



Southington Education Foundation
Executive Board Meeting
November 10, 2015

Minutes

Attendance:

Executive Board Present: Michelle LeBrun-Griffin, Jan Galati, Rick Veilleux, Steve Proffitt, Dave Monti, Gail Duffy, Jerry Belanger, Beth Hosmer

Full Board Members Present: Paula Knight, Donna Gilewski, Kelley Maccione, Justin Mirante, George Fourier and Mary Yuskis

Absent: Tim Connellan

1. Call to Order-Executive Board Meeting was called to order by Jan Galati at 6:37 p.m.
2. Vote to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2015 SEF Executive Board Meeting:
 - 1st-Dave Monti
 - 2nd Michelle LeBrun-GriffinAll in favor- Vote passed
3. Treasurer's Report-Rick Veilleux presented the Treasurers Report- Rick reports money all in checking account and no longer in CDs. SEF Fan of the Foundation net \$17,232.88 profit. Full report was shared with the committee.
Vote to accept the Treasurer's Report:
 - 1st Dave Monti
 - 2nd Michelle LeBrun-GriffinAll in Favor- Vote passed
4. Committee Reports-
 - a. Program Committee: STEM Proposal for CCSU Partnership. Dave Monti reported on the proposal for a partnership with CCSU. Justin Mirante put together a three-step plan. Discussion of a two-step plan that combines steps two and three. The program will include middle school and high school STEM opportunities. Jerry inquired about how many students will be impacted. Michelle LeBrun-Griffin asked about the current contacts. George informed the group that he knows of manufacturing positions that

need technological expertise that are available to students who can be trained after high school. Discussion around the table regarding current need for students to have additional opportunities not just college opportunities. Paula Knight commented on manufacturing need and the social implications on students who may want to enter the manufacturing field. Rick Veilleux SEF can concentrate our STEM initiative as another enrichment program. Dave will move forward.

b. Resource Development –

1. Gala- Thank you to Steve Proffitt and Michelle LeBrun-Griffin for a job well done on this year's gala. Michelle LeBrun-Griffin stated that we had so many items that there were not bidding wars for items. Discussion: Lots of competition out there for auctions. Jerry Belanger to send out thank you cards with a save-the-date for the spelling bee.
2. Spelling Bee- Southington Auditorium April 21, 2016. Donna Gilewski looking for a committee to work on the event. Michelle LeBrun-Griffin suggested Steve Proffitt emcee the event. Jan Galati spoke to the committee from Guilford Education Foundation with regards to their spelling bee protocol. Jerry Belanger suggested we give an award for the best costumes. A sign-up sheet was passed around for a subcommittee.
3. Scholarship- Committee needs additional members to read applications and help with the SEF STEM scholarship and Joseph Erardi Scholarship. Beth Hosmer looking for additional readers. Michelle LeBrun-Griffin and Justin Mirante will provide some feedback from last year's procedure. Michelle LeBrun-Griffin suggested that the applications be screened for completion etc. prior to readers getting the applications. Discussion ensued regarding streamlining the process. Jerry Belanger suggested possibly using a computer application program. Beth Hosmer will reach out to Jarre Betts at Main Street Foundation to inquire about MSF process. Jerry Belanger inquired about any grants in process. Beth Hosmer reported that the application is under examination for revision to make the application more user-friendly. Jan Galati waiting to hear back from the Superintendent regarding grants. It was suggested by Rick Veilluex that if the Superintendent cannot attend our SEF meetings that the Assistant Superintendent attend.

- c. Board Development: Nominating Committee to form and looking for new members. Jan would like some help recruiting new members. Dave will serve on the nominating committee.

5. New Business –

- a. Meeting Schedule
- b. “Public” meeting December 8, 2015 to encourage new members. Possibly at the Orchards. Potential members would be invited to the meeting. Michelle LeBrun-Griffin suggested that each member invite two interested potential members
- c. Marketing- Jan Galati suggested we put together a video.
- d. New Fundraising opportunities- Jan Galati is looking for ideas for new fundraising opportunities. Steve Proffitt reminded the group that we have funds available and we need to disseminate the funds.
- e. Program Policy changes-Discussion of how SEF could enhance programs that may get cut from the Southington BOE budget. SEF continuing to fund the Sloper project. If it’s a valuable program the school system should look to fund the program in the future. Policy right now is a year-to-year funding but we are looking to institute a timeline. Michelle LeBrun-Griffin suggested we have a memo of understanding not a policy. Discussion to put a cap on the funding for the Sloper program and place it back on the BOE.
- f. Retreat- Jan Galati attended the September conference on Effective Boards. Jan Galati and Michelle LeBrun-Griffin met following the conference to discuss increasing membership and enhancing the SEF organization. Jan Galati would like have a Saturday retreat at the Orchards in February. Possible date February 20, 2016 with a February 27, 2016 snowdate.
- g. Robotics Request- Sponsorship to Robotics team
 - 1st-Jerry Belanger made motion to grant the Robotics Teams \$3000 sponsorship.
 - 2nd – Michelle LeBrun GriffinMotion Passed
- h. Jan Galati recruited Andrew Pion as a new member. She will invite him to the December 8, 2015 meeting.

6. Old Business-

- a. Ambassadorship Program- Schools: Southington High School, Hatton, DePaolo, Derynoski, Plantsville, Kelley and Strong all participating. Program underway.
7. Next Meeting—December 8, 2015 at 6:30 PM, Social- Place TBA
8. Motion to Adjourn-
 - 1st Dave Monti
 - 2nd Gail DuffyAll in Favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Duffy, Secretary