

Southington Education Foundation

December 10, 2024

6:30 p.m.

On Zoom

In Attendance:

8 Directors: Lisa Cammuso, Katie Wade, Nancy Rogers, Ellen Bellinger, Jerry Belanger, Trish Kenefick, Nancy Garry, Ann Taylor

Volunteer: Patricia Gagliardi

Administrator: Steven Madancy

Welcome/Call to Order:

Katie called the meeting to order at 6:32.

Approval of the October 2024 Minutes:

Trish moved acceptance of the minutes as amended to account for Nancy Garry's attendance. Ellen seconded the motion and it was approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Katy provided Dianne's report that the current balance was \$56,306.81 as of December 1. Income was provided by a \$5,000 donation from the Quinn Foundation and \$6.86 in interest accrued.

Expenses were \$595 for insurance and \$200 for Chamber of Commerce dues.

A discussion ensued as to the value of Chamber membership. Consensus was that they are helpful in promoting events.

Nancy R moved acceptance of the report, Ann seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Superintendent's Report:

Steve reported that the budget process has involved difficult decisions due to the age of some school buildings, and that the challenges have come from trying to space out renovations.

The administration has begun a strategic planning process that will involve many of the "stockholders" in the school system, including SEF members.

The goal for this planning process is to define priorities over the next five years. He expects surveys to be sent out in mid-March to advance this goal.

Committee Work:

Scholarship: Ann

Ann said that she will be soliciting for volunteer readers next month. Jerry and Trish offered to help.

Events: Nancy and Paula

Just for You event attendance seemed good, including the several SEF directors meeting for breakfast before shopping.

No update on **Trivia Night**.

Trisha will continue to work on a **Basketball Event** with the goal that it is a community outreach event and not a fundraiser.

The date for the **Cider Tasting** is May 21, 2025, and planning will begin in January.

Program: Michelle

Katie reported that we have not as yet heard about the application submitted to the Main Street Community Foundation on behalf of the Developing and Implementing the Asset Building Classroom Curriculum in Southington.

Grants: Jan

Currently there have been no applications submitted for consideration. The website will be updated to note the next deadline of January 9th.

Board Development: Jan

No report this month.

Other Business:

Patricia Gagliardi suggested that we promote and recommend strategies from “The Anxious Generation”. She offered to meet with physical education teachers. Steven will facilitate that connection.

Lisa and Katie will attend PTO meeting to highlight SEF mission. Steve will facilitate that connection as well.

Steve offered to put out a notice with a QR code to promote “Thank A Teacher” donations during the holidays.

There being no further business to come before the board, Jerry moved to adjourn at 7:07, Trish seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Grants Committee – Monday, January 20 at 6:30 on Zoom

General Meeting – Tuesday, January 14 at 6:30 on Zoom

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Rogers

Corresponding 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