

Angel Network of Cooperstown

Board Meeting Minutes

April 4th, 2022 at 5:00 pm

Those in attendance (in person and on ZOOM): Miriam Murray, Martha Clarvoe, Erin Rawitch, Alicia Chase, Whitney Kay, Stephanie Ocegüera, Tabetha Rathbone, Matt Monahan, Cyndi Falk, Stephanie Nelen, Jessica Baker Absent: Christine McBrearty-Hulse

- I. Call to Order at 5:07pm
- II. Approval of Minutes - Minutes approved.
- III. Committee Reports
 - a. **My Neighbor's Closet:** Martha updated her database for MNC with the most recent shoppers and volunteers. She's disappointed that more Angel Network families aren't attending. Currently there are 57 families on the AN list, and only 24 families are actually coming to MNC. What's happening with the others?
 - i. Can someone look at the master AN family list to figure out which families are actually current? Also, can we look at the current list to see if families don't have cars and perhaps transportation to MNC is the issue?
 - ii. Suggested to work with the Guidance Dept. Stephanie Nelen also said that she'd look at the list to try to see if transportation is an issue for some. Stephanie said that many of the kids she sees at school have told her that transportation to MNC is an issue. Stephanie currently gives away on average a bag of clothing per week to students, so there is definitely a need. But transportation IS an issue.
 - iii. Some families have said that they only need holiday support from AN and don't need a more regular service like MNC
 - iv. Stephanie has seen lots of kids who need sports equipment, sneakers and backpacks this year.
 - v. Suggestion made to add a column to the AN family spreadsheet for whether they have a car. At least identifying those families could help.
 - vi. Need better shelving for the store for the kids' clothing. Motion to provide MNC with up to \$250 for shelving and plastic bins to better organize the kids section of the store. Motion approved. None opposed.
 - b. **Fundraising Committee:**
 - i. Fundraising committee is working on a flyer similar to the one for the Community Foundation of Otsego County.
 - ii. Another fundraising committee meeting will be scheduled soon!

- iii. BJ's is willing to donate to Angel Network. They only give at certain times of the year, but are happy to give. Let's coordinate timing to take advantage of their generosity.

c. School Report:

- i. A teacher was asking if Angel Network can support any additional kids for the afterschool program? If we said yes, the teacher would reach out to the families.
 - 1. Yes- kids can have up to \$300 per student per school year for any enrichment programs. If during the summer these kids have additional program needs (i.e.- extenuating circumstances) just let us know and we can try to work something out.

IV. New Business

a. Requests

- i. Propane Bill – woman applied for HEAP but it won't apply for this past due bill for \$540.31. Motion to cover \$500. All in favor. None opposed.
- ii. Gas to commute to work - \$140/week in gas. See fuel campaign section.
- iii. Child wants to continue with Jr. Thespians. This would be the second half of their \$300 per child enrichment sponsorship, for \$150. Motion to approve the \$150. All in favor. None opposed.

- b. Yearbooks- In the past, we've sponsored seniors who can't afford a yearbook. This graduating class has a lot of AN families. There also may be some asks from the elementary school for yearbook help. More info coming in the next few weeks.

c. Scholarships for summer activities/grants (Discussion with Cyndi Falk)

- i. Last summer, AN applied for a grant to help sponsor summer camps. It would be great if AN could help to sponsor kids again for camps. First Baptist Church ran a camp last year with ResourceMe. Can AN help again to sponsor kids for this camp? AN offered to match the grant we received last year, which was for \$5000- up to \$700 per student. We covered 50% per week. AN would like to try to support this again, we just need to figure out the grant piece to see how it's possible.
 - 1. Could the Community Foundation of Otsego County help to cover the costs of the camp? Call Jeff Katz (new Exec Director) What have we applied for this year with them? Was it just after school? Could we do a different ask for summer? Miriam was going to look into what we've asked for already.
 - 2. Community Foundation for South Central NY- also has grant opportunities that we could look at?
 - a. "Small Grant" option. Could ResourceMe apply for this?
 - 3. Key Bank Grants

4. Stewart's Grants – they do a great match program, but it's calendar specific. Check the timing.
- ii. Can the camp in Hartwick reserve a few spots for AN families? It fills fast.
- iii. AN really needs a Grants point-person. Can we find someone to
 1. Watch for grant opportunities
 - a. First, we need to identify our specific needs. What types of grants do we need? NY Grant Watch is a great resource to find available grants. AN will also look at our requests for the last year- what did people ask for?
 2. Write the grants
 - a. Tabettha knows someone who can help write grants (Melanie). But she needs to be told what grants to apply for.
- iv. Time to do a big survey- what do families need in general (childcare, fuel, etc.). In this same survey, let's ask families about MNC and if they use it (or why not).

V. By-laws: spend limit threshold

- i. *The President or Co-Presidents shall be able to approve individual, **time-sensitive** requests for community support that align with the mission of the Angel Network of Cooperstown at or below \$200 without additional Board approval. Any such requests will be summarized and the Board will be notified at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting.*
 1. Motion approved. None opposed.
 2. To be placed in the Pres/Co-President's duties (Section 3. Duties., 3.1.) section of the bylaws.

b. Fuel Campaign update

- i. Raised \$400 so far online. \$1000 donation from original donor. \$750 in checks were received as well. Donor willing to make additional donation if funds are raised. No specific match amount from original donor. Miriam will follow up with donor on 4/7/22 about some sort of matching donation.. Need to decide how to purchase and distribute fuel cards.
 1. Suggested to put fuel cards at MNC to encourage people to shop at the same time. Tell people we can also meet them at any time at the store, even if it's not open, to pick up the gas cards. Have people fill out a survey at MNC when they pick up the gas card. Miriam suggested having a tablet at MNC so people could digitally fill out the survey when they pickup the gas card.
 - 2.
 3. We should send out an email blast about it and share on Facebook again.

4. Total fuel donations will be divided by the number of Angel Network families to figure out how much each gas card should be. Miriam, Matt, and Martha will coordinate.

VI. Next Board Meeting: May 2nd at 5:00pm at the HS