000.

Paula and Gloria will meet with the family to decide how the scholarship funds will be dispersed.

Committee Work

a) Revised SEF Bylaws – Jan

Bylaws must be revised to reflect changes in officers. The word *Chairperson* will be replaced with the word *Co-Chairs* throughout the document. Attorney Denorfia approved the following revisions:

Section 8. Officers of the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee shall have officers that shall consist of **Co-Chairs**, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary. Each officer shall be nominated and elected by a simple majority vote of the members of Executive Committee then serving and shall be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Board Membership.

Section 1. Chairperson. The **Co-Chairs** shall exercise general supervision of the affairs of the Foundation and shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors. The **Co-Chairs** may establish committees and shall be an ex-officio members of any committee. The **Co-Chairs** shall appoint Chairs and/or Co-Chairs to the Standing Committees. The **Co-Chairs or the Co-Chairs'** designee shall be the spokesperson to the media on behalf of the Foundation. **Decisions made by the Co-Chairs shall be made by mutual agreement in accordance with these by-laws. In the event of a disagreement between the Co-Chairs on a decision, the Co-Chairs shall submit the issue to the Executive Committee for a majority decision. If the members of the Executive Committee cannot reach a majority decision, the issue may be submitted to the SEF membership for a vote.**

Jan moved the proposed SEF Bylaws revisions (above) be approved by all members present. Seconded by Joyce. Discussion included the need and rationale behind the change. The motion passed unanimously.

Find the revised bylaws on the website:

https://southingtoneducationfoundation.org/documents/SEF_Bylaws.pdf

b) Membership and Marketing Committee Jan and Lisa

- Jan explained the purpose of the committee and the ongoing need to make SEF more visible in the community.
- Lisa presented a spreadsheet that will soon be available on Google Drive. It will help us keep event planning information organized in a single location, available to all.

c) Chamber of Commerce Communications *Sip & Shop* – Jan

- To increase SEF's visibility in the community, the Chamber president suggested our participation in their *Sip & Shop* event.
- When – November 30, 5-9:30pm
- Where – Aqua Turf
- What – Using funds from the CFGNB grant, SEF has rented a space to set up an informational booth with signage, a loop of our PowerPoint, brochures, Q&A, and possibly a raffle and/or small items for sale.

d) CFGNB Capacity Building Grant

Jan gave an overview of a revised CFGNB budget. A discussion followed on how to spend some of the funds. There was consensus on the purchase of banners for display at each of the schools.

e) Celebrations and Events – Paula

i. Trivia Night –

- Location - Kingsmen Brewery
- Date – October 20
- Theme – Halloween (costumes welcome)
- Goal – 150 tickets at \$25pp
- Individuals or teams may play
- Frank Pepe cautioned against advertising through students / okay to promote to teachers and staff.
- To be advertised through social media
- May include some raffles

ii. Wine Tasting –

- Worldwide will donate all liquor
- Will look into possible pairing with a local restaurant such as Craft Kitchen.

iii. Plan-B Southington –

- Owner is interested in doing SEF events at the restaurant.

- Owner has an idea to create a signature desert with a \$1 kickback for SEF.

iv. **Shopping Extravaganza** –
Tabled until next month.

v. **Spring Gala** –
Date: March 26, 2022

Meeting Adjourned at 7:44.

Next Meeting – October 12, 2021, 6:30pm on Zoom

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Bellinger

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