



Southington Education Foundation

May 12, 2020

6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

E-Meeting on Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Quorum= 7

12 of 13 Directors Present: Jerry Belanger, Ellen Bellinger, Gloria Brown, Denise Carabetta, George Fournier, Jan Galati, Trish Kenefick, Paula Knight, Michelle LeBrun-Griffin, Joyce McAloon, Ann Taylor, and Dianne Quinn.

3 Volunteer Members Present: Lisa Cammuso, Nancy Garry and Sue Reisman

1. **Welcome/Call to Order** – Paula called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes** – April 7, 2020
Gloria moved approval of the 4/7/20 minutes, seconded by Joyce.
All in favor. The minutes were approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report** (George)
Monthly report –
CHECKING-- \$17,000.41
BALANCE/ASSETS—\$18,306.03
 - Total expenses = \$1,694.38
 - All gala sponsors are allowing us to keep their contributions
 - All auction donors were asked by mail if their donations could be used at a future event or if they would like them returned. There were no requests for returns.
 - All but one ticket purchased for the gala was donated.
 - Gloria moved to accept the March treasurer's report, seconded by Joyce. All in favor. The treasurer's report was accepted.
4. **Committee Work**
 - a. **Program Committee** – El Grant – Michelle
 - The second installment of the current El grant has not yet been distributed to SPS. An unused balance of \$17,237.50 from the 2019-2020 El grant remains in our treasury due to school closures. It has been confirmed with the Main Street Foundation that these funds can be carried over into the next school year. However this produces some tax considerations for the SEF. Paula will look into

getting an accountant to help with the tax reporting and audit of our books.

- The SPS applied for an additional \$30k+ for the 2020-2021 school year with SEF written in again as the fiscal sponsor. The Main Street Foundation has also approved this request and will be sending sign offs to the SEF in the coming weeks or so.

b. Grant Committee - Denise

- One complete application was received.
- Two others could not be completed due to school closures.
- Grant committee will e-meet on Zoom May 18.
- The board of directors will vote on the grant at the June 19 meeting.

c. Scholarships – Ann

- Thursday is the deadline to submit our scholarship winners' names to the HS.
- There will be a video Scholarship Program. All awardees will be invited, but they won't know what they've won until the online ceremony.
- Congratulatory letters will be sent after the ceremony.

d. Board Development – (Jan)

i. Review of terms and limits

- Term limits of directors were explained with a document (attached).
- A few *Conflict of Interest* and *Commitment* forms need to be returned.

ii. Approval of Executive Committee officers

- The slate of 2020-21 officers is as follows:
Chairperson: Paula Knight
Vice-Chair: Jerry Belanger
Treasurer: George Fournier
Secretary: Ellen Bellinger
- Additional nominations were requested from the floor.
- The nominees were asked if anyone can't serve.
- Gloria moved (seconded by Michelle) that the secretary cast one ballot for the 2020-21 slate of officers. All in favor. The motion passed.

e. Resource Development

i. Drive-in Update – Michelle

- SEF is on the June 13 docket
- Drive-In committee doesn't know if they will be able to open
- Main concern is over bathroom and concession stand safety

ii. Thank-A-Teacher Campaign – Paula

- Executive committee met to brainstorm ideas
- Campaign will launch May 20, 1pm, with the installation of a sign on the Green. (Painted by Paula)
- Jerry designed a new heart in apple logo for the campaign
- Exec. Committee ideas include:
 1. Pay to honor a teacher
 2. Paint apple logo on driveway
 3. Basket of apples (donated?)
 4. Apple logo posted on windows and doors (purchased or handmade?)
- How would we notify honored teachers?
- Consensus was reached to change the campaign name to Thank-An-Educator to include other school workers.
- Need to expand our presence on social media (Instagram, Southington Talks, Twitter, TikTok videos, FaceBook stories and FaceBook Live, etc.)
- Network with other groups to broaden our email distribution (Chamber, YMCA, STEPS, etc.)
- Ann - This is a good time to honor teachers. Send letters to honored teachers, “ _____ made a donation to SEF in your honor...”
- Donation amounts were discussed.
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iv. Virtual Fundraising Ideas – Michelle

1. *Ka-Hoot* Virtual Trivia Bee

- Participants register for a fee (per person or group)
- Could involve families and children
- Multiple choice answers

2. Spin-A-Wheel Auction

- Use donated auction items from canceled gala
- Use EventBrite to collect money
- Can be run over a period of time

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:28.

Upcoming Dates:

May 17 – Thank-An-Educator campaign launch at 1pm on the Green

May 18 – Grant committee Zoom meeting

June 19 – Next Regular meeting, 6-7:30, E-meeting on Zoom

Potential Meetings Dates for 2019-2020 (including possible summer meetings) 7/14, 8/11, 9/8, 10/13, 11/10, 1/12, 2/9, 3/9, 4/13, 5/10, 6/8 (To be finalized at June meeting)

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