

BUTLER COUNTY MANUFACTURING CONSORTIUM

Minutes for December 15, 2006

Conley's Resort

Present

Diana McCormish-*JSP*, Vicki Senko- *JSP*, George Wockley- *GCL*, Terri Bowser – *CID*, Kevin Brahaney - *Sonneborn* , Jim Ferguson, Chuck Guiste, Kristen Bastaja – *Penn United Technology, Inc.*, Kyle Knapp – *Du-Co Ceramics Company*, Jennifer VanGorder – *ATS Inc.*, Mark Balentine – *AstenJohnson*, Doug Bartosh – *Unimach Manufacturing*, Neil Ashbaugh – *Oberg Industries*, Don Neff, Rick Green – *Eagle Rubber Products*, Lisa Campbell, Maria Fennell – *Butler County Community College*, Aaron Clouse, Heather Swiergol – *Butler Co. Area Vocational Tech. School*, Patrick Coulson, – *CDC of Butler County*, Carmen Bianco – *Armstrong Utilities*, Mary Salony – *TCWIB*, Scott Dietz – *Catalyst Connection*, John Fantini – *Butler PA CareerLink*, , Andy Johnson, Robin Melindez, Stephanie Karowski – *Slippery Rock Area High School*

A wonderful Christmas lunch was enjoyed by all and then Jim Ferguson opened the meeting with prayer.

Introductions were held.

Minutes from the November 2006 meeting were sent via email prior to today's meeting. Minutes were approved.

Doug Bartosh gave the financial report that the BCMC currently has \$1650 in the account.

Previous Business

Grant and Training Updates:

- The previous grant request of \$50,000 for training and \$100,000 for industry partnerships for the 3 counties (Armstrong, Butler, and Indiana) was APPROVED!
- Mary Salony will be writing the Request for Proposal (RFP) for CAD/CAM/ CNC training.

Strategic Planning : A planning / brainstorming committee meeting was held at BC3 on November 10, 2006. A summary of ideas includes:

- Creative Advertising for Manufacturing
- Activities to promote manufacturing including peer-to-peer recruitment, offering valuable programs to employees at reduced costs
- Manufacturing Expo for 2007
- Virtual tours of what we do in manufacturing
- Connecting to parents, youth and teachers
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Current Business

Business Plan Committee:

- Jim asked for any volunteers who would be interested in being a part of the Business Plan Committee to be involved with strategic planning for BCMC and to bring ideas to the next meeting. Please let Jim Ferguson know if you are interested. Topics the committee will be covering include
 - a) Image - improving and promoting the manufacturing image.
The Tri-county consortium WIB will be contributing \$2500 towards the Battlebots IQ 2007 competition. Carmen Bianco from Armstrong Utilities will be filming the process & progress of Butler Vo-tech students throughout their involvement in BattlebotsIQ 2007.
 - b) Growth and capacity building,
 - c) Development of career partnerships/paths

In-Kind Reports

Tri-County Manufacturing Consortium held a meeting on 12/11/06. Monthly "in-kind" reports need to be completed by each member participating in the BCMC. In-kind contributions include time, mileage, & transportation to/from meetings. Need to have in-kind contribution forms completed individually because the state is tracking this information. Jim passed out forms for everyone to complete for today's meeting.

Other:

- We need a Co-chair for the BCMC.
- Survey from Tri-County Consortium regarding manufacturers' needs. Will bring results to the January 2007 meeting.

New Business

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W.I.I.F.M. (What's In It For Manufacturing)

Jim presented a training video on "New Business Paradigms".

- As a follow-up Mark Balentine also recommended the book "Who Moved My Cheese".

Next Meeting:
Wednesday January 24th, 2007 at 7:30 am at the PACareerLink*

* PA CareerLink Butler County is located at 112 Hollywood Drive, Butler,
on the first floor of the Pullman Commerce Center.