



Stratford C.A.R.E Committee

Minutes June 1, 2016

Email: stratford.care.committee@gmail.com

Telephone: (203)-380-6777

Mailing Address: ATTN: C.A.R.E.
Stratford Community Services
468 Birdseye St.
Stratford, CT 06615

In attendance: Yan Searcy, Donald Goodson, Olga Pena, John Fahan, Frank Parady, Lucretia Duwel, William Boyd, Sybil Friedman, Karen Edwards, Sylvia Martin, Ed Rawls, Wade Pereira, Denis Granado, Patrick Ridenhour. Stephanie Phillips.

-

Meeting called to order at 7:15 PM

Welcome and Introductions:

Chairman Searcy asked each member if they could be a bird, bee, or butterfly what would they choose?

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes – Stephanie Philips. Second – Lucretia Duwel. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

Olga Pena stated the balance remains the same at \$3,142.32. Motion to approve Stephanie Philips. Second – Sybil Friedman. All were in favor.

Stephanie Philips made a motion to allocate \$50 to reimburse Donald Goodson something for all the money he spent from his personal funds the last 3 years or more for providing snacks for the monthly meetings. Ed Rawls made a friendly amendment to increase the amount to \$100. Donald Goodson said it was not necessary and stated the individual who donated the \$3,000 would not want the money to go to such an expenditure as it was meant for programming. Olga Pena pointed out that the treasury balance was over \$3,000 so we were not spending the donation money anyway. John Fahan stated that the food was a legitimate committee business expense that helped us conduct our meetings the past few years. He recommended that moving forward individual members place a free will donation in a basket to help defray this expense. Stephanie Philips moved the friendly amendment motion. Olga Pena seconded. All were in favor.

Old Business:

Police/Community Relations: Chief Ridenhour:

PAL Boxing will receive a \$25,000 Grant. Baseball Camp is moving forward. Crime is down by 31% for 2015. The CARE Committee thanked Chief Ridenhour for his service to Stratford and wished him well in his new position as Chief of Police of the Danbury, CT Police Dept. The CARE group feels Stratford's loss is definitely Danbury's gain. The Chief said he will miss our group and extended an open invitation for us to visit him anytime. Likewise, Chief Ridenhour is always welcomed to attend a CARE meeting.

Education Committee Report:

Donald Goodson reported that the BOE voted for Center School to go back to the Town of Stratford and become a Town asset. CARE will continue to serve on BOE sub-committees.

Chairman Searcy would like CARE to do a program which is directly involved with the schools. In Chicago he participated in the "Real Men Read" program. Something similar could be replicated in Stratford.

John Fahan asked the Chairman for Councilman Allen Llewelyn be extended an invitation to attend our August meeting to discuss CARE establishing a partnership with the Stratford PTA. Chairman Searcy and the committee members agreed for Councilman Llewelyn be extended an invitation. Moreover, any council member is always welcome to attend our meetings.

Leadership Committee:

Stephanie Philips made a motion to create a leadership subcommittee of CARE members to attend Town Council and BOE meetings. The executive committee of Yan Searcy, Donald Goodson, Olga Pena, and John Fahan will automatically serve. Ed Rawls kindly agreed to be an additional member. Lucretia Duwel seconded. All were in favor.

Community Recognition Dinner Subcommittee:

The Chairman said the committee will meet soon to give an updated report.

New Business:

Graustein Foundation Grant:

Chairman Yan Searcy asked CARE to submit an application to apply to the Graustein Foundation for a grant opportunity. The awards will be in two different categories. The first are the Advocates Inspiring Equity Grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000 to support individual or group projects that lift up the voices of students, families, educators, artists, and others. The second are Inspiring School Equity grants ranging from \$25,000 to \$75,000 to promote and build

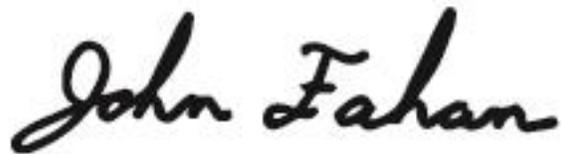
more equitable approaches within classrooms, schools, districts, and communities. Applications are due July 15, 2016 and awards will be made in October.

Meeting Adjourned 8:38pm

Respectfully submitted,

John Fahan

C.A.R.E. Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Fahan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'J' and 'F'.