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[asha-frankfurt] Asha Meeting Minutes - April 18

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Thanks to everybody who made it to the meeting today.

Here are the meeting minutes:

Members present: Daniela, Suhas, Kasturi, Paritosh, Meeta, Sanket, Sandeep, Sid, Panchali and Rahul

1. Registration

We are now officially entered in the Frankfurt Vereinsregister under the name - "ASHA Verein zur Förderung der Schulbildung indischer Kinder" with the registration Nr - **14619**. You can actually look this up if you enter our registration Nr in the search page of the Handelsregister (www.handelsregister.de)

Next step is to open a Bank Account and clarify whether we already have a Freistellungsbescheid. This Bescheid will help us collect donations which are Tax exempt

Action: Rahul to follow up on the Freistellungsbescheid and also on the exact procedure to open a bank account. For the bank account we would likely need 3 out of the 4 Vorstandsmitglieder. Will keep you all posted on further details

2. Get-together

The efforts of Harald, Stephan (Tax consultant) and Stefan (Notary lawyer) have been monumental in getting us through the registration process and as a small token of appreciation we wanted to have a get-together and invite them to get to know us within Asha. The idea was to have this on a weekend (Saturday evening) at an Indian Restaurant within the next month or so. Stephan lives near Stuttgart, so we will have to check on how the plan works out.

Action: Rahul to follow up with Harald and others and see what dates are suitable. Sandeep to talk to the restaurant/Harry

3. Donate to Educate

This is an initiative which Asha Munich are running very successfully which helps them to collect monthly donations on a regular basis

Action: Sahil, though you weren't there today, we took the liberty of nominating you to look into this since you have brought this up often in the past.

4. Website

Given that we are now registered we would need to make some changes on our website and improve our presence

Action: Paritosh will look into updating the changes on the funds raised part of the website. Gajanan - believe you had some ideas on improving the Asha website. Paritosh will synch up offline with you.

5. Projects status

We agreed within the group to support the ANK Warzipur Project and committing to a sum of 4000 Euros for the Academic year 2011/2012 (June to June). All our existing funds have been distributed and we need to raise the 4000 Euros. The idea was to commit the funds to ANK over 3 quarters. The first quarter starts in July and so we have got ourselves a target to raise 1500 Euros before July

Action: Sandeep/Kasturi will follow up with ANK contact and provide a written commitment on the funds.

6. Fund Raising

Given our July target we decided to kick things off with a food festival and to do this in June. The idea was also to use the food festival to promote a bigger event (concert, stage show). This of course assumes that we will have all the event information ready by the food festival. Date for the food festival was agreed as 18th June/Saturday (All other weekends in June seemed to be close to public holidays and we wanted to avoid long weekends to do a food festival)

Action: Sandeep to check with A-Viva on availability for 18th June. Parallely we will check if we can get any other location (e.g Salbau) at a discounted/nominal price given that we are now a registered organisation.

7. Event

Until now, we have pretty much stuck with the classical music/concert theme and we felt that we should be doing something different/contemporary and attract a potentially wider audience. The two ideas that we came up with were

- a. Bollywood show - Mix elements of a bollywood onstage performance, a bollywood party or a Schnupper Course to teach some dance moves
- b. Fusion concert - mix of percussion, contemporary/world music

Action: Many of us are able to follow up on these topics and everybody please feel free to chip in with the leads you have. Panchali will be following up on a fusion group.

Sonu/Joachim - I believe you are aware of artists who perform at the Bharat Verein festivals and can look into this. We left this topic open for now. Hopefully by the next meeting, we will have the information we need to decide on the details of the event.

8. Asha Distribution List

There have been some discussions lately on our Asha mailing list which are not exactly related to Asha,s goals of promoting education. We discussed about this today and we unanimously felt that we should avoid using the Asha forum to discuss topics that fall outside of Asha ´s objectives. Everybody is free to post and share articles related to educational projects, initiatives etc but other discussions lets keep them offline. This is not to say that these discussions are lacking in content or are ill-intended, but as a group (especially since we are now formally registered), we have to stay focused on what we want to achieve as part of Asha.

Thanks all. Please add if I may have missed something.
Rahul

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