

Angel Network of Cooperstown

Board Meeting Minutes

November 1st, 2021 at 5:09pm

Those in attendance: Miriam Murray, Martha Clarvoe(Z) Christine McBrearty (Z), Alicia Chase, Jessica Baker, Tabetha Rathbone, Whitney Macdonald (Z), Stephanie Oceguela, Matt Monahan, and Georia Meeter. From the public: Stephanie Nelen

- I. Meeting was called to order at 5:09pm Alicia Chase motioned and Stephanie Oceguela 2nd, all votes aye.
- II. Public Comments - Cody Moore - Cooperstown Equestrian Park introduced and gave a history of her horse farm. Horses and Heroes, <https://www.horsesnheroes.com/>, a non-profit for children in need is a model for Cody. She would like to be sponsored by Angel Network as a Fiscal Sponsorship so she could qualify for donations and the donor could get a tax write off. Quality show horses could then be donated to Angel Network and then "Sold" to the Equestrian Park for a low dollar amount to remove liability to AN. She would like to sponsor 2 children, kids need to be horse crazy, committed, and financially stressed. These children would start with riding lessons and then might be able to participate in horse shows with extra funding. The benefits of being with, riding, and caring for horses is well established for children and adults.

S. Nelen suggested we could have a financial line for this specific program. That would allow donations to be made for this specific line item. An Angel Network volunteer representing Cooperstown Equestrian Park and liaison with the board would be very helpful. Someone to help with grant writing for this effort. We donated two scholarships for 2 riders last summer for summer camp.

III. Nomination of New Board Members: Tabatha Rathbone, Matthew Monahan, Whitney Macdonald were nominated separately and all were accepted to fill board of directors positions.

Miriam motioned and Alicia Chase, and Jessica Baker 2nd, all votes aye.

Committee Reports (MNC, Fundraising and Development, Policy, Communications, *new By-Laws)

- a. Christmas update - Jessica and Miriam met, received 52 intake forms, and are expecting a few more, 47 families are requesting help with Christmas, which is 107 children and 80 families have volunteered to buy gifts. Dec. 8th is drop off for gifts. Dec. 9 - 9am - Episcopalian Parish House (Fair St.) Gift pick up is Dec. 10 from 4-6pm, Friday. Erin Rawitch and Stephanie Oceguela will help shop and fill in missing gifts. (Thursday evening to Friday afternoon)
- b. Social media - No update at this time
- c. Grants - \$5000 grant was awarded to Angel Network for after school programming from Community Foundation of Otsego County. Christine & Jessica to discuss distribution with Miriam.
Matt says that Rotary might be able to help with sponsorship. Stephanie Nelen has some additional programs coming out for after school.

I. Old Business

- a. Feedback from Camp Finance - We are busy people and no one was able to attend.
- b. Policy Discussion/Vote: Enrichment support

The Angel Network of Cooperstown will allow for up to \$300 per child per year (9/1-8/31) for academic enrichment activities for Kindergarten through 12th grade. All requests would need to go through the Board for approval. Requests will be approved on a case by case basis. The Enrichment Fund is a relatively small fund, so our Board is committed to keeping it viable in order to help as many families as possible in any given year. Enrichment activities that have received program-specific grant funding will be considered separate from this allocation.

Miriam motioned and Alicia seconded and all votes aye.

c. Snacks - Melissa Rathbone mentioned at the School Committee Meeting that several children are never able to get ice cream due to lack of funds on their lunch accounts. In the past this was funded by anonymous donors and the Angel network. At this time all students are receiving free lunches but ice cream and snacks are not included. The lunch discussion led into snacks in the class and the fact that many forget or don't bring them and go without. Several Angel Network members would like to provide funds for ice cream along with snacks for all children in need grade K-12. Cooperstown Food Pantry will be asked to provide assistance for snacks by Georgia. Matt is going to ask the Rotary at his meeting to see if they would be willing to help provide snacks. Cafeteria staff will know who is eligible for ice-cream based on their records. In addition the snacks will be provided as they were in the past in the staff room and staff who know a student needs a snack will then be able to get the snack for them. Vote was taken Alicia motioned to provide up to \$500 for snacks for an initial round in order to allow time to seek other sources. Stephanie Oceguela, second, all votes aye.

Diapers needed - Georgia will check to see if Toddsville Church can provide specific diapers for Mom with newborn and toddler. Toddler needs certain diapers due to a skin reaction. Family asked AN for help but did not meet our guidelines due to lack of students in CCS.

II. Next Board Meeting: December 6th at 5:00pm Cafeteria