

## TUMMA (The Upper Mississippi Manufacturing Association) Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Kurt Bear, Mark Glendenning, Ed Johnson, Dave Skidmore, John Belmonte, Becky Grapes, Jerry Arendt

Guests: Beth Sullivan (WDB), Jim Hill (LADCO), Jenny Kuderer (WEDC), Alexis Baldwin (LADCO), Patti Balacek (WTC)

Meeting was called order at 3:03 pm by Chair Kurt Bear.

Minutes were reviewed by the board. A motion was made by Mark Glendenning and seconded by David Scidmore. Motion passed unanimously.

The treasurer's report was reviewed by the board. There is \$12,451.77 in the account with no payables or receivables. A motion was made by John Belmonte and seconded by Mark Glendenning. Motion passed unanimously.

The question of associated memberships was discussed based on the request from WIPFLI to join TUMMA. The amount has previously been set at \$1500 and will be maintained. The board is open to discussing how this is structured moving forward, but it currently is in the by-laws. Teachers can be members at no cost - this was brought up after the meeting - comments are welcome.

LADCO is hosting the Economic Forum on October 13th titled "A Multi-Faceted Approach to Workforce Development". There will be a number of speakers including a keynote from Community Ventures in Michigan which has had successful outcomes for harder-to-place employees. LADCO would like TUMMA to have someone to speak as well during the event. We would like to do an update on TUMMA and introduce Lizz to the room. There will be an after event as well to have more conversations with Community Ventures.

The New Manufacturing Alliance has their awards for Excellence in Manufacturing and K-12 Partnership Awards on Wed. October 19th. TUMMA should have a table or representatives in attendance. Lizz and Patti will sign up and arrange for a van.

K-12 Committee Report: The committee met before this meeting and heard about various activities which are promoting manufacturing to younger generations of students. Project Lead the Way was over viewed by Greg Benz, the new K-12 Coordinator at Western. The committee also received an update on Inspire which was discussed at the board meeting.

Kurt described a report called Manufacturing Renaissance which states that for each 1 manufacturing job their are at least 5 other jobs created outside of manufacturing.

The Board discussed the Strictly Business Expo on October 27th and Western's Manufacturing Career Fair on September 28th. Lizz will prepare and hand out fliers at both to promote TUMMA.

The Board of Directors are invited to meet Lizz on September 23rd at 2pm in the Lunda Center. Patti will send out the invitation with a parking permit. All directors are welcome!

The board discussed how to connect Corrections to the employment openings in our local manufacturers. The lead speaker at the LADCO event is discussing this type of connection. Patti will invite the Education Directors at the Jackson and New Lisbon prisons to attend the LADCO forum on October 13th.

Mark discussed the possibility of having Kwik Trip join the TUMMA Board in the near future. It would be nice to have Steve Loehr, who also sits on the Council of Workforce Investment at a state level. Jim Hill and Jerry Arndt will follow through on this action item.

Beth Sullivan and Vicki Markussen sit on committees of the Council of Workforce Investment at a state level. They meet quarterly and will update the group after the next meeting.

Ed Johnson gave an update on Ann Snow from the Children's Museum of La Crosse. Ann would like to have an exhibit on manufacturing and is seeking the help of TUMMA to make this happen. Ann checked with the other museums in Wisconsin and none are working with their local manufacturing association. She is interested in approaching the New Manufacturing Alliance about a partnership but TUMMA would prefer to be in the lead at this time. The WEDC is intrigued by the concept, especially if it is a multi-faceted approach.

Beth raised the idea of a manufacturing best practices summit for all of the TUMMA and New Manufacturing Alliance type groups. This is an idea for Lizz after she has been on board for awhile.

Jim Hill introduced Alexis Baldwin as a new intern for LADCO.

Jenny encourages the board to vote for the cool products made in WI on the Wmc website. Go to [Wmc.org](http://Wmc.org) and you can vote for 10 a day.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15pm when we moved to Closed Session

Next meeting - October 13, 2016 - 3-5 PM at Workforce Development Center unless otherwise notified