

SEPAC Open Board Meeting  
Tuesday, April 10, 2018  
Ed Center, room 217

Attending: C. Carey, A. Cohen, A. Clancy, M. Fegley, K. Gallagher, R. Parlikar, M. Rambelle, J. Swersey

Missing: L. Depalma, J. Schulz

Start Time: 7:41 pm      End Time: 9:26 PM

Agenda:

1. approval of minutes from 2.13.18, and 3.20.18
2. SEPAC awards update
3. updates to liaison emails addresses
4. election guidelines/discussion
5. vote for election coordinator
6. new business

1. minutes approved, second set of corrections submitted by M. Rambelle for 3/20/18 meeting agreed to  
VOTE : 8 yea /0 nay/0 abstain    to be posted on website

2. SEPAC Awards : status and upcoming changes:

- Non-tax deductible donations will be accepted by cash and a soon to be set-up goFundme page
- we will still be seeking donations from some (fewer) local restaurants
- simple bank account will be set up in coming weeks to handle checks and do reimbursements  
and discussion of safeguards we should consider
- time-line for process discussed (open and close dates, ect)
- J. Swersey will handle the nomination process, call for volunteers will be out in a few weeks
- discussion on change in set-up (more social, less sitting) and schedule of evening
- big letter notice about how we are changing this year up to avoid last years' pit-falls
- reiterate that this a parent driven event and even though we are asking for help publicizing  
event, only parents of special ed students can nominate someone
- keynote speaker is being explored, J. Wilson is a possibility

3. liaison emails are now set up as a 1 way forward ([school@newtonsepac.org](mailto:school@newtonsepac.org)) to maintain privacy for our  
volunteers, same set-up to be done for board members ([lastname@newtonsepac.org](mailto:lastname@newtonsepac.org))

4. election guidelines were discussed. Research by M. Rambelle showed what Robert's Rules' suggest  
(which is stated in our by-laws as our fall-back position): we will have an election coordinator who will use  
"survey monkey" to do electronic balloting and paper balloting at 5/22/18 SEPAC event. Election  
coordinator will enlist 1-2 non-board members to assist in counting and verifying all votes to avoid  
duplicate and spurious votes.

Some discussion took place regarding what should be included in the candidate statements (regarding  
goals and accomplishments), discussion about amending by-laws regarding length of terms and  
responsibilities, was tabled for discussion in the future.

Candidate statements will be sent out on the listserv and on the NewtonPac website for members to read  
before voting begins.

5. A vote was taken to accept offer by B.Disciullo , (8/0 in favor) although it was pointed out that the board could simply appoint someone.

#### 6. New Business

- a. summary was given of the newly forming transition group, of the meeting on 3/25/18
  - group has yet to decide if they would like to apply to SEPAC board to be a support group or a subcommittee. A doodle poll was put out to get input from 50 + members
  - new Yahoo group forming under [NewtonParentTransitionGroup@yahoo.com](mailto:NewtonParentTransitionGroup@yahoo.com)
  - discussion regarding using SEPAC date and room reservation of 5/22/18 to host a presentation by 2 top local transition and job advocates
  - topics included giving board contact with speakers to discuss content and goals
  - as SEPAC event (not a cosponsored event), it would be open to general public, including local city officials and school committee members
  - transition group leaders to get back to us if speakers are free to present on 5/22/18

Vote was taken by board (8 yea /0 nay) to take over event dependent on verification of content and intent. Alternate dates will be investigated if needed.

- b. possible speaker idea was pitched: "Question, Persuade, Prefer" a mental health event, we will look into student administration helping
- c. group "Minding your Mind" is showing the film ANGST at NSHS, details to be shared to the listserv
- d. reminder last transition presentation to happen 4.25.18 at NECP for rising preschoolers, details posted on PAC web page and list serv

Meeting minutes recorded and submitted by C. Carey