

May 2, 2025

Special Meeting of the Somerville Commission for Persons with Disabilities

Meeting Minutes taken by Holly Simione, and **approved by vote of the SCPD on May 14, 2025**

ATTENDEES:

Helen Corrigan, Sheila Tracy, Holly Simione, Harriotte Ranvig, Pauline Downing, and Nick Altschuller

Holly and Harriotte recounted the process by which Somerville High School Scholarship Foundation redacts all personal details of the standard SHS Scholarship application and provides us with only responses to the Activities, Best Buddies, Schools and Programs and 6 essay questions. Students are identified only by the last 6 digits of their SHS ID.

This year's SCPD scholarship application volunteers, Helen, Harriotte, Ingrid, and Nikki, reviewed 21 applications and selected 14 students to receive a scholarship. The vote to approve the 14 recommended candidates was unanimous.

A discussion of the \$50K allocated for the 2025 scholarships; $\$50,000/14 = \3571.42 per student; and the balance in the SCPD HP Fund were discussed.

Sheila stated the SCPD's accessible parking fines account has approx \$200,000 unencumbered, and to keep in mind our goal of maintaining \$150,000 in the account.

Last year we awarded 12 scholarships and approved a budget increase to award each 2024 student \$5,500.

If we fund each student in 2025 \$5,500 we would need a total of \$77,000, Harriotte motioned to fund each student with \$6,000, \$84,000 total. Nick suggested \$5,000 per student.

The funding discussion was tabled to the May 14th 2025 monthly meeting, and the meeting adjourned at 12pm.