



BELMONT SEPAC

Belmont Special Education Parent Advisory Council

Memorandum

Date: 6-15-16

To: Belmont SEPAC membership
From: Mary Jo Peterman, SEPAC co-chair 2015-2016 school year
Subject: Bylaws Voting Meeting and Election of officers

On the evening of June 15, 2016 the following members attended the end of year meeting to adopt updated Bylaws and to elect new officers for the 2016/2017 school year.

Listed below are those who were in attendance:

Maura Fennelly, member

Bryan Horling, member

Diane Hutchins-Friedmann, member, Wellington Elementary School liaison,
and Fundraiser chair

Heather LaPierre, outgoing co-chair

Mary Jo Peterman, outgoing co-chair

Chris Polcari, member

Bylaws Update:

Mary Jo Peterman provided a copy of updated Bylaws with revisions from previous Bylaws. The group read the proposed changes. Mary Jo asked if there were any changes that needed to be made to the updated Bylaws. One member asked when was the last time they had Bylaws updated? Mary Jo answered with May 14, 2003. She explained that the organization back during that time had a much bigger more active membership and that the group of volunteers that had been participating over the last several years, had not been a large enough membership to operate under the current Bylaws. Mary Jo explained that the updated Bylaws were more representative of the current volunteer membership. She asked if anyone needed more explanation and asked if anyone had any suggestions to update the proposed bylaws. No one had any other suggestions and no one opposed the proposed bylaws. So we officially closed the meeting for the proposed Bylaws meeting at 7:30pm.



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Bylaws Vote:

We opened a meeting at 7:31pm to officially vote for the new Bylaws. The bylaws went up for a vote and unanimously were accepted by the voting membership. See attached Bylaws

Election of Officers for 2016/2017 school year:

Listed below are the current open officer positions for the SEPAC for 2016/17 school year:

Chair (and/or) co-chair position

Secretary

Treasurer

Mary Jo acknowledged and gave thanks and appreciation to all the volunteers that held open positions of volunteer positions for the current school year. Heather LaPierre for co-chairing with Mary Jo over the past several years, Diane Hutchins-Friedmann for her Fundraising role and Awards Ceremony role, and acknowledged all the other volunteers who helped throughout the year to provide the once a month Parent Information Sessions and the annual Awards Ceremony. She let everyone know that Heather LaPierre and Mary Jo Peterman would not be continuing in the co-chair positions in the upcoming school year. She also acknowledged that no one held the secretary role this year or in previous years and this position still remains open. She acknowledged that Joanna Tzouvelis held the Treasurer role and would be happy to continue that Treasurer role in the upcoming school year. She then asked if there were any nominations for the Chair role. There were no nominations for the chairperson role, so this role will remain open until a volunteer steps up to fill the role. She then asked if there were any nominations for the Secretary role. There were no nominations for the Secretary role, so this role will remain open until a volunteer steps up to fill the role. She then asked if there were any nominations for the Treasurer role. Diane Hutchins-Friedmann nominated Joanna Tzouvelis to remain as the Treasurer; Heather LaPierre seconded it. Everyone voted and Joanna Tzouvelis was voted in as the Treasurer. Diane Hutchins-Friedmann agreed to take on the Programming role for the Parent Information Sessions for the upcoming school year. This role requires no vote.



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Suggestions and Notes:

Mary Jo informed the membership that the Student Services Department of the school system has always paid for the MASS Pac Fee which includes the fee to hold the Basic Rights Parent Information session every year. This is a required session for the SEPAC to hold every year. She also let the voting membership know that it would be a good idea to get its own tax id # for the SEPAC. She also let everyone know that the SEPAC does have an account with the town and that through Diane's awesome fundraising efforts that year, that the account now has approximately \$600 plus. Thank you's were sent to Belmont Savings Bank for their generous donation for our Awards Ceremony. Since the Treasurer was not in attendance the actual amount of \$ in the account was unknown at the time of the meeting. But members can find out the amount by contacting our treasurer Joanna Tzouvelis. It was suggested that since our volunteer membership is so small that perhaps a merger with other surrounding towns might be a good idea. It was also recommended that instead of having a Parent Information Session in September or June that the September and June meetings just be planning meetings. Diane Hutchins-Friedmann took on the task to secure meeting space for the Monthly Parent Information sessions, as well as planning and holding these sessions this year. Yeah Diane! Listed below are some suggested topics for the upcoming school year:

- Integrating Neuropsychological and psychological evaluations – Contact Dr. Daniel Reinstein, contact Dawn Burau 781-861-7081 of the Community Therapeutic Day School for more information.
- Nutritional and Homeopathy help – no contact
- Rewards Systems that work and how to implement them – no contact
- Sex Education for kids with different abilities – no contact
- Language based Learning - no contact

The meeting ended at 7:57pm