

**Southington Education Foundation
Board at Large Meeting
Minutes
May 28, 2013**

Attendance: Kim DiFusco, Carmela Avery, Beth Hosmer, Stephen Proffitt, Marc Pelletier, Justin Mirante, Ryan Rogers, Tony Sheffy, Jan Galati, Beth Pestillo, Dave Monti, and Bill Lutz.

Call to order: by Vice Chairman Jan Galati at 6:30 pm.

Secretary's Report: No report this meeting

Treasurer's Report: No report this meeting

Vice-Chairman's Report: Jan summarized highlights of the past year. The Fan of the Foundation yielded nearly \$30,000; school grants awarded \$18,000; Spelling Bee earned \$10,000. Within the community the SEF continues to provide enrichment to fourth graders through the outdoor program at YMCA Camp Sloper as well as to heighten awareness of the educational impact of SEF grants through the Celebrating Success programs.

Committee Reports:

Communications: Jan shared Dawn's report regarding continuing press in terms of the quarterly e-newsletter, PTO announcements, publicity pieces in local media, and Facebook posts.

STEM: Tony stated we are presently involved in laying the proper foundation for the implementation of STEM. Those involved from SEF and particularly school district representatives are focused on gaining knowledge about STEM in terms of our own curriculum and programs, as well as what is out there in our state and the nation. Tony also emphasized the importance of raising awareness of what STEM actually is and how the school system and ultimately the community can benefit from STEM initiatives. Tony is using his role as Chamber president as a platform to raise STEM awareness. Tony has had the opportunity to speak with Governor Malloy and Senator Blumenthal about our STEM initiative and both stand ready to assist us when and how they can. In addition, two teachers will be attending a "STEM" conference this summer.

The **STEM Recognition Program** is a new initiative that will support and enhance those STEM related programs and projects already underway in our school system. Bill suggested informing the math and science coordinators of the STEM Recognition Program and requesting that they provide SEF with information about staff involvement in classroom initiatives for the purpose of recognition. A meeting with coordinators was discussed. Dave shared his discussion with the CCSU president and the potential of STEM support from the university.

Grant Committee: Beth P. announced that the next grant presentation will take place at JFK on June 12th. Carmela Avery is working on refreshments. Invitations have begun to go out. Beth explained that the focus of the grant process is changing and will be revised during the summer.

Fundraising Committee:

Fan of the Foundation: Kim announced the details of the October 25th Fan of the Foundation to be held in Kay's Pier North. Summer meetings will be held. Committee needs were discussed; volunteer interests were surveyed. Work needs to be done with invitations, programs, corporate solicitation; silent auction donations, etc. Volunteers are asked to help and may contact Kim DiFusco (860-621-3854 or Kdifusco@cox.net).

Drive-In: Jan shared Dawn's report on the June 8th event. This year is a showing of *Jaws* accompanied by Eric Korps. Volunteers are needed and should contact Dawn (860-479-9199 or email jndmiceli@cox.net).

HQ Partnership: Board members are requested to consider changing trash haulers as the SEF earns \$50 for each new customer and will benefit one free month with this change. Be sure to use the special contact number that is on the SEF website.

The next **Executive Board Meeting is Tuesday, June 11, at 6:30 at the Municipal Building** (Dr. Erardi's office). Board members are welcome to attend.

The next **Board at Large Meeting is expected to be held on Tuesday, September 5th at 6:30 at Hatton School**. (tentative place/date)

Motion to adjourn made by Bill Lutz and seconded by Dave Monti at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Galati and Beth Pestillo

Recorders