



Town of Belchertown
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
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Scholarship Committee Meeting

Final Minutes of Thursday, December 5, 2019

Members Present: D. Lusignan, L. Alves, E. Rose, R. Bansal, L. Aiken, B. Cameron.

Minutes by R. Bansal

5:34pm –Open Meeting

- Minutes: L. Alves motioned to accept the minutes of November 12, 2019 as written, L Aiken seconded – Vote 6.0.0

Discussion Items, Cont'd:

- Scholarship Account Balance - \$8236.54 as of December 2, 2019. (*Note: balance reflects all scholarship award payouts for year 2019).
- Scholarship Recipient #3-update: D. Lusignan was informed that final award recipient James Wang received his \$1000 scholarship check.
- Committee Designation/Non-Profit Status –The Committee continued its discussion as to whether maintaining its non-profit status is beneficial or to disband and commit to single source fundraising. The Committee voted unanimously, 6:0:0, to maintain its current non-profit designation.
- Social Media Policy(SMP) – The Committee continued discussion regarding the pros and cons of engaging in social media and in accordance with the pending town policy. The committee would like clarification; specifically regarding Article #13 of the SMP as to whether we are allowed to post information on existing social media sites. D. Lusignan will reach out to Board of Selectman Liason, Mr. Nick O'Connor and report back at the next meeting.
- Discussion Item; New: Gift Account Funding/ Seed Money - D. Lusignan inquired with the town accountant as to receiving seed money for mailing materials. The committee is able to receive seed money donations issued by check only noting its intended purpose and to be placed into a separate town gift account. The committee will continue this discussion at their next meeting.
- Action Items, Cont'd:
Determination of alternate award recipient – The Committee decided to choose one alternate candidate based upon the number of awardees, per year L. Alves made a motion to assign an alternate awardee in the event a scholarship recipient fails to accept. This alternate will not be announced in public. B. Cameron seconded; Vote 6.0.0.

- Change in proof of tuition payment deadline – The Committee held discussion as to whether there is a need to change the current application deadline date of November 29th; specifically regarding the need for awardees to submit proof of secondary institution tuition payment to the towns treasurer collector in order to receive an award. Discussion ensued as to this timeline and whether it would be beneficial moving the date forward or backwards. L. Alves motioned to keep the current proof of tuition payment deadline of November 29th. L. Aiken seconded. Vote 6.0.0.
- Action Item:
 - a. Set next meeting date/time/location – The next meeting will be held on Thursday January 16, 2020 @ 5:30PM at the Central School Office.
 - b. 2019 Annual Town Report – The Scholarship Committee’s Annual Town Report is due by January 15, 2020. D. Lusignan will prepare a draft report and forward to committee members for preview, prior to submission.

Miscellaneous/Addition:

- c. D. Lusignan inquired with the treasurer collector as to the next mailing insert deadline for the towns next quarterly tax billing cycle. The treasurer collector provided information that due to the Solar Committee wishing to run an insert simultaneously along with the process running behind due to the holiday season, it was not likely any inserts would be included this cycle. D. Lusignan waived the committees insert for this round to aid the treasure collector with the towns’ process. The next deadline to submit an insert is by March 5, 2020.
- 6:51PM - L. Aiken moved to adjourn, B. Cameron seconded. All were in favor; 6.0.0