

Southington Education Foundation
Executive Board Meeting
September 9, 2014

Minutes

Attendance:

J. Galati, J. Belanger, A. DeBisschop, T. Sheffy, K. DiFusco, B. Hosmer, M. Lebrun, S. Proffitt, T. Connellon, R. Veilleux

Call to Order: Made by Jan at 6:35 p.m. Jan gave a warm welcome to Tim.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Tony to table the July minutes and Rick made a motion to accept the August 12 minutes. Motion seconded by Beth. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made to accept the treasurer's report as read by Alan. Motion seconded by Beth. Motion passed. Rick discussed liquid savings with Alan and the Executive Board as liquid savings get a better rate of return than CD/Checking and liquid savings work off the prime. Jerry brought up EventBrite and how the final numbers will not be available until after the gala. We also have raised \$10.00 in Amazon Smile.

Chairman's Report: Jan had a handout about Strategic Planning and creating a Governance Committee. Both of these are long term projects involving two committees. After reading the handout, several comments were made and briefly discussed. Due to the upcoming Gala, ultimately, the group decided to have a day long meeting (a retreat) in November to thoroughly review and update our bylaws, mission statement, and where do we (the SEF) want to be next year, five years, ten years?

Vice Chair's Report: No Report at this time.

Gala Report: Steve and Michelle are the co-chairs of the event. Meetings have been held regularly and they reported that Live Auctions and silent auctions are falling into place. Jan will go to Tony's office to get easels and a tent for the gala. Jerry suggested a blimp as an auction item and Tony thought a drone would be an awesome auction item. A discussion as to whether to give the Rogers family tickets to the gala was discussed especially as the Rogers donated \$5,000. to the SEF. This led to a discussion about a "Fan of the Year" Award to recognize the contributions that people have made to the SEF. Michelle made a motion to recognize the top donor at or above \$5,000. Jerry seconded the motion and Rick mentioned that this should go to the committee level. Ultimately, the motion passed. Alan will get 4 tickets and Jan will a proper award. To promote the Gala, a suggestion was made to pass out invites and/or pens at the Apple Harvest Parade. In addition, labeling the artwork from different students schoolwide will take place on Oct. 8.

STEM Initiative: Tony reported that through Dr. Monti, group is being created to serve as a liason to the Technology Advisory Board. Justin Mirante and George Fournier will be involved and Tony has been in the past. The first meeting will be held in November. This is very important as STEM and Manufacturing jobs need qualified people. The group will support both those kids that are not planning to enroll in college and the SEF. Alan discussed the idea of free money for teacher through the grants and why are not more teachers applying. Perhaps, committee members could go to elementary and middle school faculty meetings to encourage teachers to write grants. Steve and Jerry felt that teachers were under a great deal of stress last year due to new evaluations for teachers. In the past, Jerry said, "grants were very successful."

Grant Committee: Beth Hosmer will meet with the group at SHS in a week to discuss the grant process, have the committee read the grants and to make a decision about the grants.

Fundraising: Beth Pestillo discussed sponsorships and how lists differ between hers and Alan's. Money is still coming in (10,400) and Jan had a check from Body Balance. Beth passed her sheet around for everyone in the group to review and sign off on their contacts. Beth discussed the program and levels of sponsorship. Alan talked about the lottery board and Steve Guidice sponsored. Jan will reach out to the Hospital of Central Connecticut, a \$1,000 sponsor to the Spelling Bee. Jan will cover publicity with the papers and decisions need to be made about sponsorship seating. Double check Beth P's excel spreadsheet.

New Business: CTCET Annual Conference on Sept. 30. Jan plans to attend. The group discussed the STEM process and will further discuss this matter at the November retreat.

Old Business: Scholarship-Both the STEM and Dr. Erardi. Posting of the scholarship will happen in Mid-October. A chairman is needed for both committees and rubrics will need to be developed prior to mid-February. Students must have their applications mailed by early March and the committee will need to read the applications and decide prior to April vacation, 2015.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion made by Rick to adjourn and seconded by Jan. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Next meeting: Oct. 14 at the Municipal Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hosmer

Secretary