



Southington Education Foundation

November 10, 2020

6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

E-Meeting on Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Quorum= 7

9 of 13 Directors Present: Jerry Belanger, Ellen Bellinger, Gloria Brown, George Fournier, Jan Galati, Trish Kennefick, Paula Knight, Joyce McAloon, and Dianne Quinn

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

1. **Call to Order/Communications** – Paula
Paula called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

2. **Approval of 10/13/20 Minutes** - Ellen
With no additions or corrections noted, Trish moved and Jerry seconded approval of the October 13 minutes.
All in favor. The minutes were approved.

3. **Treasurer's Report** - George
Monthly report

CHECKING-- \$10,666.53
TOTAL ASSETS—\$15,666.53
 - Total assets include funds set aside for scholarships and expenses.
 - Jan moved acceptance of the treasurer's report, seconded by Joyce. All in favor. The treasurer's report was accepted.
 - There was a discussion about the shortage of funds in our treasury compared to previous years.

4. Scholarships - Susan

- a. November is the deadline for the high school to receive scholarship notices. Previous discussions revealed that we cannot afford to fund three SEF scholarships at their current levels.
- b. Discussion involved whether to eliminate one of the scholarships or cut back on the total amount of money offered. There was agreement that it was important to keep SEF's name visible with 3 scholarships.
- c. Joyce made a motion to fund the current three SEF scholarships at \$500 each. Trish seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed unanimously.
- d. Should the portfolio requirement be dropped from the arts scholarship? The scholarship co-chair noted that there were few (4-5) applications received for the arts scholarship and that the low number may have been due to the portfolio requirement. The decision to keep or drop the requirement was left to the committee.

5. Committee Work

a. Grant Committee - Jan

- i. The superintendent and assistant superintendent had requested that SEF mini-grant funding focus on (1) diversifying classroom libraries and (2) digital needs.
- ii. Jan spoke with Sherri Dinello on the present status of BOE funding of technology and digital needs in the district and learned the following: all teachers should have needed technology; Chrome books were purchased and are expected to arrive this month; budget is not a concern. She suggested SEF contact Stephanie Lawlor regarding diversification of classroom libraries.
- iii. Co-chairs are concerned about potential issues regarding supplanting vs. supplementing when reviewing possible digital needs grant applications. Where can we best put our grant money if tech is covered and books cannot be shared? A letter requesting clarification was sent to Steve Madancy.
- iv. The status of grants awarded last year was reviewed. Due to the pandemic, only one has been completed; the rest are in a state of flux.
- v. Congratulatory grant letters were sent out and copied to administrators. A press release will also be sent out soon.

b. Resource Development / Shopping Extravaganza - Nancy and Joyce

- i. Our annual holiday shopping day at was expanded to 12 local businesses, each giving SEF a percentage of the sales generated on Dec. 5th. Participating businesses are: Just For You Gift Shoppe, Pelegano's Stained Glass & Gifts, Ali's Nursery, SoCCA, Petals & Plates, Nyren's of New

England, Lewis Farms, B & V Jewelers, Awards of Excellence, Bangle, My Wife's Shop, and Good Vibes Gifts & Flowers.

- ii. A flier was created (attached) for distribution to schools, the BOE, and PTOs (Joyce), as well as through social media and email blasts (Jerry & Lisa). Further networking will include the Chamber, YMCA, and Library (Paula), Rotary Club (Gloria) letters to charter SEF members and a press release (Jan).
- iii. Nancy is creating videos from each business to promote on social media.
- iv. All members are asked to print fliers and enlist friends and family to shop at these businesses on Dec. 5th.

6. **Review of “To-Dos”** – Paula

Paula asked how we might interest potential new members since we can't have the usual Grant Recognition Night. Should we hold a special meeting? Can we put together a video presentation to promote SEF's previous grants? Lisa, Nancy, Jerry, and Paula are interested in working on a promo video.

7. **Adjournment** The meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

7. **Next Zoom Meeting:** January 12, 2021 at 6:30 pm. (There will be no December meeting.)

8. **Dates to Calendar**

December 5th - SEF Shopping Extravaganza (See below)

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



SHOPPING EXTRAVAGANZA SATURDAY DECEMBER 5th



SOUTHINGTON BUSINESSES + SEF = COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Shop at any of the businesses below, **tell them you are an SEF supporter**, and SEF will receive a donation from the business. Teachers will benefit from grants, students will benefit from scholarships, and you will find great things to buy for that special someone!! Many of these shops have special offers for you that day and some offer free gift wrapping! ENJOY!

PLANTSVILLE AREA

Just For You Gift Shoppe

979 Meriden-Waterbury Tpke
www.shopjustforyougiftshoppe.com

Pelegano's Stained Glass & Gifts

1241 Meriden-Waterbury Tpke
www.peleganostainedglass.com

Ali's Nursery, LLC

421 Buckland Street
www.alisnursery.com

DOWNTOWN SOUTHINGTON AREA

SoCCA

93 Main Street
www.southingtonarts.org

Petals & Plates

53 Eden Ave
www.petalsplates.com

Nyren's of New England

456 N Main Street
www.nyrensofnewengland.com

Lewis Farms

384 Belleview Ave
www.lewisfarmsct.com

*SEF wishes you a safe
holiday season!!*

B & V Jewelers LLC

76 N Main Street
www.bvjewelers.com

Awards of Elegance

410 Main Street
www.awardsofelegance.net

Bangle

48 N Main Street
www.bangle.buzz

My Wife's Shop

22 Center Street
facebook.com/vintagefromtheheart53

QUEEN STREET AREA

Good Vibes Gifts & Flowers

122 Spring Street
www.givinggoodvibes.com

For contactless shopping, please contact any of the businesses, and they will be happy to help you.
*SEF and Southington small businesses **THANK YOU** for your support!*