

# **BUTLER COUNTY MANUFACTURING CONSORTIUM**

## **Minutes for October 21<sup>st</sup> 2009**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

- A. Jim Ferguson welcomed everyone, immediately followed by introductions.
- B. Copies of the September '09 minutes were distributed prior via email and accepted.
- C. Treasure's report: \$212.58. Doug Bartosh shared that 12 companies have not yet paid their 2009 dues.

Welcome Special Guest: Butler Commissioner Dale Pinkerton

### **II. GUEST SPEAKER : Michelle from Victim Outreach Intervention Center (VOICE)**

- A. VOICE is spearheading an "economic justice" program to help women (and men) getting out of domestic violence. Help for people coming out of various situations such as being forced not to work or hand over all their paychecks. The best answer for these people to help them is to find them jobs where they can become independent.
- B. If you have any job openings, please email them to Michelle.
- C. VOICE also offers free trainings at your job site for your employees in areas such as:
  - \* domestic violence in the workplace
  - \* self defense classes
  - \* sexual harassment training
  - \* can customize training as well for your company

### **III. TRAINING**

- A. Shared Training
  - 1. Discussed possible shared training topics including Human Resources; Website Optimization; and Innovation. training needs requested: Leadership & Supervision ; Microsoft Office; and Professional Skills Series.

### **IV. GRANT UPDATE**

- A. **State Budget** – Ken Raybuck announced that the state has finally approved a budget. We know that there has been budgeted \$7 million state wide for training and \$2 million statewide for Industry Partnership funds. What is unknown is what amounts will filter down to the local levels. Do not know how much we will get or when.

### **V. OUTREACH TO SCHOOLS**

- A. Westinghouse is starting classes in cooperation with Seneca Valley focusing on engineering.
- B. **Career Cruising Network** – no report.
- C. **Educator in the Workplace** – Butler Educators and Employers Group to promote both job shadow and Educator in Workplace. Indiana Co. is a great example – they had 48 teachers take advantage of the Educators in Workplace program. Need to look at this program as on-going program, not just for a particular season. Schools need to drive it.
- D. **Get FIT (Futures In Technology)** – no report.

### **VI. BCMC MEDIA / ADVERTISING**

- A. **BCMC Website** – discussed using the Tri-County website as a "landing site" to then link to the BCMC. Perhaps have a members-only page as well. Could access an innovation ideas link, foster member interaction between all 3 counties, create a master calendar for the tri-county in addition to individual counties. Members voted to move forward with this.
- B. **Butler Business Matters** – November is our last month having an ad in the Butler Business Matters. Mary McFarland shared a couple upcoming BBM themes for the new year: January will focus on IT/Technology/Communication and February edition will focus on Manufacturing.

- C. **Facebook** – special thanks to Neil Ashbaugh for creating the BCMC Facebook page and maintaining it! Analytics are working so we can see demographics, age, countries, etc of people who visit the page. Plan to have it up and running to demonstrate it at the evening Cummings event. In the near future, plan to have vo-techs and BC3 share with students that we are there on Facebook.

## **VII. BCMC GROWTH**

### **A. Tri-County**

1. A survey was sent to all Tri-County Manufacturing Consortium members to survey what members want from the manufacturing consortiums and what they feel are the strengths and weaknesses. Where can we continue to improve to serve the needs of manufacturers.
2. With the success of our first regional event this past July, the Tri-County Consortiums have a desire to see 2 regional events per year.

### **B. Clearview Mall Expo Event** – November 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>.

1. Because money from budget has not been released yet, we will have to come up with the \$1500 for center court. Asking a donation of \$100 from members & non-members who will be participating.
2. Carnegie Science Center will be there Friday and Saturday night from 4-8 pm to do demonstrations with liquid nitrogen.
3. Event promotion:
  - a. Have also partnered with the Clearview Mall Kids for Saturday night starting at 4 pm to promote manufacturing and STEM.
  - b. Will run a color ad in the Butler Eagle. If you will be participating, please send your logo to Ken so we can include it in the Butler Eagle ad.
  - c. Neil spoke with the co-chair of the Center Twp. Science Fair and will try to communicate to students about the event.
  - d. Jim contacted Armstrong to see if they could be their Saturday night to film events.
4. Others who will be participating include: Playthings Etc., Ken Hilke from Butler Vo-tech will be there with one of their USA FIRST robots.; BC3; Segway.

### **C. Outreach events:**

1. November 18<sup>th</sup> 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm Domenico's in Cranberry.
2. November 18<sup>th</sup> 6:00-8:00 pm – Cummings Candy and Coffee Shop.  
Both events will include a brief business meeting followed by networking time. Bring someone new!

### **D. Self-Sustaining**

1. Because of state budget decreases, we need to look into ways the BCMC can become self-sustaining. Bruce Curry made a recommendation that perhaps companies may have more money than time. That although they may be able to participate in meetings, they may be willing to donate. Could we send letters /fund-drive?
2. Perhaps do a 50/50 raffle at the Expo?
3. Coach's card – discounts from local retailers and profits from card sales support BCMC.

## **VIII. LEGISLATION ISSUES**

- A. **Legislative Committee** – for the Tri-County has been formed. Passed out a summary put together by SHRM, which compares the various Health Care Acts. Stressed again the need to have a voice in the legislative process – to be on the front end explaining rather than on the tailend complaining. Need to let representatives know we are here.
- B. Focus on Butler County and the jewel that it is. People here have a strong work ethic, -great example is the high rating of customer service for the Cranberry Marriott. Would like to ask local commissioners for their support of the BCMC.

## IX. UPCOMING EVENTS / MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Neil recommended company's having Health Committees. Oberg has achieved platinum status of Heart Health companies. Uses a rewards program to reward employees for achieving healthy goals. Has been successful for Oberg and Penn United can also vouch for health committees and rewards having experienced positive results as well.
- B. Jim recommended a group called **PBGH** that helps reduce prescription drug costs. Penn United is able to get big Rx discounts through this organization in the form of rebates back to Penn United. The mission of this organization is to reduce prescription costs for companies. See Jim for more info if interested.
- C. MediaFrogg has hired a marketing specialist to join their team, making MediaFrogg a full service marketing firm. Can provide services for your business such as market research, design, print, brochures, etc..
- D. The BCMC had a booth at the CareerLink sponsored job fair. We received several resumes of excellent candidates. To be fair to all manufacturers, Ken emailed them out to members.
- E. The CareerLink will be holding presentations twice a week for job seekers. Ken Raybuck will be a part of those meetings to talk about manufacturing.

**October 28<sup>th</sup>** – DeVry sponsored Career Fair in downtown Pittsburgh. If interested in having a table, please contact Tim Snapp.

**November 4<sup>th</sup>** – Butler Vo-Tech's Tech Fair. 8:00 am – 2:00 pm. If interested, contact Stephanie Karwoski at 724-282-0735 ext. 253.

**November 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>** – B.C.M.C. Manufacturing Expo at Clearview Mall. Friday and Saturday 10:00 am – 9:00 pm  
Carnegie Science Center will be demonstrating how "cool" science is between 4:00-8:00 pm each night.

**November 18<sup>th</sup>**: 12:00- 2:00 pm Domenico's Restaurant in Cranberry- BCMC meeting and outreach  
6:00-8:00 pm Cummings Candy and Coffee Shop – BCMC meeting and outreach

*Next meeting will be ?*