



Southington Education Foundation

March 9, 2021
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
E-Meeting on Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Quorum= 7

12 of 14 Directors Present: Jerry Belanger, Ellen Bellinger, Gloria Brown, George Fournier, Jan Galati, Trish Kenefick, Paula Knight, Michelle LeBrun-Griffin, Joyce McAloon, Ann Taylor, Dianne Quinn, and Nancy Garry

1 Volunteer Member Present: Lisa Cammuso

1. **Welcome / Call to Order** – Paula
The meeting was to order at 6:32 p.m.
Paula urged members to sign up for Amazon Smiles for a % of sales.
2. **Approval of Minutes** - Ellen
With no additions or corrections noted, Trish moved and Joyce seconded approval of the February 9, 2021 minutes. All were in favor. The minutes were approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report** - George
 - a. **January report**
 - CHECKING-- \$17,375.62
 - TOTAL ASSETS—\$18,167.25
 - Shopping Extravaganza netted a total of \$1,059.58.
 - Donations - \$50 more from Network for Good was deposited
 - Expenses - \$79.37 for SEF book plates.
 - Action: Jerry moved acceptance of the 3/9/21 treasurer's report, seconded by Ellen. All were in favor. The treasurer's report was accepted.
4. **Committee Work**
 - a. **Board Development** - Jan

i. Strategic Plan for Membership Recruitment

- There is a greater need to develop a strategic membership plan now because our usual methods of outreach were interrupted by the pandemic.
- The plan is to reach out through connections to other civic organizations and groups in the community.
- It will help make our brand more visible in the community.
- The committee will meet again on March 16..

b. Grant Committee recommends three grants for Board approval. - Jan

i. Grant #1 *Diversifying Our Shelves* (\$438).

- The grant impacts a large number of students.
- Focus on award winning literature with minority characters.
- Action: Trish moved to fund \$438 for the *Diversifying Our Shelves* grant, seconded by Paula. The motion passed unanimously.

ii. Grant #2 *Multicultural Mentor Texts* (\$495.20)

- Grants #2 and #3 is a collaboration of two first grade teachers.
- Their rationale was supported by research.
- Grant #2 will provide 19 multicultural read aloud texts for each classroom teacher.
- Action: Joyce moved to fund \$495.20 for the *Multicultural Mentor Texts* grant, seconded by George. The motion passed unanimously.

iii. Grant #3 *Multicultural Libraries* (\$524.97)

- This grant will provide a leveled multicultural library that will be shared between the two first grade classrooms (3 of each title per class).
- Action: Ellen moved to fund \$524.97 for the *Multicultural Libraries* grant, seconded by Trish. The motion passed unanimously.

Gloria will print SEF bookplates for all the books purchased.

c. Scholarship – Ann

- Ann has 60 scholarship applications to vet and blind.
- Seven readers will have 10 days to read and score them.
- The deadline is April 15th.
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5. Robotics Team Request – Jerry

- The SHS robotics team is seeking financial support.
- They have not been able to compete this year due to COVID.
- SEF sponsored the team last year at the \$1,000 level.
- Gloria moved that SEF give \$500 to the robotics team this year, seconded by Trish.

- The discussion involved affordability issues and previous funding requests that had to be turned down.
- Action: The motion failed. (2-yes, 10-no.)

6. Resource Development – Paula

a. Amazon Smile

- Amazon Smile is an easy, painless way to raise funds.
- Our non-profit would earn up to 3% of purchases designated for SEF.
- The link to sign up is on the front page of the SEF website:
<https://southingtoneducationfoundation.org>
- Spread the word!

b. Funding opportunities through large businesses such as Walmart, Costco, Home Depot.

- Lisa offered to put together a package for outreach to businesses.
- Trish, Joyce, and Dianne offered to help.

c. Educator Recognition Program

- The committee will meet before the next SEF meeting.

d. Other fundraising ideas are needed for the next school year. Gala? Basketball? Bingo? Bring your ideas to the next meeting.

9. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

10. Dates to Calendar:

Membership Committee Meeting – Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

Regular SEF Zoom Meeting - April 20, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

It is hoped that we can have a face-to-face meeting in May.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Bellinger, 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.