Blue Angel Connect

Meeting Notes

June 6, 2022

Members in attendance: Kim Burris, Brent Burris, Jeffrey Boxberger and Naomi Parfait

* Meeting was called to order by Brent @ 7:05pm. Meeting was held via Zoom.
* Old Business
* Minutes from the December 5th, 2021 meeting were read. Holiday Hope 2021 was discussed. We helped 7 families. Received $8,150 in donations. Minutes were approved by Kim and seconded by Naomi.
* New Business
* Brent discussed if current members wanted to remain on the Board for the coming year. Kim will be sending out forms for continued commitment. Complete and return by end of June.
* Need all members to be active participants (find donations, write grants, etc).
* We want to be able to do more projects during the year besides Holiday Hope, but to do so, we need to obtain the funds to make it happen.
* Cost for things have risen substantially and we will need to find ways to secure additional resources.
* Fundraising:
* We need to start doing more. The ones we have done in the past have not been that profitable. It does get our name out there, but we need to secure a better return on the project. Ideas?
* Grants:
* Brent is currently working on a new grant from the Hancock County Community Foundation- it is their 30th Anniversary Grant Cycle. Their staff will review applications at noon on the 4th Wednesday of May, June, July, September, and November. We are trying to make the June deadline.
* It takes time and initiative to get these done. Wording needs to be based on who we are, what we do and why we deserve the grant more than the other agencies.
* Women’s Grant Network- another grant we need to investigate.
* Need to reach out to more local businesses. Follow up is very important.
* Look into partnering with local restaurants and set up evenings where a portion of the proceeds go towards our nonprofit. Jeff will check into this.
* Jeff will pick up some flyers and business cards from Kim to pass out and the local businesses.
  + - * + We did not receive the funds from the GoFundMe 2021 that was setup for Holiday Hope. Jeff will find out what happened.
* Website:
* Kim is going to refresh our website with a new tool specifically to target people looking for nonprofits. We will also target new grant opportunities. We want Blue Angel Connect to come up in the top 10 when looking for local nonprofits.
* Holiday Hope 2022:
* Will be called “A December to Remember.”
* The Buck Creek FD already has us scheduled to use the Community Room again this year. Do we want to do it again, go back to the old way of going to the houses, or try something new?
* If we go back to working with a law enforcement agency, we need to make sure that it is understood that this is a BAC event, and we are partnering with them.
* Also need to be sure we are not duplicating families- i.e.: they received assistance from the “Shop With A Cop” program, etc., and then they request assistance from us.
* Naomi volunteered to update the family assistance form that we currently use.
* Tentative date for the program is December 11, 2022.
* First Merchants Bank in the past has said they would be willing to put out Toy Donation boxes at their locations so customers can donate to Holiday Hope. Can also check if other local businesses would allow us to do the same thing.
* Brent to contact Terri Stacy from WIBC for help with the event again this year.
* Indiana Business Entity Report is due by the end of the month. Kim is taking care of that.
* We paid H&R Block to do the tax filing for 2021. Cost was $200. As we continue to grow and receive donations, it makes more sense to have a professional tax company complete the tax preparation for us each year.
* The Blue Angel Connect Logo will also be on the Mt. Vernon Marching Band Semi trailer this year. We will also be mentioned at all of the football games this year as well.
* Motion made to adjourn by Brent @ 7:44pm. Motion passed unanimously.