



Southington Education Foundation
Annual Meeting for Full Membership
April 14, 2015

Minutes

Attendance:

Jerry Belanger, Michelle LeBrun-Griffin, Jan Galati, Rick Veilleux, Steve Proffitt, Alan DeBisschop, Beth Hosmer, Kim Difusco, Dave Monti, Gail Duffy, Tony Sheffy, George Fournier, Donna Gilewski, Bill Lutz, Paula Knight and Justin Mirante. Invited guest: Madeline Brunelli. Absent were Linda Flynn, Steve Guidice, Diana McDougall, Ann Miccaci, Dawn Miceli, Eva Nadolski, Bethany Pestillo, Sherry Russman, Mary Yuskis, Tim Connellan, and Kelly Maccione.

1. Call to Order-Meeting was called to order by Jan at 7:35 p.m.
2. Ratification of By-Laws –Dave Monti made the motion to ratify the revised Southington Education Foundation By-Laws (3-31-15). Bill seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Treasurer’s Report-Rick recognized Alan’s performance as treasurer for the past six years. Rick pledged to continue transparency in our finances to both the constituents and the SEF Board.
4. Installation –The chair welcomed new board members and thanked outgoing directors for their service. The following officers were installed: Gail Duffy-Secretary, Dave Monti-Vice Chairperson, and Rick Veilleux-Treasurer and Jan Galati–Chairperson. Comment made that all should anticipate taking a turn as an officer of the Foundation.
5. Chair Report-Jan discussed the SEF and its involvement with Mark Ramsay’s LEAF project and the nature of his work with Southington students. Jan indicated that by pledging financial support to LEAF the SEF is a leader in this project. Dave Monti and Alan Debisschop will represent the SEF on a future LEAF oversight board. The focus of the educational experiences and measuring success of the enrichment projects in quantifiable data and long-term outcomes still need to be determined.

6. Committee Reports

- a. Finance-Rick is evaluating whether to use Quicken or another automated system. Individual committees will need to have target budgets set.
- b. Board Development- Jan reported goals: to grow the SEF membership; work on the Board Policy manual and by-laws; engage members in committee work, and develop a mentorship program.
- c. Grants and Programs-Beth reported the process of teacher grant application needs to be streamlined. Goals include marketing; inform teachers that not all grants need a STEM component. Beth explained the grant recipient reception and the two scholarships (Dr. Erardi and STEM).
- d. Marketing-Jerry welcomed Gail as co-chair to the committee. Goals include: update the website, tap into social media-twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. Jerry explained that volunteer Robin Taille maintains Little Green Light. Jerry noted that Jan does press releases and Beth takes photos.
- e. Resource Development-Steve and Michelle reported on fundraising and sponsorship respectively. The Gala has been streamlined; the event's goal is to ensure that the people have a good time while raising funds for the SEF. More big-ticket auction items are needed and there is potential to make between \$40,000-\$50,000 through the Gala, the Spelling Bee and individual donations.

7. New Business

- a. Board Member Information- Dates of meetings, committee interest inventory
- b. Ambassador Program-Dave Monti introduced the idea of a liaison between the SEF and PTOs in town. He has contacted all PTOs. He asked for volunteers to reach out and adopt a school.
- c. Parent Program-Dave introduced the idea of a mid-September Literacy Program for Kindergarten students' parents. SEF donate a book to each parent was suggested. Michelle and Beth are willing to research books appropriate for children entering kindergarten.

8. Old Business-None

9. Next Meeting— May 12, 2015, Hatton School Media Center

10. Motion to Adjourn-Dave made a motion to adjourn and Kim seconded it. All were favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:33.

Next meeting: May 12, 2015 at Hatton School. Media Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hosmer, Secretary