

SLOBs General Meeting Minutes

(To Be Approved at January 25th General Meeting)

Saturday, November 9, 2024 @ 2:30pm

New Canaan High School - Cafeteria

I. Co-Presidents – Teddy Goetz & Brooks Wunderlich

- Thank you all for coming and for all the work you've been doing
- Speakers Today
 - Laney Lloyd. Laney is here to discuss the founding of Food Rescue, what the organization does and her hopes that Food Rescue can work with SLOBs a great deal in the future.
 - Michael Luddy & Joe Vittoria. Both of these special speakers are founding members of New Canaan SLOBs from 20 years ago and they are here to let us know why and how SLOBs was founded and to remark on what the organization has become.
- Ice Breaker. We want to do something different today. Going to ask that everyone stand up and meet three people you don't know and have a brief conversation with them. We will give you all about 5 min.

II. Secretary: Henry Ravanese

- Secretary Role. Henry introduces himself and explains that the Secretary will take minutes at each SLOBs General Meeting. These minutes will then need to be approved by the SLOBs membership at each subsequent General Meeting to remain in accordance with SLOBs By-Laws.
 - Minutes to be approved will be made available to membership: i) online on the SLOBs website; and ii) in the SLOBs weekly Newsletter.
 - Members will be asked at each General Meeting if they have any changes to the minutes as posted; if there are no changes to be made the Minutes will be deemed approved by the membership.
- Motion to Approve September 21st General Meeting Minutes.
 - Members asked if they have any changes to be made to the September 21st General Meeting Minutes. No changes suggested.
 - September 21st General Meeting Minutes approved.

III. Parliamentarian: Ryan Leahy

- Parent/Student Board Application Timeline Reviewed.
 - December 15 - Jan 31: Online application open for Board Positions.
 - April 20: New SLOBs' Board will be announced.
 - Note: Anyone that would like to talk about the SLOBs Board or that has any questions about the various positions can talk to Ryan Leahy, Teddy Goetz or Brooks Wunderlich.
- Board Eligibility Requirements Reviewed.
 - Must have served as a Philanthropy Liaison at some point.
 - Must apply with a parent.
 - Must be a member in good standing (dues paid and ½ of your required service hours served by the Jan 31 application deadline)

IV. Membership: VP Zach Santiago & AVP James Dunkin

- Registration Reminder. Tomorrow morning the Registration Link will be removed from our website. If you haven't already registered, please make sure to do so by tomorrow morning.
- Student & Parent Accounts. Everyone must register separately for membership in SLOBs and make sure when signing-up to volunteer, you select the right person because students and parents have to have their own account.
 - Text Reminder Opt-Ins
- Membership Requirements
 - Students
 - 10 Volunteer Hours (up to 2 hours can be donations)
 - 5 General Meetings (1 absence allowed. More than one absence requires 2 extra service hours).
 - Parents
 - 5 Volunteer Hours (up to 2 can be donations)
 - 5 General Meetings (Parents should attend 3 of the 5 meetings, preferably all of them)

V. Philanthropy: VP Matthew Riley, Co-AVP Ayush Dave & Co-AVP Ryan Stannard

- Last Month's Liaison Training. Thank you to our liaisons for attending last month's training. We had about 25 members, and some parents showed, so we will be continuing to do Fall Liaison Training sessions going forward.
- Reminder: The Board is here to help, please reach out when any support is needed.

- Liaison Reminder: Important to get your events listed in Track it Forward well in advance of your event date to give people plenty of time to sign-up — (ideal to post 4-8 weeks in advance!)
- Members IMPORTANT Reminder: Please do not cancel sign-ups last minute - communicate with your liaison as soon as you can and try to get coverage for your shift.
- General Meeting Donations today are for Inspirica and New Covenant Center
- Philanthropy Hours Donated from June 1st 1060.50 (last year same period was 1038)
- Upcoming Events as Explained by Student Liaisons
 - Student Liaisons that spoke of upcoming events included:
 - Ryan Boulanger, Person to Person - 12/7- SLOBs will direct shoppers, wrap presents, and decorate bags for the annual toy store event the following week
 - Quinn Jensen on behalf of Henry Reagan, DVCC - Month of November ending November 30th - SLOBs can drop-off dental care items (toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss) for women and children at the Domestic Violence Crisis Center. Please bring donations to 377 Ponus Ridge Rd.
 - Tully Coogan, Waveny Care Center- 11/24- shifts available for Leaf Clean-Up at WCC.
 - Owen Pesaturo, New Canaan Exchange Club- 11/19-12/15 - Annual Christmas Tree Sale shifts available.

VI. Treasurer: Rohan Shenoy

- Budget Overview. SLOBs Budget still looks good for 2024-2025. Our current revenue is at \$8,610 with our current expenses at \$3,846, which comes mostly from our website, and other technology. For 2024-2025, our estimated total revenue is \$7,525 with our estimated expenses \$7,098.

VII. Public Relations: Co-VP Grayson Ladsley & Co-VP Brandan Ma

- All Members are Encouraged to take Event Photos & Follow us on Instagram
 - Photos can be DM'ed to Grayson or Brandon at our Instagram account NCHS.SLOBs; OR
 - Text Photos to Trish Ladley 203.722.5806 or Frank Ma at 203.820.7430
- Follow SLOBs' Instagram account- great way to see what's happening.

- SLOBs Please wear your SLOBs T-Shirts to all events. When it gets cold - put over a sweatshirt, helps the community know who is volunteering at events.
- SLOBs' Special Edition 20th Anniversary Trucker Hats - we will be giving these to the member of each class with the highest amount of Service Hours, year to date. Winners were announced and hats distributed.

II. Communications: Co-VP Ben Kim & Co-VP Johann Wrede

- Weekly Blast
 - Sent on Sunday Mornings
 - Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities Highlighted
- Special emails sent to club as needed
- Reminder: Please send photos of events to the SLOBs Instagram account by DM'ing Grayson and Brandon or by texting to Trish Ladley and Frank Ma -see PR Slide for details.

IX. Technology: AVP Henry Chandra on behalf of VP Pranav Sant

- Reminder - today is the LAST day to Register for SLOBs. Link is on the SLOBs' Website: <https://www.newcanaanslobs.org> - tomorrow morning the link will be taken down.

XI. VP Meetings: Stuart Hellman

- Speaker Introduced: Laney Lloyd, Member of Food Rescue since 2011 .Laney has lived in New Canaan for 25 years and recently retired from Investment Banking. Wanted to get more involved in giving back with a special focus on helping alleviate food insecurity.
 - Food insecurity is defined as not having enough money to feed yourself and your family without having to give up something else that is a necessity (i.e. electrical bill, rent, etc.)
 - 13% of the US Population is considered Food Insecure but Bridgeport is at a high of 21% and New Canaan is surprisingly at 8%. With so much food wasted or thrown away, it's a big problem in the US and a major contributor to US produced GreenHouse Gases.
- Food Rescue was started by Jeff Sorcher, a software developer and programmer who learned how much food was wasted from restaurants and businesses and developed an algorithm to connect places with food that would be wasted or thrown away with organizations that could give the food to those in need.

- Started in 2011 in Norwalk, CT and now the organization has 13 staff with 350 food donors and 250 agencies we bring the food to. We now have 1000 volunteers in Fairfield county and we are happy to partner with SLOBs to get even more drivers registered.
- Very easy to volunteer with Food Rescue and we have weekly options for SLOBs to pick up food from Walter Stewarts in New Canaan.
- Keep an eye out for our delivery options and sign-up online.
- Additional SLOBs Speakers Introduced: In honor of our 20th Anniversary we have two of the New Canaan High School SLOBs founding members from 2004: Michael Luddy and Joe Vittoria.
 - NC SLOBs History: there were 6 founding members of the New Canaan SLOBs organization. The 6 moms that started SLOBs were involved in the National Charity League with their daughters and wanted something similar to do with their sons.
 - To see what the organization has become today is just incredible for the speakers, they had maybe grown to 60 members when Mike and Joe graduated, but to see SLOBs at 250 members with community liaisons and so much outreach is amazing.
- Important to keep in mind that service comes in many forms and it's great to find ways that you can use your strengths to improve the lives of those in your community.
 - Poker nights at Waveny Care Center seemed like a silly thing to do and the boys just signed-up because it was a way to get service hours having fun. Later they learned that this small act of service meant a great deal to some of the older residents when they received a letter thanking them for brightening everyones day. Even in high school your service can have a great impact on your community.
- Make the most of SLOBs and throughout life ask yourself: 1. "Where am I needed? and 2. What can I do in life to give back?. As you get older, your teachers and your parents won't be the driving force in your life anymore. It will be up to you to determine what's important to you and how you want to be involved in service.
 - For example, we just heard how Laney Lloyd identified what was most important to her and how she found an impactful way to donate her time and give back through Food Rescue.

- Pick something that you care about and remember to always ask yourself: 1. How can I be valuable to others; 2. Where am I needed and where can I make a difference in others lives?

XII. Co-Presidents: Teddy Goetz & Brooks Wunderlich

- Thank you to our speakers and thank you all for being a part of SLOBs and for coming today.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:25