

BUTLER COUNTY MANUFACTURING CONSORTIUM

Minutes for January 20, 2010

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Jim Ferguson welcomed everyone, immediately followed by introductions.
- B. Copies of the December 16, '09 minutes were distributed prior via email and accepted.
- C. Doug Bartosh reported we have \$502.58 remaining in treasury. Was just handed a dues check this morning which puts the balance to 602.58. Most recent payment out was to Butler Business Matters for an advertisement.

II. GUEST SPEAKER – no guest speaker for January.

III. TRAINING / GRANT

- A. Partnership Money – The Tri-County area is scheduled to receive \$50,000; Butler is scheduled to receive \$7564 in Industry Partnership money for marketing and outreach events.
- B. Training money – Ken believes the money has arrived from the state level. Mary is trying to get clarification.
 - * reminder to get Tuition Reimbursement Applications to Ken to reimburse up to 75% of training cost.
 - * will put Tuition Reimbursement Application on the BCMC website.
- C. Shared Training
 - 1. Sent out 5 RFQ's for the following training topics: a) HR b) Innovation c) Internet Marketing d) Website Optimization e) MBA certificate program
 - 2. Chairs will meet in February to determine training providers.
 - 3. IT Consortium training – if the training classes cannot be filled by IT Consortium members, then it will be opened to manufacturing members.
 - 4. Remember, this year companies will have to pay 25% of cost of shared training.
- D. If you have any ideas or questions regarding training, please see Ken Raybuck.
- E. Lisa Campbell from BC3 added that she had 2 inquiries about training that came from the BCMC site.

IV. OUTREACH TO SCHOOLS

- A. **Career Cruising Network** – no report.
- B. **Educator in the Workplace / Job shadowing** – Jim attended the Butler Co. Employers and Educators meeting where he discussed “educator in the workplace”. Mostly guidance counselors were in attendance. Guidance counselors are to develop an interest in the teachers.
- C. **S.T.E.M.** – BC3 will be hosting a STEM conference on June 15th.
 - 1. A “Call for Proposal” will be going out soon to manufacturers. Will be holding sessions with speakers and break out sessions. BC3 has a strong desire to reach out to manufacturers and connect business and education at this conference.
 - 2. Open to the Northwest Region. Would like to bring in groups like BOTS IQ and FIRST robotics.
 - 3. Hoping to have 400+ educators at the event.

V. BCMC MEDIA / ADVERTISING

- A. **BCMC Website** – creating a Tri-County “landing” site – Ken and Mike are still working on this idea.
- B. **Butler Business Matters** – Mary passed out the January issue. February issue is due out tomorrow.
- C. **Facebook** – still out there. Need to continue to keep updated.
- D. **Brochures** – need to update
- E. **Company Tours**
 - 1. Neil shared his thoughts and agreement on the idea of hosting company tours and the need to involve the community. Felt we could start small and grow the tour tradition.
 - 2. Lisa Campbell shared that we need to identify our target audience (ie. community or educators and guidance counselors).
 - 3. Lawrence Co. is doing a ‘bus tour’ for their guidance counselors. Although they are not going into the companies, a representative from the company will get on the bus at their “stop” and talk to the people about their company, then the bus moves on to the next.

4. Pittsburgh Technology Council already sponsors company tours that could serve as another example.
5. Megan from Kathy Dahlkeper's office suggested partnering with the Butler Leadership Council when they do their Manufacturing and Industry Day and the Butler Chamber members.
6. Could also use grant money (RCEP) to pay for substitute teachers and the bus.
7. Sandy from the Butler Tourism Council has a 13 passenger van and a 25 passenger van available on weekends.
8. Anita recommended that a committee be formed to research and put ideas together to then make recommendations to the rest of the Consortium.

VI. BCMC GROWTH

- A. **Tri-County** – no report.
- B. **Outreach** – will send out a membership interest letter to members to keep members and partners current.
Welcome new partners & member:
 1. Specialized Staffing – Lisa Guard shared that they are a recruiting firm that draws 40% of their revenue from Butler Co. manufacturing.
 2. Butler County Tourism – Sandy has been meeting with some members individually to learn what the Tourism Council to do to help promote manufacturing.
 3. Starr Products – Barnet Selling shared that his company makes chain, nylon, etc... lift devices, tie downs, slings, just to mention a few.
- C. **Self-Sustaining** – no report.

VII. LEGISLATION ISSUES

- A. **Legislative Committee** – although Neil will stay involved with the Tri-County Steering Committee, he will be stepping down from the legislative committee. *Looking for people who are interested in being a part of the committee – just let Neil know.*
- B. Megan Rummel from Representative Kathy Dahlkemper's office attended today's meeting.

VIII. UPCOMING EVENTS / MISCELLANEOUS

- A. New BCMC officers – Neil Ashbaugh is the new Chairperson. He gave a special thank-you to Jim and Kristen for the work they have done with the BCMC. Neil shared that he will be focusing on the BCMC core goals and objectives, building upon what has already been started.
 1. Would like to continue hosting guest speakers
 2. Good to continue peripheral members and partners – the more people talking about the BCMC the better.
 3. Looking at forming committees such as on speakers, company tours, and legislative committees.
 4. Renew company (member and partner) spotlight.
 5. Is 3rd Wednesday of each month @ 8:00 am still good for everyone?
- B. April, 2010 – Energy and Environment Show at the David Lawrence Convention Center
- C. August, 2010 – Coal Power Generation Show

*Next meeting will be at
8:00 am Wednesday February 17th, 2010
PA CareerLink
Pullman Commerce Center
112 Hollywood Drive, Suite 101
Butler, PA 16001*