

GCBC Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2022
1:00 - 2:30 pm

Attending: Kathi Mulder, Ninotte Lubin, Reina Galjour, Lynette Biery, Craig Mulder,

Not present: Rachel Olsson, Kate Mazarra, Melinda Parenteau, Nancy Cowans

1) Minutes from 7/8/22 changes or corrections.

Revised this paragraph:

Kathi: Friends donated \$350. Travers City area supporters of Grace will provide support at the Cherry Festival Race and will garnish \$350 for the volunteerism.

Actions

Reviewed actions from July minutes

Everyone: Seek out monthly donors via coffee dates, Haitian dinner parties, cold calls to friends/relatives, present to local groups we are a part of, use personal social media to draw them in, etc! Good luck!!!

No significant news

Continue doing this

Ninotte: furnishing budget and sourcing needs to be detailed (list and cost drawn up).
What NGO's in Haiti may be able to supply us? Is Ryan able to bring items in with him?
Ninotte will work on supplies

Kathi: F/U with the doctor offered his US machine, F/U with Tania re proposal
Table Ultrasound machine for now – not appropriate time to pursue this right now
Did follow up with Tania

Reina: F/U with Craig re DoTerra
This is Craig's task – will follow up

Lynette: Connect with Nancy re web designer friend. Next email update likely will be August (will connect with Laura). Lynette to form a "Charter" for the board, review next meeting

Lynette did contact Nancy

Update underway

Charter prepared

Melinda: To resume social media posts, send Lynette interview videos (Google Drive?), host BBQ at Ellison's - likely Aug, ask parents re Airmiles to book Ninotte's ticket to the US.

Kathi will follow up with Melinda on this

Kate: Inquire whether her mediation group and Intel would like to be featured on Social Media or our next Update Letter
Lynette will text Kate

Ninotte: Meeting with Mitch Albom and Kathi this Aug, re-starting sex-ed classes and first class of boys this year too.
Ninotte and Kathi did meet with Albom
Ninotte did restart sex ed classes

2) Building Status

Discussed Ryan's report. Ninotte is feeling better about the work crew and feels she has a good relationship with them. We understand the delays in the project.

Ninotte was insistent with Ryan that he be there when the rammed earth construction begins.

Reina said she is very impressed with the progress of the project right now given the turmoil and obstacles currently present in the country

3) Financial Report

I've posted the latest financial reports to the Board website:
<https://sites.google.com/view/gcbc-board/home> You will also find attached the Financial Summary and the Building Summary reports.

Some things to note:

1. I've added a report that lists the transactions for the previous month
2. We had some more gifts that I've assigned to the Birth Center building fund. We now need \$911 to fully fund the basic phase of the Birth Center Building.
3. The expenses for this month were higher for two main reasons:
 - a payment of \$600 for the 501(c)3 application
 - a payment of \$500 to Ninotte for a trip she took to the Dominican Republic a while back. One of our donors had given us a designated gift of that amount to fund a trip Ninotte wanted to take to the DR. While the gift was represented in our financial reports I had not yet put the expense in the report because I was trying to figure out how to handle it.

Here's the first table from the Financial Summary:

Fund	Cash on Hand	Pledges	Total
General Fund	\$8,847.23		\$8,847.23
Birth Center Fund	\$21,303.52	\$35,000.00	\$56,303.52

School Sponsorships Fund	\$70.00		\$70.00
Total Funds Available	\$30,220.75	\$35,000.00	\$65,220.75

Questions to consider:

- Need to decide how to report on monthly donors
- How it can be designated for various groups
- How to ask people for a commitment for budget planning

4) Communications/Website

-Laura's continued involvement

- Laura doesn't have the time to do our website for us but will continue working with us as a volunteer
- Laura has a great strength from the graphic/artistic side of things

-Hiring someone to redesign website-update on current lead

- Have sent a proposal to a contact from Nancy
- We will talk with her and decide whether to bring her on board

-August mailchimp and plan for next newsletter

- Want to look at how many people have opened and clicked on the links
- We should compare interaction with updates vs newsletter and decide if we should just go with the update version

Should we post our minutes to our website?

People agreed we should do this. Can always redact info that is sensitive. Craig will look into this

5) Charter Proposal

Lynette drafted this. The purpose of this is to make sure we all have the same understanding of our responsibilities and makes our work transparent.

Reina agrees this is good and makes sense. She is concerned that she will not be able to fulfill any of the requirements outlined in the document. When she first met with Ninotte about being on the Board she said her role would be advisory in nature and not require a fundraising commitment or more involvement. But she is in support of the Board taking this direction. She feels she could continue her advisory role more by talking directly to Ninotte.

Kathi expressed her appreciation for her honesty. She reiterated Reina's assessment that these changes are needed to move forward as a project.

Ninotte wants to maintain all of her relationships with current board members such as Reina even as the Board changes.

Lynette asked for feedback on the document. Please share with the group. She especially wants to know if 2 missed meetings is the right number.

Kathi will F/U with board members regarding the charter

We will review at our September meeting and decide if we agree with this.

6) Hiring Tania-contract approved

-update on work status

Melinda created the contract, it was approved by the Board and accepted by Tania. We are waiting for her to sign it. The contract is for Aug 1 to Jan 31 at \$500/month

Ninotte: has been working with Tania and sending our recruitment application. Have received resumes from midwives and nurses. The timeline for applications is Aug 20. Ninotte says there are some good candidates, at least on paper.

Ninotte has been in touch with the Ministry of Health

7) Fundraising

-Mitch Albom call

Kathi and Ninotte spoke with him for 15 minutes. Ninotte did a good job with talking about Grace. They asked him about collaborative work such as bringing students to Grand Bassin or having Ninotte go to the orphanage. Albom said the distance from Port au Prince and the unrest makes it very difficult to bring the youth to Grace. Kathi and Ninotte asked about carrying supplies to Haiti – Albom said he could take small amounts of supplies.

He did say he is willing to post information about the project on his own social media links.

Lynette said he may be hard to take but this might be one reason to keep up the relationship.

-Doterra matching grant

Reina and Craig will follow up

-ideas from previous meeting (Melindas event, Nancy popcorn, etc)

Wait for updates

-new ideas

8) Ninottes Update

She lost a client, 23 yrs old. She had anemia but lost touch with her for about a month. Unable to stay in touch with her. She died in the hospital. Also lost the baby at 32 weeks.

One of her younger clients had a miscarriage. Unclear what happened. Is helping her through this.

Students showed up for a class, scheduled at 10, at 11:30. She just sent them home. Debating when to bring them back for another class. Next Saturday, the 20th, she has a class with the boys. She'll see how it goes.

Re her visa, she received a letter saying that her rationale for visa renewal was not clear. She needs to set an appointment but thus far has not been able to schedule one. It sounds like there is a stricter requirement to get a visa to the US

9) Anything Else

Next Meeting: Friday, Sept 9, 2022, 1 pm EST

Actions for this month:

Everyone: Seek out monthly donors via coffee dates, Haitian dinner parties, cold calls to friends/relatives, present to local groups we are a part of, use personal social media to draw them in, etc! Good luck!!!

Ninotte: furnishing budget and sourcing needs to be detailed (list and cost drawn up). What NGO's in Haiti may be able to supply us? Is Ryan able to bring items in with him?

Craig: F/U re DoTerra (with Reina)

Kathi: F/U with Melinda: To resume social media posts, send Lynette interview videos (Google Drive?), host BBQ at Ellison's - likely Aug.

Lynette: F/U with Kate: Inquire whether her mediation group and Intel would like to be featured on Social Media or our next Update Letter.

Lynette: present Charter, with feedback, at Sept meeting

Kathi will F/U with board members regarding the charter

Tabled

Kathi: F/U with the doctor offered his US machine