Attendance: Jan Galati, Dawn Miceli, Beth Pestillo, Sherry Russman, Rick Veilleux, Jerry Belanger, Kim DiFusco, Beth Hosmer, Justin Mirante, and Steve Proffitt. George Fournier was an invited guest.

Call to order: by Jan Galati at 6:37 pm.

Secretary's Report: No report this meeting   **Treasurer's Report**: No report this meeting

Grant Recipient Presentations by Ellen Bellinger and Mary Jane Sullivan: Ellen provided an informative slide show on *The Life Cycle of a Chicken Through Scientific Inquiry and Literacy.* Members were impressed with the excitement and involvement of teachers and educators, the students' hands-on experiences and the expansion of this program to all elementary schools. Rick commented that the foundation encourage grant applications provide for district expansion; Dawn noted this topic is worthy of future discussion. Mary Jane provided a power point on *Ukulele Buddies*. Members were impressed with the collaboration between senior citizens and students, the passion for music, and the building of character assets. Teachers were presented with gift certificates in recognition of their endeavors.

Committee Reports:

- **Five-Prong Commitment to STEM Enrichment:** Dawn provided an update on the five components of this recent initiative. Recognition has been given to the Robotics team; the Southington Education Foundation will continue to support programs committed to STEM education. The SEF has provided funding for the Virtual STEM University through a commitment to grade level shared lessons on the web related to STEM. The Fourth Grade STEM program, Science at Sloper, has the opportunity to expand during the winter months providing an additional third hands-on experience for these students. The STEM scholarship is in committee with chair, Jan Galati and members, Beth Hosmer and Sherry Russman. The board has agreed to fund two $1,000 scholarships, one of which includes STEM criteria and the other will be of a broader description. Beth Pestillo explained the STEM-based grants.

- **Grants Committee** was updated by Beth Pestillo. The SEF has provided funding for two grants this past fall on a rolling-type application process. A grant reception will be held in the spring.
- **Fundraising Committee** was updated by Jan. The Gala continues to be our greatest source of funding with an approximate $27,000 total this fall. Panera Bread sought out SEF through their *Share the Love* program in partnership with SEF adding a near $2,000 to our treasury. The Spelling Bee will be held on Wednesday, April 23rd at 7:00 p.m. in the Southington High School auditorium. Joe Furey will be Bee Master; non-perishable items are accepted at the door. Members are encouraged to create teams of three. Each team should complete an application and submit it to Alan DeBisschop, P.O. Box 42. Deadline for registration is April 16, 2014 and the registration fee may be accepted before or at the event or even following the event if needed. Entry applications are available online at: www.southingtoneducationfoundation.org. This wonderful community event is in its fourth year and typically raises approximately $10,000.
- **Communications Committee** was updated by Dawn. Members should be on the lookout for an article about the SEF in a new Southington magazine, arriving any day in the mail.

Executive Board changes

- March Executive Board meeting marks terms ending for Dawn Miceli, Bethany Pestillo, and Steve Guidice and terms beginning for Jerry Belanger, Michelle LeBrun-Griffin, and Rick Veilleux.
- At the same time Dr. Erardi, Director ex-officio will be leaving mid- April; interim superintendent, Karen Smith will take his place.

Jan spoke of the work and commitment of these individuals who are exiting the executive board; members gave them a round of applause.

The next meeting will be held at Hatton School Media Center on June 5, 2014 at 6:30.

Motion to adjourn at 7:50 by Dawn and seconded by Beth Hosmer.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Galati and Bethany Pestillo

Recorders