

Southington Education Foundation

June 13, 2023

6:00 PM at 255 Copper Ridge

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance

8 Directors: Lisa Cammuso, Denise Carabetta, Jan Galati, Nancy Garry, Paula Knight, Nancy Rogers, Dianne Quinn, Katie Wade

1. Welcome/Call to Order - Paula Knight called the meeting to order at 6:35.

2. Approval of May Minutes

There was one omission noted: Jan Galati attended the book tasting event along with Paula Knight, Katie Wade and Denise Carabetta. Nancy Garry moved acceptance of the minutes as corrected. Lisa Cammuso seconded the motion and it was approved with Jan abstaining.

3. May Treasurer's Report

A grant from the Bradley Barnes Trust came in for \$42,802.

SEF no longer receives income from Amazon Smiles.

\$85 set aside for consumable supplies will be applied to communication needs, specifically, stamps.

Updated earnings from the Gala are \$8891.01.

Lisa Cammuso moved acceptance of the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Katie Wade and it was approved.

4. Committee Work

a) Scholarships - Paula

Paula reported that she and Ann Taylor attended the SHS Awards presentations during which SEF gave three scholarships totaling \$3,000 to the following students: Madison Hendricks for Visual and Performing Arts; Ryan Ogren for the Joseph Erardi Scholarship; and Alyssa Polverari for STEM. Paula noted that 144 students received awards at the event totaling a quarter of a million dollars.

b.) Events - Paula

Events for 2023 will include:

Trivia Night on October 11, 2023 at the Cadillac Ranch

Gala on May 4th at Mount Southington

Honor an Educator at a date to be determined

Shopping Evening It was noted that Just for You would not be a possibility for this.

It was suggested that we explore the potential for a Basketball Game when Trish Kenefick was more available to help with that.

A fundraiser at 110 Grille was suggested as a potential event. Other ideas were for a Garden Party, perhaps at the Barnes Museum, a scavenger hunt as a family activity, and a wine/cider tasting.

c.) Board Development - Jan

I.) Status of SEF Board of Directors:

Jan reported that SEF has fifteen directors, five volunteers, and two members on sabbatical, for a total of eighteen active members.

Jan installed Lisa Cammuso and Katie Wade to become Co-Chairs of the SEF Executive Board by reading their duties according to the by-laws. Each was sworn into office by Jan and accepted their position by affirming their commitment.

Nancy Rogers as Corresponding Secretary and Dianne Quinn as Treasurer were also installed as officers.

Commitment Forms and Conflict of Interest Forms will be sent out to all Directors.

d.) Grant Committee - Paula

Denise reported on the Main Street Foundation/SEF Partnership Grant. The application has been posted on the SEF website, with the deadline being July 1. Jan and Denise will forward the grant to the Main Street Foundation who will review and determine the grant award. This grant specifies "programs involving direct and active participation by students with the goal of promoting and encouraging self-expression and personal accomplishment".

Paula reported that on May 25 a letter was sent by the Superintendent of Schools to all faculty to inform them of this opportunity.

Jan reported that the Art Show underwritten by an SEF grant was a great success at both

schools, with many parents and children attending and much enthusiasm noted. A project evaluation is forthcoming for this grant.

Jan reported that 2022-2023 grant budget for the past year was \$5,000. She and Denise recommended that the budget for the upcoming year be set at \$5,000 with three recommended grant cycles. There is an option to come back for additional funding. A discussion ensued during which it was suggested that SEF be proactive in awarding grants that provide resources that might address significant mental health needs of many students. SEF members will solicit ideas for such potential to assist teachers in addressing these needs during the summer.

5.) Other

The plaque to honor Gloria Brown is expected to be ready by late June, with the final cost being \$285 supported by donations from members. A tree has been planted at Sloper's. Discussion about the possibility of a Sunshine Fund for SEF, which will be determined at a future meeting.

6.) Potential Meeting Dates for 2023-2024:

9/12; 10/10; 11/7; 12/12; 1/9; 2/13; 3/12; 4/16; 5/4 and 6/4 (with 6/11 also the tentative last meeting).

7.) The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Rogers, Corresponding Secretary

Mission: The Southington Education Foundation, Inc. Is committed to instilling a life-long love of learning in all children through innovative, creative 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

