Minutes for Boost Foundation

05-06-2016 (11:31am at Delft)

## Call to Order

The seventh monthly meeting of Boost Foundation was held on 05-06-2016 at Delft. It began at 11:31 and was presided over by Ian Upton.

## Attendees

Voting members in attendance included, Ian Upton, Erudini Smits, Remco Scherpenzeel, Osman Akin, Salome van Giessen (Video Chat) Roderick Lodewijks and Justin Sloove.

Guests included: Ramani Smits (CEO - FutureCare) and Megan Punselie (From 13:30 till 16:00)

## Proceedings

Presentation

The meeting began with us breaking into teams to have a work session. This meant that we split up into small groups and worked on a few action points. The work sessions consisted of us working on the website, working on finding fund raising platforms, working on the IT systems and working on the projects.

The official meeting then began at 14:08 where Ian prepared a presentation. We had a moment of introduction as the team was meeting Megan (Volunteer) and Ramani (FurtureCare CEO) for the first time. Megan is a student from Amsterdam who is travelling to Sri Lanka for holiday and would like to do a few tasks for Boost Foundation. She heard about us through Ian and is excited to be our eyes on the ground volunteer for a few projects. Her tasks involve the pittawella project (Building a future) and our new Emergency Project. She will go and see the progress of the project and write a report and press release that we will be able to share on social media. Ramani explained how she first started FutureCare and her urge to help children. She got married to a Dutchman and lives in Sri Lanka, (a country with a high inequality gap). She was drawn towards helping the poor and believes that in order to actually make a change it has to be done at the fundamental roots (educating Children). So she started FutureCare by herself in 2006 and it started to grow. Over the years it has become difficult to do alone and with a little help from individuals (such as Roderick) she could manage. At the moment she has more than 300 children that she finds sponsors for and about 10 schools. Her aim is to help the schools so that they can grow and when they are big enough that the government will take care of them. This was followed by a quick updates of the projects.

Projects

1. Building a Future – Pittawella project (about 31% completed)

The retaining wall is finished but due to the heavy rains the soil on which the road was supposed to be built on was washed away. Fortunately for us a neighbor is willing to provide us with new soil for free as long as we organize cutting it and moving it. On the financial side on this project they have used €1000 from the €1500 which was sent.

1. Sharing knowledge – in the process of looking for volunteers.
2. Equal chances – Sponsoring 33 kids for 5 years at pittawella – the money required for this is roughly €8000 – the idea would be to get funds through a techno event (party) which would raise money for this project. There are also 38 children in kinigama that we plan to sponsor by using crowd funding and other methods.
3. Emergency Project : a small village contacted Ramani in the cry for help
   1. - In the short term: At the moment they need food. FutureCare has placed a request whether we can help them with a donation of €500 for food that will last them 2/3weeks. (a village consisting of 380 people) – We might use crowd funding and plan to gather €1200 so they have food for more than 2/3weeks.
   2. - In the middle term : we have a donator who is willing to give us €6,500 – this money can be used to help the school kids get back to school since they lost all their belongings due to landslides. The current situation is that 3 villages around each other have been badly affected, and all the children only go now to one school building that has survived the landslides. This school had only 35-50 children before but has to accommodate 150-160 kids now. SInce these kids lost everything, we could help them by providing school materials such as the uniform, shoes, school equipment etc. -The situation needs to settle down and then we can decide on how many children and how to move forward with the idea.
   3. – In the long term: Maybe a long term plan would be to help extend the school or rebuild it.

Crowd Funding

After the discussion about the projects. We dove into the comparison of crowdfunding platform options. We looked at the following and at their pros and cons.

* 1% Club – costs 7% for all the administration costs and might go down to 5%, has the ambi status but the problem might be that the promotion is only done with a movie or small video – they help us to get the funds- there is a reward system. Credit card and Ideal
* Chuffed.org – 0% service fee (but there might be a credit card fee). It is International. But it doesn’t really help you promote the goal.
* Crowdrise – 5% service fee but with a lot of benefits. You can connect with others quickly
* Whydonate.com – connected to ‘get it done’ organization. It has ideal but is expensive but you get a lot from it, raises a lot of money in the Netherlands. Maybe try it and see
* Geef Gratis – Works well with the CRM system and has a lot of advantages

Finance and IT

The financial update states that we currently have €3485.70 as our budget.

When it comes to the IT systems, we have now moved on to the Office 365 package. Oversight of costs would be around €100 – maybe we need a monthly donations system to get this. With this system we will be more efficient with emails, Skype calls, Project administration, external pages for volunteers, Board stuff etc.

The CRM system that Justin has chosen has a donation module of all the finances and it has some forms that can be linked to the website. The Twinfield system can be linked to the CRM system where we have the advantage of recording the monthly donations and have a good reporting system. Twinfield will also be connected to the bank and to ‘Geef-Gratis’ or other crowd funding platforms. And social media can also be linked to everything. (Facebook)

After Justin’s presentation about the systems he went through it with the board members and showed us how to use it.

General updates

*Trust score* was an average of 85 (Increased) – (Ro-85, J-90, E-85, O-85 and I-80)

*Happy score* was an average of 84 (Reduced) – (Ro-75, J-90, E-85, O-80 and I-90)

*Other comments*: Roderick will have a month holiday from Boost but of course if there is something very important then he will contact us. =)

## Announcements

* Think about the crowd funding platforms and make a decision on Wednesday.

## Adjournment

Ian Upton moved that the meeting be adjourned, and this was agreed upon at 16:16.

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| Secretary Boost Foundation |  | Date of Approval |  |