



Southington Education Foundation

January 10, 2023
6:30 p.m. on Zoom

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance

14 Directors - Jerry Belanger, Ellen Bellinger, Lisa Cammuso, Denise Carabetta, George Fournier, Jan Galati, Nancy Garry, Trish Kenefick, Paula Knight, Joyce McAloon, Nancy Rogers, Ann Taylor, Dianne Quinn, and Katie Wade

1 Volunteer Member – Peg Lewis

0 Administrators

Call to Order – Paula Knight called the meeting at 6:31 pm.

Paula took a minute to welcome a new volunteer member, Peg Lewis.

A. Approval of October Minutes

There were no additions or corrections made to the 12/13/22 minutes.

Jan moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Ann.

There were no abstentions. The minutes were approved.

B. Treasurer's Report

- Deposits included \$3,000 from the drive-in committee, \$547 from our shopping extravaganza, \$768 from United Way, and \$301 in donations.
- Expenses included payment for *What Trivia*, \$500 for one scholarship, and \$2,000 sponsorship for the robotics team.
- CHECKING BALANCE-- \$46,382.64.
- TOTAL ASSETS—\$79,565.09.
- Joyce moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Nancy. The treasurer's report was unanimously approved.
- A discussion took place about a plaque that the robotics team intends to give SEF. There was consensus to let them keep the money instead. Jerry will reach out.

C. Committee Work

1. Grant Committee Report – Jan and Denise

a) Fall Grant Approval

- One fall grant application, *Celebrating Children's Artwork Through Art Shows*, was reviewed and approved by committee. It requires final approval from the board of directors.
- Discussion included praise in support of an arts grant, questions about the art show structures themselves, and the possibility of this grant leading to other schools acquiring similar art show displays.
- There was further discussion about awarding the full \$1011.94 cost of the project versus the \$1,000 budgeted. Concern about precedent led to consensus for sticking with the budgeted amount.
- Jerry moved approval of awarding \$1,000 for the *Celebrating Children's Artwork Through Art Shows* grant, seconded by Joyce. The motion passed unanimously.

b) Winter & Spring Grant Cycles

- One winter grant application has been received.
- The committee will meet to review this application on January 16th.
- The March 1st deadline for spring grant applications needs to be updated on the website.
- Central office will need to notify teachers of the spring grant cycle.

c) DRAFT Purchase Order Approval Process

- Denise gave a history of the development of this more detailed formal process.
- It will continue as a draft as the process takes effect.
- The business office agrees with this process.
- Ellen moved approval of the *DRAFT Purchase Order Approval Process*, seconded by Jerry. All in favor. The motion passed.

2. Literacy Program Committee Update – Katie

- A second meeting with district literacy specialists has been requested.
- Katie met with Michelle to discuss the Main Street Foundation's grant application process.
- Paula expressed optimism about Main Street's involvement with this program.
- Teachers will be surveyed to provide additional information to the district.

3. Events Committee

a. Gala

- The date (May 5th) venue (Mtn Room) and band (Stay Tuned) are all set.
- Paula will talk to Betsy about Tops handling the catering.
- The committee will meet again on January 23rd.
- Something to think about: Paula would like us to consider incorporating Bob Brown's *Wall of Honor* event into the gala.

D. Other

Peg Lewis invited SEF members to a speaker event at her church.

Who: Veronica Marion, Manager of the CT Family Engagement Center, and frequent consultant to SERC

What: Diversity in Education

When: Sunday, January 15th at 10am

Where: First Baptist Church on Meriden Ave.

E. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:32pm.

Next Meeting – February 14, 2023, 6:30 pm on Zoom

Other Dates to Calendar:

- **January 16** Grant committee – 6:30 on Zoom
- **January 23** Events committee – 6:30 on Zoom
- **May 5** SEF Gala dinner, Mt Southington Ski Area, Mountain Room, Cinco de Mayo

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Bellinger

Recording 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