

BUTLER COUNTY MANUFACTURING CONSORTIUM

Minutes for March 17, 2010

I. INTRODUCTION

Neil welcomed all & special guests Veronica Snyder - Director of Partnership Development & Dan Kuba - Special Assistant to Secretary PA Department of Labor & Industry, Bureau of Workforce Development Partnership, along with Alex Stockmal and Lori Harvey from Armstrong County Manufacturing Consortium.

II. OLD BUSINESS

- Ken discussed Slippery Rock University's offer to have their public relations class students work with BCMC on a public relations project, however they had the choice of 12 organizations for their 6 teams, and chose one of the other 12. Neil is going to send Ken a contact name at SRU to follow-up on an option to have a Public Relations student intern for the summer or fall (paid or unpaid). Our contact there, Deb Hines, also has a consulting firm, which could offer (public relations) services (for a fee). BC3 also has internships, and the contact name there is Lois Trimmer.
- Committee Formation - Neil sent around a sign-up sheet for all committees, and noted the volunteers for the Manufacturing Tour concept: (Mary, Lisa, Lisa, Sandy & Megan). Neil talked about the value of input from our members in meeting the goals for BCMC, (which were handed out previously). We have \$4000 in Industry Partnership Funds that we need to use before June 30, 2010, and would like input on this. Ideas include BC3 request from Paul Lucas (handout was provided at meeting and is attached), another expo in fall (similar to last year), etc.
- Shared Training – Ken provided a handout, (Shared Training handout attached), which included details on the five courses that we approved to date (see attachment – which includes cost for attendees). He noted that the Innovation Ideation class through Penn State / Lenape has been scheduled for April 28th and he will notify members regarding dates for other classes as soon as they are set.
- We still have almost \$40,000 in shared training dollars that is not committed, and Ken gave some options, including welding, and provided handouts for Dale Carnegie, Design Chain Associates. (attached). We have an additional grant of over \$9000 which could go toward a more in depth class on Innovation Ideation, such as that proposed by IUP. This proposal was an applied Innovation Ideation course, involving full days – 1 each month, and workplace visits to work on real life opportunities within companies.
- Tuition Reimbursement - Ken noted that the money for Tuition Reimbursement has been committed, we sent contracts out to all of the Butler County companies, which totaled \$21,533.33, (1/3 of total Tri-County Grant, which was \$64,600.)
- BC3 Training – Lisa discussed upcoming CAD & Leadership training classes at BC3, she provided handouts and asked anyone who is interested to contact her for details
- STEM conference update – Lisa discussed the STEM conference and provided packets, and encouraged all to attend, drawing attention to various levels of support available. Lisa noted that they expect 400 educators to be present, and currently has commitments from Sonneborn & Oberg to be “presenters”. BCMC decided to contribute \$250 for our consortium or as part of an overall effort by Tri-County Manufacturing Consortium to assist in sponsoring the event.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- Membership Drive, April – After discussion, Neil said he would make arrangements with Cummings Candy/Coffee Shop to hold another mixer, and asked each member to invite at least one prospect to the event.
- Manufacturers voted to set dues at \$200 annually for members, and reinforce prior decision to have “for profit” partners pay \$250, per prior decision.
- Membership – General comments were made regarding increasing membership. Jim Ferguson had a “BCMC Introductory” letter (hand out provided at meeting), and Butler County Tourism had a piece on “why you should join” that they will provide for us to use as a template. We have printing dollars available and Media Frogg could do layout on any promotional pieces.
- Upcoming Events: Legislative Forum, April 19th – Belmont, Western Pa Economic Summit – April 23rd – Regional Learning Alliance, Cranberry Township
- Dan Kuba made some comments relative to information they have available for Industry Partnerships:
 - Industry Partnership Toolkit
 - Three Centers for Career Development: Center for Health Careers, Center for Manufacturing Careers, and Center for Green Careers, (there is also a report available on Green Careers).
 - The 72 Industry Partnerships in Pennsylvania leveraged state grant dollars and the efforts of 6300 employers to train 75,000 people. Funding for 2009-2010 was reduced to \$11 million from \$20 million the prior year. He noted that the preliminary budget for next year would be \$8.2 million. They did receive some federal money this year, specifically for the energy sector, which would include manufacturing that would be part of energy.
- Butler County CareerLink Job Fair – Peggy Weckerly noted that it falls the same day as our next meeting, and they only have 1 manufacturer signed up at this time. It is always well-attended – please contact the CareerLink for more information

IV: BCMC MANUFACTURING SPOTLIGHT

Barnett Selling of STARR PRODUCTS was our manufacturing Spotlight for the month. He brought some samples of lift assemblies and accessories, and discussed his customer base, which is very diverse and includes very small companies and large companies, including government contracts. He also provides free training services and does inspections, as all of his products are required to be rated and meet OSHA requirements. They handle all types of ratchet devices, tie downs, and lifting products in general. They use nylon, polyester and some chain assemblies. He offers free engineering services on products and will help solve problems for companies.

*If you did not leave your IN KIND report with Ken at the end of the meeting, please send to him at kraybuck@tcwib.net

*Next meeting will be at
8:00 am Wednesday April 21, 2010
PA CareerLink
Pullman Commerce Center, 112 Hollywood Drive, Suite 101
Butler, PA 16001*

From: Paul Lucas [paul.lucas@bc3.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 03, 2010 4:15 PM
To: Ken Raybuck
Cc: Eva Lowerre; Sherri Mack
Subject: Kids on Campus Funding

Ken,

We would like to thank you for the funding that we have received from the Consortium in the past. We have purchased many wonderful supplies with the funds. Among our purchases are 3 robots, 2 amusement park kits, and several smaller Lego kits. We were also able to offer our courses at a reduced rate to those who were interested in engineering and robotics. We also purchased a banner to display over Main Street Butler to promote the program. We could not have done this without help from the Butler County Manufacturing Consortium

This year we wish to expand these programs in the following manner:

2 additional mind storm robots @ 265.00 each total = \$530

We print 25,000 Kids on Campus flyers each year. We would like to target market (mail) 5,000 of them approximate cost is \$4,400

Table display banner for events to promote the KOC program \$115

Tuition reimbursement for students (scholarships) 20 Students @\$45 = \$900.00

As you said, your funding has been reduced and we understand this. We would appreciate whatever help you are able to give.

Thanks,

Paul M. Lucas

Director

Lifelong Learning

Continuing Education

Butler County Community College

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