



Town of Belchertown
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
School Central Office
14 Maple Street
Belchertown, MA 01007
Tel: 413-323-0425

Final Minutes of May 2, 2019

Members Present: Lisa Aiken, Erica Rose, Ruby Bansal, Lorraine Alves, Sarah Edwards, Karol Coffin, Donna Lusignan. Minutes prepared by D. Lusignan.

5:30pm –Open Meeting

Minutes – K. Coffin motioned to accept the minutes of April 3, 2019, as written, L. Alves seconded.
Vote: 5:0

Discussion Items:

Scholarship Fund Account Balance: as of May 2, 2019 is \$9956.57

Match Challenge Success ~ The Olive Bridge Fund

D. Lusignan notified the private entity stating the town's portion of the \$2500 match challenge had been reached. D. Lusignan received a congratulatory emailed response acknowledging the work the Scholarship Committee was doing and stated a check would be mailed to the town's treasurer/collector as instructed. D. Lusignan was notified a check for \$3000 was received. On behalf of the Committee, D. Lusignan responded with a letter of thanks and appreciation.

5:37 – L. Aikens joined the meeting.

Private Donation: On Tuesday, April 23, 2019 D. Lusignan received a private check donation in the amount of \$1000 from a Belchertown resident. D. Lusignan turned this check over to the towns Treasurer/Collectors Office (same day) for deposit into the scholarship fund.

Letter(s) to Treasurer/Collector: D. Lusignan issued a letter of disbursement to the Belchertown Treasurer/Collector, as to the committee's decision to issue two scholarship awards for year 2019 as the previously agreed upon. However due to the recent influx of private donations, the committee voted unanimously (6:0) to rescind its prior vote held on April 16th. R. Bansal made a new motion to award three scholarships for year 2019, instead of two, E. Rose seconded, All were in favor (6:0). D. Lusignan will send a revised letter of scholarship amount disbursement to the towns Treasurer/Collector stating total disbursement of \$3000 for year 2019.

5:49 –S. Edwards joined the meeting.

Annual Recommendations/Appointments –Year 2020: D. Lusignan informed the committee of the annual appointment process. All committee members elected to remain in service for another one-year term, until June 30, 2020 with the exception of Karol Coffin whose contract ends June 30, 2019. D. Lusignan will write a letter of recommendation to the Board of Selectmen, requesting re-appointments.

6:01 –L. Alves left the meeting.

Review of Scholarship Applications: The Committee began review of fifteen scholarship applications that were further narrowed down to a field of six then to the final three applicants to receive awards. R. Bansal made the motion to award the following three(3) students a \$1000 scholarship each for year 2019, at Senior Awards Nite slated for Wednesday, June 5, 2019. E. Rose seconded, All were in favor (7:0).

This year's 2019 scholarship award recipients are:

James Wang
Iain Kelly Knight
Cameron Szarkowski.

In addition a fourth candidate, Ms. Abigail Brown was chosen as an alternate should one of the applicants forfeit their award.

Next Meeting Date: The Committee voted unanimously (7:0) to set the next meeting date for June 12 or 19, 2019 to begin at 5:30pm, location to be determined.

7:10pm – K. Coffin motioned to adjourn the meeting, R. Bansal seconded. All in favor 7:0