



Statewide SEFA Council

17 Campus View Drive
Loudonville, NY 12211
518-782- SEFA (7332)
Fax: 518-782-7333
www.sefanys.org

Tom Wickerham
Chair

(approved as per 5/21/15 call)

Pete DeCicco
Vice-Chair

STATEWIDE SEFA COUNCIL CONFERENCE CALL MEETING
March 26, 2015, 1:30 PM

Suzanne Maloney
Director

Council members on the call: Tom Wickerham, Matthew Ecker, Scott Ray, Cherice Granger, Furn Lorento, Scott Ray, Cornelia Mead, Bill Ferguson, Pete DiCicco, Caroline Westbrook.

Federations and Coordinators: Laurelee Dever, Craig Collie, Sophie Jouben, Sheila O'Connor, Marilyn Wilson, Danae Gruszczynski, Mike Ryan, Tom Decoursey, Katie Roberts.

Staff: Suzanne Maloney

1. Tom welcomed all, introduced himself and the new officers.
Thanked Nick LaMorte and Caroline Westbrook for their service as Chair and Vice Chair, both will be remaining on the Council.
2. Minutes of Feb 26th meeting were read, two corrections noted.
Minutes accepted as amended, motion passed.
3. Tom asked Suzanne to review status of new applications
Have responses from all committees except NYC.
Since our last review, Capital Region declined four charities for high AFR and missing information
Reminder that last year the Council decided that high AFR would no longer be a criterion to reject an application. Scott Ray commented
Furn Lorento moved that the Council accept the committee decisions - Pete DeCicco seconded the motion. Motion carried. Tom asked Suzanne to get these charities notified as soon as possible, and include the reason the committees denied them where possible.

NYC - committee chair was unavailable for two months, per Sheila they were unable to get a meeting scheduled. Tom asked whether the committee could convene without the chair, concerned that this late action is holding up finalization of applications.

Per Suzanne – the charities list is ready to go to prepare for printing. Per Sheila the changes of a few charities can be made in a few weeks and shouldn't hold up the process.

Tom asked that the final approved list be sent to the council before its next call.



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The Council accepted the remainder of the approved applications list. Moved and seconded, motion carried.

4. Tom updated on the letter from United Way. The Council is glad for the support.

5. Tom updated on the letter Nick LaMorte drafted to the governor to encourage executive support for SEFA - this letter has been revised and will be sent to the Governor's office. Tom asked that committees, federations, FCCM's and others pick up this letter (which will be posted on the website) and write the governor themselves.

6. Recertification - period will soon open up, running through November, for all charities who already participate. Suzanne announced that the process opened March 1 for unaffiliated. She also developed a special link for United Ways and Federations to send to their members to enter information for them to collect.

7. Website - newly expanded website is live. Suzanne pointed out some highlights, including a forum where issues and ideas can be shared among council, committee, federation members etc.

8. Tom reported that the Council wished to schedule a face-to-face meeting in May. Asked who might be willing to host in a central location. Please let Tom or Suzanne know.

9. Open floor - comments, feedback.

Question about draft budget previously distributed - as committees work on their budgets (due to Suzanne by April 1), what numbers should they use for the contribution to the council? Bill Ferguson reported on behalf of the finance committee that they should use last year's numbers and if it needs to change we can adjust later.

10. Motion to adjourn - Scott moved, Furn seconded.

Meeting adjourned 2:21pm
Cornelia Mead, secretary