

NEW Manufacturing Alliance

Board of Director Meeting

October 7, 2020

2 p.m.

Webex

Minutes

Attendees: Jeff Anderson, Stan Blakney, Ron Buchinger, Josh Delforge, John Dennis, Sue Dorscheid, Scott Kettler, Dale Kratz, Jim Koronkiewicz, Mark Lasky, Rick Recktenwald, Rob Weklar, John West, Barb LaMue, Mark Weber and Ann Franz

Topic 1: Michigan Tech Industry 4.0 joint project with NEWMA

Mark Weber with EMT International led a discussion of refining the topic ideas for a joint project with Michigan Tech. The scope:

MTU to work with a select group of NEWMA manufacturers to develop software that gathers OEM data and customer information and creates pre and post-failure analysis for troubleshooting equipment in the field from remote locations, to reduce travel time and cost.

The following companies have expressed interest in moving forward with the potential project: CMD Corp., EMT International and Plexus. Board members may contact Ann, if they are interested in also participating in the project. The project based on remote access should be a good project focused on the COVID-19 grants.

Topic 2: 2021 planning for 15 year anniversary

Board members need to let Ann know whether they are interested in continuing to be a Board member in 2021 by November 15. There are two new Board candidates for 2021: Mark Niemi with TIDI Products and Kathy Stone with Nature's Way.

Brad Nye with Alliance Laundry Systems has offered to accept the vice chair position in 2021.

The Alliance will be celebrating its 15 year anniversary on June 6, 2021. The Board would like to have a celebration similar to what was done for the Alliance's 10 year anniversary. A possible 15 year commemorative publication similar to the 10 year anniversary magazine. The Communications taskforce will work on developing ideas for the 15 anniversary and will report back to the Board.

Topic 3: Updates on Alliance taskforces

1. Industry 4.0 – Data Analytics cohort training started on September 14th with 20 students from 13 different employers. The feedback has been very favorable for the training program. Josh shared that he is one of the participants of the training program and has seen great value in the training. On October 8th Barb LaMue invited Ann and a few other Alliance members for a tour of Foxconn. Companies attending include: Alliance Laundry Systems, Amcor, Encapsys, PCMC, and Sargento Foods. A Paint cohort is moving forward with a data analytics study of climate controls in the paint process. Companies participating in the cohort include: Alliance Laundry Systems, Ariens Co., and KI.
2. K-12/STEM – for the month of October there are several student and educator programs that the Alliance is hosting including:
 - a. Every Wednesday at 10 a.m. Manufacturing Career Speakers in partnership with CESA 8/NWTC
 - b. Every Friday at 11 a.m. Women in STEM
 - c. October 14: Math – Science- Industry Partnership meeting from 3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.
 - d. October 27: Education – Industry Partnership meeting from 3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. – **Ann needs some Board members to volunteer for the meeting.**

3. Communications – the 2021 All Stars filming has started. 2021 Vitality Index survey has started to contact companies, included in this year's survey are COVID questions: new product/product modifications and issues with supply chain.
4. NCMMA – 10 year anniversary for organization with a feature story in Insight on Manufacturing magazine. Working with schools about hosting the 2021 SeaPerch competition in April. Hosting the Associate member meeting on October 28, 2020 via Zoom.
5. Solutions to the Marinette County Skills Shortage – Wednesdays career days are because of this taskforce.
6. Talent/Talent Risk – Internship Draft Day moving forward using Career Fair Plus app and having some live programming at Lambeau Field on November 10, 2020. Researching opportunities to recruit individuals in hospitality/retail to manufacturing. Talent Risk is shifting gears from a aging workforce to researching diversity/inclusion training through Linked In and retention strategies focused on employee benefits.

Topic 4: Discuss upcoming Alliance events

- Excellence in Mfg./K-12 Partnerships Awards on 10/1
 - The 10/1 Awards dinner was postponed due to the surge in COVID-19 cases to May 4, 2021. The Excellence Awards magazine was distributed to every public/private middle and high school administrator, counselor, math, science and tech ed teacher, plus the Alliance's full membership. The money raised in Awards sponsorships will net \$19,000 towards the Alliance's Scholarship Fund, which exceeds the \$15,000 record for donations for this event.
- Manufacturing First Expo & Conference on 10/20-10/22
 - Numbers are down for the conference with over 600 registered, but last year's event had over 1,000 people registered for the event. The planning committee is working on how to recruit more attendees. Programming allows individuals to view webinars up to 30 days after the event. There will be live programming the last day of the event from 4 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. with prize giveaways.
- Internship Draft Day on 11/10 – already reported in Talent update.
- December Quarterly Membership meeting
 - The November Board meeting will finalize the content. Ann will contact two economists: William Strauss, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and Ted Abernathy of Economic Leadership. The Alliance's 2021 Vitality Study Index will also be announced.

Topic 5: Associate Member nomination

Task Trainers was unanimously approved with a motion made by Jim and John Dennis second. John shared that his company purchased another company and that company will also join the Alliance. A total of 34 new members for 2020.

Topic 6: Next meeting on November 4, 2020 at 2 p.m. via Webex