



## Southington Education Foundation

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

### Meeting Minutes

#### **In Attendance**

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

Volunteers – Bob Brown, Julie Portfolio

Administrator – Frank Pepe

#### **A. Welcome/Call to Order –**

Lisa called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, and welcomed two new volunteer members – Bob Brown and Julie Portfolio.

#### **B. Approval of June Minutes**

There was an omission on the 9/12/23 minutes that had been sent out electronically. Nancy R moved to accept the minutes as corrected, seconded by Jan. The corrected minutes were approved.

#### **C. February Treasurer's Report – Dianne Quinn**

- The treasurer's report was shared on a Google Drive.
- There was much praise for the new way of accounting and sharing the SEF treasury. Kudos to Dianne and Lisa!
- Checking account balance = \$53,240.
- There is a leftover balance of \$491.24 in the Barnes program account.
- Donations = \$157.50.
- Aug. & Sept. interest from the Goralski scholarship = \$128.21. Paula will find out from the family if interest from that account should roll over to SEF.
- The \$900 privately funded grant through Main Street Foundation was paid directly to the awardee and is therefore not accounted for in our treasury.
- Paula moved to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Jan. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **D. Committee Work**

## 1. Scholarship – Ann

- A discussion took place about the amount of the scholarship awards.
- Paula made a motion to continue funding the three scholarships at the current level of \$1,000 each, seconded by Jerry. The motion passed unanimously.

## 2. Events Committee – Nancy/Paula

- a. Next Meeting – October 25 at 6:30 on Zoom.
- b. Trivia Night – November 1<sup>st</sup>, 5:30-9 at Cadillac Ranch (4:30 set up)
  - The date was moved again - to November 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Ticket sales have been slow (\$930 so far).
  - Rotary, STEPS, SEA, and YMCA will sponsor teams.
  - Unico and Chris Poulos will help get the word out.
  - Raffle items have been promised.
- c. Chamber of Commerce – Sip & Shop - November 28<sup>th</sup>
  - The purpose is to promote SEF by extending our outreach.
  - Paula and Jan will represent.
- d. Basketball Fundraiser

Trish reached out to the Wizards with no response; will look into Harlem Globetrotters as well.
- e. Direct Mailing

There's interest in fundraising through a direct mailing. A person is needed to take this on.
- f. Just-For-You
  - An SEF shopping day is set for December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10-5.
  - A flyer will be created. (Lisa)
  - Flo will promote in the shop.
- g. Cider Tasting Event at Roger's Orchard
  - Nancy arranged for an event at the orchard in the spring.
  - Light bites and light music
  - A date will be set in May.

## 3. Honor-An-Educator – Joyce

Joyce will notify PTOs about how parents can honor educators by making a donation to SEF.

## 4. Board Development – Jan

### New Volunteer Member Introductions

- Julie Portfolio, mother of two, is a grant writer by profession and is willing to lend a hand as a new member of the grant committee.
- Bob Brown, former Southington teacher and BOE member, needs no introduction to this group. He will also lend a hand as a new member of the grant committee.

**5. Grant Committee – Denise & Jan**

a. Grant Committee Meeting

The committee will meet on November 27<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 on Zoom.

b. Grant Celebration.

- Jan encountered conflicts with planning a date for a grant celebration in December.
- With inclement weather being unpredictable in winter months, Jan asked for and received positive feedback on moving the event to late March.
- Jan will look into holding the grant celebration on March 20 or 21 at JAD, where Chris Palmieri will have his *Kids Koop* grant up and running.

**6. Program Committee – No report**

**7. Marketing Committee – Jan**

- SEF will be participating in the Chamber's *Sip & Shop* event.
- Lisa continues to update the SEF PowerPoint presentation.
- Joyce will send info about Honor an Educator to the schools.
- Chris Poulos will assist in promoting SEF events through his mailings and Facebook page.

**E. Other - SHS First Robotics Team Sponsorship**

Jerry shared a request for SEF's continued support of the robotics team. Last year's sponsorship was at the \$2,000 level. A discussion included questions about how much we can afford to give in a year without a gala. A decision is tabled until next month.

**F. Adjournment -** The meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.

**Next general meeting ~** November 14 – 6:30 on Zoom

**Other Dates to Calendar:**

- Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> ~ Event Committee – 6:30 Zoom
- Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> ~ Trivia Bee 5:30-9 at Cadillac Ranch (4:30 set up)
- Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> ~ Grant Committee – 6:30 on Zoom
- Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> ~ Sip-N-Shop at the Aqua Turf, 5:30-9
- Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> ~ Just For You Shopping, 10-5.

**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.

