

SEF Board At Large Meeting
May 10, 2011
6:30 PM
Hatton School

Agenda

1. **Call to Order** at 6:40 by Bill Lutz
2. **Attendance:** D Miceli, A DeBisschop; B. Lutz; Dr. Erardi, J.Galati; D. Monti; B. Pestillo; G. Costanzo; M. Graveline. Invited Guests: M. Purushotham and D. Redinger.
3. **Secretary's Report**
 1. Approval of the minutes by D.Monti and seconded by D.Miceli
 2. Correspondence: none
4. **Treasurer's Report indicates much activity (See Report)**
 1. Bills: no discussion
 2. Income (\$500 each from Kelley and Plantsville Schools for the original literacy grant through American Legion Auxiliary Jackie St. John). Dr. Erardi was impressed by the understanding and involvement of the young children. Dr. Erardi and Bill offered to develop a plan: inform other schools of the manner in which these two elementary schools were able to involve students in a civic project that ultimately returned income to the SEF.
 3. Grants given to date amount to more than \$35,000. Dr. Erardi will share this information at this week's BOE meeting.
 4. Donations of over \$6,000 to the SEF by Marianne Purushotham. As an actuary she presents seminars for company employees. She was thanked for the many times she generously donated the honorarium to the SEF.
5. **STEM Initiative**
 1. **Meeting about the Building** will be held next Tuesday (5/17/11). Bill Lutz reported on the following: No agreement with the Y regarding an arrangement for the building. Meeting is scheduled next week to move towards an agreement regarding how the building will be managed. Uses of the building; availability to other districts; fees to other school districts. SEF will need from the YMCA a draft of their needs for the pilot program. G. Costanzo wants to investigate another site; he will research other options.
 2. **Presentation on Curriculum Development by Dale Redinger, Science Coordinator:** The team of 4th grade teachers have met and walked the trails. May 19th will be another mini-pilot day with students. Valuable opportunity to organize time, resources, etc. The plan for next school year: 3 visits during the seasons (fall, late winter, & late spring) and by late Oct./early Nov. all fourth graders will be involved. Ms. Redinger provided an overview of activities and curriculum. Ecosystems will be the focus of this present curriculum. What is affecting the ecosystems? Activities at pond, forest, hill, etc. Measure; test soil and water. Digital pictures will be taken to compare living and non-living. Plan to use video-technical projector on site. Teachers are willing and ready to expand the curriculum; in the future hope to have DEP specialists, etc. at no cost. Sub-nurse is ready to come. Questions & Answers: A. DeBisschop expressed a concern about the amount of the money directed to the YMCA for the pilot program. The STEM committee is awaiting a budget for this program. Nothing in the budget for transportation; typically costs \$1,000 for each day of activities. (D. Redinger) Do you anticipate having the resources to develop a curriculum for all STEM components? How will this happen? We have staff for summer curriculum writing. (D. Redinger) Would also like to look for other professionals such as college professors in our

area to deliver. (D. Redinger) Do you anticipate using the facility for every grade every year? I don't think so (D. Redinger).

6. Fund Raising

1. Drive In: June 25th
2. Spelling Bee: 250 Letters mailed to data base; Alan encourages personal contact with other civic groups; presently have about 22 teams verbally committed. June Ex. Board meeting will discuss specifics: need about 6 people to help. See website.
3. Fan of the Foundation: Letters went out for donations.

7. Grants

1. Grant Awards: June 26th at 3:30 (refreshments) & 3:45 (award presentations)
2. Presentations: Vanguard Award (crystal apples for stellar donors); invite the president of the American Legion Women's Auxiliary and Marianne Purushotham
8. **Publicity**: Recent Meriden Record Journal article recent interview with Bill; publicity for the grant presentations
9. **Old Business**: June Kelley
10. **New Business**: Bill and Dawn are going to draft a communications policy and expect to have this ready for the June BAL meeting.
11. **Next BAL Meeting is June 14th at 6:30 Hatton**
12. **Adjournment** at 8:20 by G. Costanzo and J. Galati