

Julia runs a meetup organisation for members with an interest in web development. She has two co-organisers to help out keeping the community running afloat. Julia uses a wide range of platforms and tools to host and manage her events, but she has found it to be too time-consuming and unproductive.

Here is Julia's current journey showing what steps and interactions are involved in creating an event and managing the community.

GOALS & EXPECTATIONS

- Carry out a research to find appropriate services and venue to host the event within a set timeframe
- Stay up to date in communicating with the community and services relative to setting up the event
- Find affordable marketing techniques to promote the upcoming event via digital platforms in order to stand out from competitor groups

PRE-PLANNING STAGE

Finish work as an R&D Engineer for the day. Her shift pattern is from 08:00 to 16:00

Gone to pick up her daughter from the after-school activity and arrive home a little later than usual due to rush hour traffic

Frequently on the mobile phone to check emails to her organisation when performing routinely domestic tasks

Leading a busy life means less time to check in all platforms to ensure that everything is running smoothly

MEETING WITH **CO-ORGANISERS**

Hold a meeting with two coorganisers via Hangout call to discuss ideas and plans for the next event

Determine what date and time to set and how the financial cost will cover event-hosting platforms, and services

Decisions are made on who will act on specific tasks to set up an event. List of tasks are added to Trello board and assigned to each organiser

Running a meetup organisation through digital platforms are costly alone. Having a small spending budget means limited choices in hiring services

Lack of services could demotivate future event attendees

RESEARCH & BOOK SERVICES

Check statistic levels of attendees to previous events to ensure what is the ideal maximum size of capacity for the upcoming event

Research online for recommendations and reviews of services and venues and check out their website for more information

Contact either through a telephone call or email for enquiries and booking

Affordable services may not be available to use on that date

Communication via emails can be too long if a phone call is not an option

Disagreements may occur with venues on running the event

SET UP EVENT **VIA PLATFORMS**

Write a draft of what content to add to event post for event hosting and social media platforms

Add keywords for SEO and other marketing purposes to be widely advertised

Add and publish the necessary details to the event post on each platform, including images and videos

Details have to be repeatedly added on each platform. Not all platforms have the same structure; details may

Due to cost, lack of marketing tools means promoting the event can be

MANAGE PLATFORMS & ANSWER ENQUIRIES

Log in to each platform to see if any high-level issues need to be taken into action (e.g. member violating terms and condition). Take action if any encountered

Check and answer messages within the community platform and email services, mostly relative to enquiries on the upcoming event

Checking in every platform to see and

calculate the total of attendees

SET UP VENUE &

HOST EVENT

Check that all services provided for

communication (calls, emails. SMS)

See the attendance list to see the

number of members confirming their

place to the event. Create a checklist

of attendees using Google Doc to see

Enter the venue and start setting up

all names in one place

all services provided

the venue are on track through

high-level issue taken place Time-consuming to create a checklist of attendees in one document

> Not all services come accordingly to plan and may cancel in short notice

have to be revised before adding

challenging in the competitive market

Not all platforms offer a push notification service. Have to check in frequently to ensure there are no

Receive a high volume of messages and may miss out reading some or not to be able to catch up with all

Positive

The tool could include an online/ offline status of all organisers, so it is aware that the platform is taken care of at that moment

Have an in-built diary to keep track of progress and finance throughout event planning. Add a rating and review feature on planning progress and members' satisfaction and experience at the particular event

Could include an in-built feature of recommended services and venues

It could also have a dates slot for organisers to book a service

Add an in-built analytical tool to see previous traffic, and data to get insight of publishing an event in appropriate time and what are the most used SEO keywords

Add a customisable push notification service. Such as high level alerts will have a unique sound and appearance so organiser are aware and can respond immediately

Have a built-in checklist feature where a member confirmed their place to the upcoming event; they will be automatically be added to the list