SEFA Statewide Council Meeting – Monday, December 18, 2017 via telephone.

Council Members present - Tom Wickerham, Furn Lorento, Bill Ferguson. Laurelee took attendance of other attendees.

1. Tom welcomed all and called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of minutes -
   a. November 16th meeting - Bill moved to approve, seconded by Furn, motion carried.
3. Report from the Chair.
   a. Resignation notices have been received from United Way of the Valley and Greater Utica Area (Herkimer/Madison/Oneida) and United Way of Long Island effective for the Fall 2018 campaign. This is on top of the four others that there are RFA’s out for. Asked everyone to encourage any charities/FCCM’s/federations who are able to manage campaigns to apply for the RFA’s. OGS has been notified and contacted. Requesting meeting of cabinet in the near future.
   b. Tom believes that a root cause of FCCM’s resignations is the lack of employee volunteerism/involvement. FCCMs are incurring higher costs as a result. Tom requested that FCCMs and committees identify employees committed to SEFA for recruitment to committees and Council. All Council members must have the annual approval of a majority of the local campaign committees in their respective regions. He also reminded coordinators that with the recent departures of Council members we need new member to the Council. We can have two reps from each of six regions, there is only one region that has two members currently. Others have one rep, some regions lack a rep.
   c. Tom thanked Furn Lorento for her many, many years of involvement and dedication with SEFA, on every level! We wish her well in her retirement.
   d. We are still reviewing the proposed changes to the OGS regulations. All are invited to comment. Hope to discuss this in January Council Call.
4. Finance Committee Report
   a. We have received November invoice $9,080.19 from UWGCR. The finance committee recommends approval. Cash on hand $19,687.74. Bill moved that Council approve, seconded by Furn. Motion carried.
   b. Marilyn Wilson inquired about how budgeting and assessments will work with all with FCCM’s resigning. There was a discussion that the intent is to have new FCCM’s which would not impact campaign assessments. Further discussions will be held.
   c. Bill reported that most 2017 assessments have been paid. If you haven’t, please send in ASAP.
   d. Budget will bring together a committee for the proposed budget, which UWGCR is working on.
5. Director’s Report
   a. Laurelee gave an ePledge report of the campaign so far. For the nine campaigns that participated in ePledge last year, they are up $298,865. ePledge will be open until at least January 19th.
   b. Accepting recommendations on improvements/issues with e-pledge, please respond ASAP.
   c. Recertification is closed. Working on data. Anticipate by mid-January to have lists to Council of charities that did not recertify.
   d. Application period is open. First online training a success. Period is open until January 15th. See website for further online training sessions.
   e. Laurelee will send documentation to “Application Committee” about ideas on how to present data to local committees. Anticipate having a meeting in early January.
   f. RFA’s are posted on the website for Steuben/Yates, Chemung, Delaware/Otsego and Sullivan/Ulster.
   g. Still gathering retirees interested in participating in SEFA.
   h. Working on getting some quotes for Tchotchke’s. Had a conversation with Tom DeCourcey (Global Impact) about a way to get them for free. Doing some research and going to send an email to the Council.
   i. Forgot to ask for notification from committees of their Council members. Please send email of committee decision. Also, please send an email with your local committee members so list can be updated.
   j. 2018 meeting schedule – Continue as third Thursday of each month. Tentative face-to-face in Albany on Thursday, March 15th. Due to calendar issues, the first week of each month, Laurelee will send out meeting notice for your calendars.

6. New business -
   a. Bill reported that his committee voted to reelect him as Chair and Council representative. Currently there is no Vice Chair for his committee or alternate Council member for that region.
   b. Laurelee received campaign update responses from six campaign regions. From those reports, on average, they are down 22%.
   c. Tom asked everyone to wrap up campaigns so that budgeting, etc. can be done for 2018.
   d. Tom – Thanks to everyone for all their hard work and happy holidays!

0. Meeting adjourned at 2:12 pm.

Laurelee Dever
Tom Wickerham