

NEW Manufacturing Alliance
Board of Directors Meeting
November 3, 2021
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Automobile Gallery
Minutes

Attendees: Jeff Anderson, Ron Buchinger, Josh Delforge, John Dennis, Mark Kaiser, Jim Koronkiewicz, Rick Recktenwald, Mark Weber, John West, and Ann Franz

Topic 1: Presentation of ZSpace

Darrel Burnett with the Automobile Gallery shared their vision for educating the community utilizing AR/VR technology. He is also working with GLC Minerals on utilizing this technology for their employee training. The company he is using for the technology is called zSpace. The Board had a demo of the technology by Nick Pinchok and Ben Peterson with zSpace. It applies STEM and CTE in an AR/VR world at a reduced price than some similar type programs. There are several apps already designed that can be implemented into the classroom or workplace. For new programs it takes approximately 9-12 months to create it. The programs are open source. The Board would like to do a pilot utilizing files from Walker Forge on one of its machines. After the meeting, zSpace agreed to the pilot at no cost.

Topic 2: Strategic Planning retreat and next steps

The Board reviewed the Strategic plan, along with 180 day action plan that was created after the retreat.

Topic 3: October is Manufacturing month recap

- October 1 – Manufacturing Month Virtual Kickoff
- October 5 – Get Real Math / Science Premiere at the Meyer Theatre – 130 registered attendees
- October 7 – Marinette Area Education & Business Day
- October 8 – Talent Search - Green Bay Gamblers Game promotion
- October 12 – Virtual Boat Build – 51 students participated in the boat build
- October 20 – NEWMA Membership One-on-One meetings
- October 20 – Taps & Tours at Elevate97 – NEWMA’s first ever business after hours
- October 23 – WFRV Sunday Newsmakers
- October 26 – ACP Partnerships Meeting at the KI Convention Center – 64 people registered
- October 26 – Excellence Awards Dinner at the KI Convention Center – 214 people registered
- October 27 – Manufacturing First Expo & Conference at the KI Convention Center – 878 people attended plus 124 high school students and over 170 exhibitors
- November 4 – Internship Draft Day at Lambeau Field – 46 employers and over 100 students registered for the event.

Topic 4: December quarterly membership meeting

The next quarterly membership meeting will be held on December 16 at Fox Valley Technical College’s D.J. Bordini Center building. The event will begin at 8 a.m. with a continental breakfast and program starting at 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m. Missy Higgins with WEDC would like to present. The 2022 Northeast Wisconsin Manufacturing Vitality Study will be shared at the meeting, along with the two event sponsors: Acuity & SMET Construction.

Topic 5: Board members for 2022

Board members should let Ann know by November 24th, if they would like to continue on the Board. Jeff Michels, president of Great Northern Laminations division is interested in serving on the Board in 2022. The Alliance will need a vice chair to start in 2022. The current vice chair, Brad Nye will be serving as Board chair in 2022.

Topic 6: Financials for the year and grant funds through Microsoft & potential state funds

John West reviewed the financials for the organization from January 2021 to September 2021. The organization is financially healthy. Microsoft has awarded the Alliance another \$30,000 grant.

Topic 7: Greg Gauthier – Foxwood Associates discussion of TEC group for plant managers

Greg shared information about Breakthrough Strategies peer group program. At this time, the Board decided not to move forward with promoting the program.

Topic 8: Associate Member approval

NAI Pfefferle & WIN Technology submitted applications for membership. Mark Kaiser made a motion to approve both companies and Mark Weber second. Motioned unanimously approved.

Topic 9: Next Board meeting held January 5, 2022 at 2 p.m. via Webex