

Southington Education Foundation
Executive Board Meeting
May 13, 2014

Minutes

Attendance:

Jan Galati, Steve Proffitt, Alan Debisschop, Jerry Belanger, Michelle LeBrun-Griffin (left at 7 pm), Rick Veilleux, Kim DiFusco via Skype

Call to Order: Made by at 6:37 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Rick to approve the April 8th minutes. Motion seconded by Alan. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made to accept the treasurer's report as read by Jerry. Motion seconded by Alan. Motion passed.

Chairman's Report:

Little Green Light Database-Robin Taille met with Steve, Michelle, and Jan to discuss how Little Green Light Database will be beneficial to the SEF. Robin distributed handouts and there was a question/answer period after her presentation. Michelle moved that the SEF contract with Little Green Light constituency relationship management contingent upon favorable review by the board's attorney. The motion was seconded by Kim. Those in attendance voted unanimously to support this motion. The SEF directors are thrilled that Robin has agreed to help us by donating her expertise and time.

VSU-Jan and John have been talking and a media event is scheduled for May 28, 2014 at South End School for all VSU grant creators to showcase the STEM lessons and units. John Duffy will email teachers that completed lessons to invite them to the reception. Two teams will present at the event. Jan will reach out to the BOE, Karen Smith and others to invite them. Principals and teachers alike are excited and wonder when the lessons will be posted and are available to share.

Order of the Blue Knight-The SEF received the Order of the Blue Knight on May 7, 2014. The plaque will be hung on our bulletin board in the lobby of the municipal building. Kim will update SEF bulletin board.

Vice Chair's Report:

Board at Large meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 5 at Hatton Elementary School. Steve plans to discuss the Fan of the Foundation and how the board at large may help with this major fundraiser.

Committee Reports

STEM:

Jan and Beth shared with the group the work that the committee has done to create two scholarships. The group read the scholarships and suggested some minor changes in wording. Jerry made a motion to accept the proposed scholarships once the revisions have been made and Beth seconded.

Grant Committee:

A grant reception will be held at Thalberg Elementary at 4 p.m. Chanel Curtin and her grant for First Lego League and Marion Virello and Ellen Bellinger will also be honored for their Indoor Organic Vegetable garden at South End.

Fundraising:

Drive-In Movie will be held on Saturday, June 7. Gates open at 6 and volunteers should arrive at 5:45. Karen Veilleux created flyers to hang in schools and members were encouraged to take one or two to hang.

SEF Gala will be held on October 24. Steve said some initial planning has started and the committee plans to keep the same theme. In addition, perhaps the invitation may be simplified and other changes, for example, having a PowerPoint showing SEF grant winners students engaged in learning new ventures using the funds from the SEF.

Communications

Media Events Calendar-In view of the many SEF events this spring, Jan passed out an SEF Calendar for the group to peruse.

Website-Jerry asked the group to either provide their biographies and/or update their current ones in the near future. Please email the new version to Jerry.

STEPS Event at Hawks Landing-Kim and Steve represented the SEF at this event.

Amazon.smile- AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for a person to support his/her favorite charitable organization every time he/she shops, at no cost to the shopper. Jerry suggested that the SEF get the word out to people and have people select the SEF as the charity that they wish to donate funds to. Jan made the motion to have Jerry register the SEF for AmazonSmile. Beth seconded it. The vote was unanimously in support of this means of fundraising. Jerry will write a PR piece for Amazon smile and the SEF and put it on our website. Alan questioned how the SEF would get paid.

New Business:

The SEF has some possible new members. A motion was made by Jan to accept Donna Gilewski as a member of the Board at Large. Beth seconded it. Eva Nagloski has expressed interest but has not responded as of this meeting. Jan will follow up. Steve brought up a STEM webinar that will be held on Monday, May 19 from 3:00 to 4:00. The webinar is sponsored by EdWeek and the ASCD.

Old Business:

Third Grade Art Work Initiative-Karen Smith will attend our June 10 meeting and give the SEF a presentation providing more information on this initiative.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion made by Jerry to adjourn and seconded by Alan. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Next meeting: June 10, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hosmer

Secretary