

Southington Education Foundation
Executive Board Meeting
March 12, 2014

Minutes

Attendance:

D. Miceli, J. Galati, B. Pestillo, A. DeBisschop, B. Hosmer, S. Proffitt, S. Giudice, J. Belanger

Call to Order: Made by Dawn at 6:46 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Alan to approve the 2/11/14 minutes. Motion seconded by Steve G. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made to accept the treasurer's report as read by Jan. Motion seconded by Beth P. Motion passed.

The Panera Bread fundraiser was a great success despite the weather. \$1,903 was raised from the event. Thank you to all our supporters. It was finally revealed that money donated to the SEF through Benevity donor was actually intended for the best buddies program at SHS. \$855 will be returned.

Chairman's Report:

1. Hospital of Central Ct/TOMZ Corp Partnerships
Jan and Dawn met with a hospital affiliate and board of education administrators to discuss a possible program/partnership with SHS and the Hospital of Central Ct. This partnership would include potential internship/mentoring programs, field trips, and possibilities in the area of robotics, orthopedics, aviation and more. Justin Mirante would like to be involved with the partnership possibilities with both companies. This is a wonderful tie with our STEM initiative.
2. Lowe's Grant – Camp Sloper Nature Center
Chris Boulanger is interested in applying for a Lowes grant. This is a partnership with Camp Sloper, Southington Schools and the SEF. The grant would provide the needed funds to build a 750 square ft. nature center on Camp Sloper grounds and expand the current science program. Mark Pooler has already raised 26k toward the needed 45k. There is a 20k balance left for the project. Chris will be able to apply for the grant on March 31st.

Motion: Beth P. made a motion for the SEF to fund no more than \$20,000 on the development of the Camp Sloper nature center.

Motion seconded by Alan

Voting record:	Beth H.	yes
	Steve G.	yes
	Steve P.	yes
	Jan	yes
	Dawn	yes
	Beth P.	yes
	Alan	yes

Motion passed

The YMCA needs to be informed so they can publicize accordingly and provide proper recognition to the SEF.

3. Lewis Farms Agricultural Farm/Educational Initiative
LEAF is an initiative that will provide the VoAg and Special Ed. students experiential learning at the farm. We will no longer have to purchase items that are produced through the program. Profits will go back into the program so that it is self-sustaining. \$2,500 is needed for seed money. They BOE will pick up costs next year, if there are any, to continue the program. This will have an animal component (further down the road) and be able to fund the "Life Cycle of a Chicken" grant that has spread to other schools.
Motion: Steve G. made a motion to provide the \$2,500 seed money for the startup of the LEAF program with Lewis Farms.
Beth P. seconded the motion
Motion passed

Vice-Chairman's Report:

1. Board at Large Meeting Update
Presentations were given by Ellen Bellinger on the "Life Cycle of a Chicken" grant and by Mary Jane Sullivan on the "Ukelele Buddies" grant. Both presentations were well received and praised for their success. Both teachers were provided a gift certificate to Zingarella's as a thank you for all their time and effort.
2. Membership Status
Concern was expressed about the current involvement with some board members.

The first meeting with the new superintendent will be a meet and greet with current and past directors.

Committee Reports:

Fundraising

Community Spelling Bee 2014

The Spelling Bee will be held on April 23rd. At this time, we have 4 confirmed teams with many more that have expressed interest. The Hospital of Central Ct is a \$1000 sponsor for our Spelling Bee. Joe Furey has once again agreed to be our Bee Master. An article should be in this week's Observe. Heidi Bass Lamberto will be in charge of food donations this year for community services. Help is needed to set up at 6 p.m.

STEM Committee Report

1. VSU Update
The Virtual STEM University is moving along. John Duffy has met with all the teams. Lesson design plans will go on set templates. John should be invited to executive bd. meetings for updates.

Beth has videos that she will send to Dawn for marketing purposes.

SEF will verify permission for students in videos or pictures on our website.

2. Scholarship Committee
Our first scholarship has been written, the second one is almost set. One scholarship will focus on STEM and the other will focus on character.

Steve P. will coordinate a date/time with Debi to meet with Joe and properly recognize him with the naming of the Dr. Joseph V. Erardi Jr. scholarship.

New Business:

1. Executive Board Officer Appointments

Dawn nominated Jan for chairman

Alan seconded the nomination

All in favor

Jan nominate Kim for vice chair

Dawn seconded the nomination.

All in favor

Dawn nominate Alan for treasurer

Beth P. seconded the nomination

All in favor

Jan nominated Beth H. for secretary.

Dawn seconded the nomination.

All in favor

Reminder to do a group picture at the next meeting for publicity.

2. Recommendation of appointing George Fournier to Board at Large

Motion: Steve G. made a motion to approve George Fournier to the BAL

Beth H. seconded the motion

Motion passed

3. We are once again a sponsor for the town wide spelling bee on March 20th at Thalberg School at 7:00pm. We will sponsor the event with the Record Journal.

Old Business:

1. Guy Iccarino/Database Discussion from February Meeting

Some concerns expressed by the board were that we are not big enough at this time, money, and practicality of application.

Jan extended her many thank yous to Dawn, Beth P. and Steve G. for their years of service and dedication to the SEF. They have been instrumental in driving the SEF forward and leave it in good hands to continue the momentum.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion made by Dawn to adjourn and seconded by Beth P. Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Next meeting: April 8, 2014 at 6:30 in the Municipal Center

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Pestillo

Secretary