

Southington Education Foundation
Board Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2025
7:15 PM on Zoom

In Attendance:

14 Directors: Lisa Cammuso, Katie Wade, Ellen Bellinger, Jerry Belanger, Trish Kenefick, Nancy Garry, Jan Galati, Michelle LeBrun-Griffin, Nancy Rogers, Paula Knight, Dianne Quinn, Patricia Gagliardi and Jessica Springer-Cap
1 Volunteer: Judi Sprega
1 Administrator: Frank Pepe

Welcome/Call to Order:

Katie called the meeting to order at 7:16.

Approval of the September 2025 Minutes: (Nancy R)

Jan moved acceptance of the September 9, 2025 minutes as distributed. Jerry seconded the motion and it was approved.

Treasurer's Report (Michelle)

The current balance is \$90,363.09, of which \$25,184.63 are available funds beyond the budget allocation.

The current balance on the Goralski Fund is \$35,560.43. The account is currently earning interest at .10%.

Michelle reported that the transition to M&T Bank has not been easy and there is not yet access to online banking.

A discussion ensued as to the feasibility of investing the available SEF funds as well as separately a portion of the Goralski funds in six-month CDs, which currently earn interest at 3.24%. Paula reported that she has gained advice that SEF as a 501c3 can legally invest funds, but will get permission from the Goralski family.

Concern was expressed that, considering the amount of available funds beyond operational expenses, SEF is in compliance with IRS regulations for a non-profit. Lisa will follow up with CPA and report at the next meeting.

Administrator's Report:

Frank reported that the Strategic Plan for Southington schools has been submitted to the Board of Education and will be voted on at the next meeting.

Committee Work:

Scholarship: (Ann)

Katie reported that Ann has notified the district about the increase in scholarship dollars to \$2000 that SEF will offer.

Grants: (Jan)

The board members voted by email to approve the changes to the SEF grant application forms, noting the new maximum to be \$3000. Jan contacted Steve, who will send out a memo to teachers informing them of the change.

Board Development: (Jan)

Jan stated there was nothing new to report.

Program:

Katie met with school administrators regarding the Asset Building Classrooms program. She said that STEP wants to expand to the middle and high schools.

Events: (Nancy G and Paula)

As Trish began to describe the tasks that would have to be completed before the Basketball event, scheduled for November 13th, it became apparent that the event should be postponed in order to successfully complete all of them. Trish will find out available dates in the future and bring the idea back to the Board.

The committee will plan a "meet and greet" event to which board members can bring a friend, in the interest of adding new members.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Jerry moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:19. Jan seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Next SEF Board Meeting: November 18 at 6:30 on Zoom

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Rogers, Recording Secretary