

Statewide SEFA Council

Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, **March 1, 2007**
 Public Employees Federation
 Albany, NY
 Approved April 27, 2007

Present: G. Goldsmith, F. Bealo, A. Decker, N. LaMorte, W. Rabideau, C. Tucker.

Guests: Joe Guastella – SEFA Capital Region, Susan Hager - UWNYS, Debra Hutchins – Earth Share, Mary Ellen O’Connor – Community Health Charities

AGENDA ITEM	ACTION	DISCUSSION NOTES
Welcome and Agenda Review - <i>George Goldsmith</i>	Approved	<p>Welcomed the Council members and guests. He reviewed the planned agenda items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minutes of January meeting ▪ Distribution of Undesignated Funds ▪ Ethics Policy ▪ Statewide Application Review ▪ Review of local committee denials ▪ Tompkins SEFA Campaign report issue ▪ Governor’s Awards <p>On a motion by N. LaMorte, seconded by C. Tucker, the agenda was approved.</p>
January Minutes	Approved	<p>On a motion by A. Decker, seconded by W. Rabideau the minutes of the January 25 meeting were approved.</p>
Undesignated Funds		<p>The revised regulations require that undesignated funds be distributed to participating charities in proportion to their share of designations received. A question has been raised by the local campaigns as to whether this would include charities outside the campaign area. In some SEFA’s there is a strong tradition of keeping the undesignated money in the community.</p> <p>C. Tucker noted that there is not a great deal of awareness about this change or how it should be implemented. She recommended that each SEFA be permitted to follow the revised rule in the way they think best.</p> <p>Discussion followed about the wishes of the SEFA committees and true meaning of the revised rules. Bill Mayer, Assistant Counsel at OGS has left it up to the Council to interpret the rules. Following the discussion it was agreed that the current language</p>

AGENDA ITEM	ACTION	DISCUSSION NOTES
		<p>leaves no flexibility.</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed that George Goldsmith should send a letter to OGS asking how to amend section 335.6 (Distribution of Funds) to allow local committees to decide whether to keep undesignated fund in the campaign area.</p>
Code of Ethics/Conflict of Interest Policy	Approved	A draft Code of Ethics including a conflict to interest policy was distributed in January and circulated to the Council via email. Susan Hager reviewed the draft policy. On a motion by F. Bealo, seconded by A. Decker the policy was approved. Those Council members present all signed the annual commitment form.
Statewide Application's for Review (continued from January)	Approved	<p>The Council reviewed the criteria used in the January meeting for application reviews.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Only applications that are complete will be considered for approval ▪ Applicants with incomplete applications will be denied. ▪ Applicants that exceed 25% FR/Administration cost will be denied. ▪ All denied applicants will be encouraged to reapply in 2008. <p>Four applications were received after the postmark deadline in the rules: (Seton Food Pantry, USO Inc., Buffalo Pre-natal, Peri-natal (task force), Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy.</p> <p>The Council reviewed 82 remaining applications that were complete. On a motion by W. Rabideau, seconded by N. LaMorte 81- of the applications were approved. One application, the Near East Foundation was denied due to submission of an old 990, with no evidence of an extension being granted.</p>
Local Committee Denials	Sustained	A summary of the applications denied by the local SEFA committees, including the reasons for denial was reviewed by the committee. On a motion by C. Tucker, seconded by A. Decker the Council voted to sustain those denials.
2006 Campaign Status Report		Susan Hager distributed a report on the 2006 Campaign from each of the SEFA regions. The report shows (2006) \$9,586,049 a \$3,554 decrease from (2005) \$9,589,603. The campaign reports are not yet final. A final campaign report will be shared with the Council. George Goldsmith extended thanks to the SEFA committees and state employee campaign volunteers for their hard work.

	<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
Next Steps		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recruitment letter to Governor and Unions for Cabinet appointees. ▪ Letter to Tax Commissioner Re: continued hosting of website. ▪ Letter to OGS about further rules changes

		<p>-distribution of undesignated funds -restoration of criteria to demonstrate statewide presence for a charity applying on a statewide basis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ By-laws – A sub-committee consisting of C. Tucker, T. Arnold and T. Doolittle to work on developing bylaws. <p>Agenda items for next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ continuous giving ▪ status of retirement options, follow up with OSC
--	--	---

Next Meeting	Next Meeting	April 14, conference call
---------------------	--------------	---------------------------

\\K\SEFA\Camp 2007\Statewide Council Agreement\Council Meeting Minutes 3.1.07.doc