

SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE

October 13, 2025

ATTENDEES: Olga Saubermann, (chairperson), Eileen Browne, Susan DelVecchio, Nancy Fairchild, Linda Frigon, Gloria Gery, Sara Keaney, Maura McGuinness, Judith Slisz

LOCATION: Zoom meeting **Time:** 1-2:30 pm

Minutes : June 27, 2025, were approved.

Financials: \$63,623 is presently in our account. From this amount, \$25,000 is reserved for a rainy-day fund, \$20,000 to be given to our scholarship recipients for second semester, and \$5,000 to be used for NCWSSL which leaves \$13,623.

Scholarship Application Process:

- The new coordinator for this coming year is Eileen Browne. Since there has been difficulty transferring the Gmail account it was decided that a new one would be established each year which is dated. All old Gmail accounts will be kept. This should be set up soon.
- Applicant sees the flyer. Nancy will remain the contact person on the flyer.
- Applications are submitted. One of the difficulties was getting the Spring transcripts. To solve this problem, the time to submit the transcript will be extended to July 1.
- Some documents are difficult to open between Mac and PC. This can be solved by having all documents submitted be in PDF form. This will be put in directions.
- Requiring a middle name has posed some problems. Many rarely use a middle name and instead use a preferred name. This year's application will omit asking for the middle name and ask for both given and preferred name.
- Birth date/age confusion. A solution would be asking for birth date and stating on application she must be 20 by Dec. 31.
- Difficulty in interpreting financial need. We should reconsider using FAFSA. Eileen will investigate the status of FAFSA and will discuss it at our next meeting.

Communication:

- Currently there is no automated response to applicants.
- All parts of the application come separately and there is not an automatic means to let students know what was received and what is missing. Gloria will investigate creating a utility that can assist in tracking and processing applications.

Evaluation:

- Applicant packages are sent to all members of this committee for evaluation. This has gone smoothly.
- At our next meeting, we will discuss scoring each applicant including how to evaluate goals, GPA from Community College vs. Baccalaureate program.

- Judith will work on criteria for goal setting.
- Everyone agreed that someone with only a high school transcript is not eligible to apply for the scholarship. They must first take some college courses.

Other:

- The Shoreline Branch of AAUW does not allow any relative of their members to apply for their scholarship. This will be discussed at our next meeting.
- Should we omit the question on ethnicity in our application? Since it is optional to answer, it can remain.
- Judith feels we should be careful not to disparage students who attend community colleges or those who take on-line courses. There is much value in community colleges.
- A big Thank You to Linda for all the work she did as coordinator.

NEXT MEETING: Nov. 12, 1-3 pm at the Acton Library

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Fairchild
Recording secretary