

BUTLER COUNTY MANUFACTURING CONSORTIUM

Minutes for September 26, 2007

Present

Terri Bowser, Scott Docherty / CID Associates
Scott Dietz / Catalyst Connection
Carmen Bianco, Matthew Lutz / Armstrong
Doug Bartosh / Unimach Mfg
Neil Ashbaugh / Oberg Industries
Lisa Campbell / BC3
George Massie, Rich Schellinger / TRACO
John Novak / On the Edge
John Fantini / PA Career Link
Jim McKain / CMC Impact Metals
Lori Harvey, Paul Weifenbaugh / TCWIB
Bruce Curry / Penna Flame
Michael DiAngelo / Penna Flame & Media Frog
Kyle Knapp / Du-Co Ceramics Co.
Catie Marley / Pulva
Lori Pinkerton-Foust / Butler Technologies
Chuck Guiste, Jim Ferguson, Kristen Bastaja / Penn United Technologies
Karns Edwards / MAC
Jen Van Gorder / ATS, Inc.
Jack Coletti / MarketSphere
Susie Tack Beardsley / Quality Life Services
Stephanie Karwoski, Heather Swiergol / BCAVTS
Brian Slamecka, Debra Hall / Butler High Schools
Doug Stanko / Freeport High School
Andy Johnson, Harry Beil / Slippery Rock High School
David Beck / Karns City High School
Tina Bigante / Mars High School
Todd Trofimuk / Knoch High School
Dr. Joseph Cali, Dr. Sam Thangiah / Slippery Rock University

Jim Ferguson welcomed everyone to the lunch followed by introductions.
Special thanks to TRACO and MarketSphere for financially sponsoring the lunch.
Susie Tack Beardsley from the Butler Health Care Consortium also joined us. We hope to continue to have the Manufacturing and Health Care Consortiums work together to promote the various careers offered in these fields.

The minutes for the September 2007 meeting were emailed prior to the meeting and approved as written.
Doug Bartosh reported that we have \$1474 in the Treasury.

Previous Business

1. **MarketSphere**
* Jack Coletti from MarketSphere discussed the Basic Skills Training Program. It uses "Work Certified" as a platform to target in-depth industry skills. They surveyed members to identify training needed. The goal is to have training on-line and participants would receive a certificate or card upon completion of training program. The goal is to have training "modularized" into smaller training components.
2. **WedNet -**
* Lisa Campbell shared that there was a WedNet meeting the day before. There is

\$300,000 – 2.2 million for training for consortiums. We CAN still apply as a consortium. The state is encouraging local colleges to work with WIB's. There will be more money for industry partnership grants.

3. **Grant Update**

* Lori Harvey shared we are still developing a “wish list” for training. If you have a new need please let Lori know ASAP. We need to make sure we utilize the money received. We are on target to receive 80% of grant monies requested.

Current Business

1. **Schools**

* Jim reviewed the History of the BCM Consortium, our logo and motto
Almost 300 manufacturers in Butler County; 13,000 employees represented; an average wage in manufacturing of \$47,000; and \$600 million into our local economy. Our desire is to grow Butler Co. , overcome misconceptions about mfg., and work together as members and resource partners.

Desire to work with our local schools.

* How can we partner with schools?

a) Slippery Rock H.S. **Career Day**

Harry Beil shared that 65-75% of students go on to colleges. Large % of those drop-out. Not all kids go to college and they need to have a career plan as well. He shared how the Career Day at SRHS was organized and the incredible public relations that resulted. Andy Johnson added that at Slippery Rock they have career education as a graduation project. Susie Bearsley from the Healthcare consortium, mentioned that the consortiums do the leg work in organizing the various companies for the fair.

b) **Various ways** to partner, including assemblies, career representative panels, classroom presentations, etc...

c) **Project 720** – college and career preparation. Governor Rendell committed to career education. Mike King at Knoch H.S. received a \$ 70,000 grant for implementation of Project 720

d) **Focus on High Demand jobs** – encourage students to explore excellent careers in Advanced Manufacturing and Healthcare clusters

e) **Career Brochures** (for students & parents) is in draft process.

f) **“What Next?”** – 45% of students drop out of college. What is next for them? If they return to home school, could use an opportunity to share there ARE great opportunities here in Butler Co.

g) **World in Motion** – SAE – FREE kits to educators grades k-12.

h) **Nuts, Bolts & Thingamigs** – camps for elementary-middle school students. Plan to have a camp Summer '08 in cooperation with BC3.

i) **Dream it Do it** – NAM program. \$50,000 cost. Great way to marry education and industry. Geared to students.

j) **BotsIQ** – Butler Vo-Tech & Mars participated in '07. Still accepting teams for '08.

k) **Lego League** – Knoch is participating; Slippery Rock Univ. uses Lego program at more advanced level. Lego League tournament this November, held at the CMU Robotics Center in Lawrenceville. Looking for volunteers. Approx. 500-600 middle school kids participate!

l) **Adventures in Technology** – Scott Dietz shared information on this project-based program. Students work on real world projects in classroom. 10 week program and usually includes tour of facility.

m) **STEM** – Best Practices.

Goal – want to work together to partner with schools for our companies, for our county and our future.

Deb Hall, from Butler H.S. discussed the need to be hands-on. Desire to do tours with companies and develop a network for setting up tours and job shadows for students (and parents) who are interested in learning more. Paul from TCWIB stated that they are trying to form a network for doing just that.

Image

1. **Armstrong Show** – initial filming at Oberg. There will be final taping on Tuesday. Will be aired on channel 10 (and hopefully in channel 1 in schools). Shows have already been created for Healthcare. For companies that are interested, need to develop a shoot schedule and it does require a time commitment from the company (1 ½ days to shoot). Needs to be fun! Would like to have 6-8 programs filmed and ready to air.
2. **Billboards** – are up. BCMC website has excellent link using billboard image to explain the campaign.
3. **Postcards** – Bruce Curry passed a sample postcards which we could mail to all manufacturers and/or schools.
4. **T-Shirts** – “Proud to be a Butler Co. Manufacturer” Ibistek can do 100% cotton, made in USA shirts.
5. **Succup Theater** – \$500 sponsorship for entire season. Group voted and approved.

Growth

1. MEDRAD and MSA will be joining! BCMC will represent over 5000 employees.
2. Slippery Rock University – we were joined by two special guests from SRU:
 - a) Dr. Joe Cali – Chair of Health and Safety Department
Excellent program that offers the following for manufacturers:
 - * Safety Internship programs
 - * OSHA compliance officer to consult with companies
 - * Doctorate in Safety program
 - * Focus on general safety and construction
 - * Mentioned this is high demand for interns and graduates in this program
 - b) Dr. Sam Thangiah – Computer Science Department, Director of A.I. & Robotics
 - * Shared with the group about some topics/focus they are working on including programs for school bus routing and teacher staff schedules.
 - * Programs in Computer Science, Information Technology and Information Systems

What's In It For Manufacturing

1. Long-term electric contracts – a bill was passed this past summer allowing for such. Could be a big cost savings on energy costs for manufacturers.
2. Group discounts for our members' employees? For example, Liberty Mutual can do group discounts on home and auto insurance. If interested, please let Jim know.
3. Other :
 - a) **MAC** – will be starting a Machining Class starting November 4. Contact Karma for further details.
 - b) **Penna Flame** – Bruce shared that they have enjoyed many benefits of the Consortium since joining this past Spring, such as they were introduced to Dr. Z. from Robert Morris University and now have one their students helping to develop and put into a place a robot in their plant; also have 4 people attending training of which 50% is being paid by WebNet.
 - c) **Susie Beardsley** – shared that there will be a “Family Business Round Table” for family owned businesses to discuss issues they face. The meeting is tonight in Pittsburgh. See Suzie for further information.
 - d) **Congratulations!** – to BC3 on opening their Lawrence County Center.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, October 31st, for a breakfast meeting at the Butler Vo-Tech. Following the meeting, tours of the Vo-tech will be available.