

Armstrong County Manufacturing Consortium
Members and Resource Partners
Minutes
2/07/08

The February 7th meeting of the Armstrong County Manufacturing Consortium was called to order by president Vickie DeThomas at 7:30 AM.

Present

Members

Vickie DeThomas – OmniTech Partners
Bill Elwell – Alpha Carb Enterprises
Patrick Huth – Electro-Optics Center
Joe Goldcamp – Natures Blend Wood Products
Chuck Slagle – CES Design
Randy Bowser – ALKAB
Alex Stockmal – Mid-Atlantic District Labs
Joanne Petras – Fuzion Technologies, Inc.
Doug Bartosh – Unimach Manufacturing
Cliff Ankney – Podinks, Inc.
Gary Byers – Airtak
Steve Rearick – JIT Global Enterprises

Resource Partners

Lori Harvey – TCWIB
David English – AET

Minutes

Prior meeting minutes were approved without change upon a motion by Doug Bartosh seconded by Alex Stockmal.

Welcome

Gary Byers is the new General Manager from Airtak; he will be attending the monthly meetings. Steve Rearick, JIT Global Enterprises/Rearick Tooling, Inc., will also be joining our meetings.

Old Business

- Vickie DeThomas stated that the County is looking for new topics for Armtech; anyone that has any ideas, let her know.
- The Company Speaker Section of the monthly meetings will continue next month; those assigned to speak are Bill Elwell and Doug Bartosh.
- The Work Certified Program is finally off the ground; the teachers are trained. The funds are now available to put incumbent workers through without a cost to the companies. It is 90 hours of full-time training. The classes will be ran consecutively in 3 counties.
- The filming of the video project will be taped in Armstrong County this month; it will include OmniTech Partners, Nature's Blend, and DRS. The ultimate goal for the program is to have it ready to show at the ARMTEch Showcase.
- The Industry Partnership Grant has funds available of \$17,500 for Armstrong County for education, marketing, etc. If anyone has any questions on training, contact Lori Harvey.

Committees

Five new committees are in place, and members and resource partners are asked to sign up to serve on a committee. The committees and chairs are:

- Education Awareness Vickie DeThomas
- New Members Doug Bartosh
- Preferred Vendors Joanne Petras
- Public Awareness Jeff Fullerton
- Training Joe Goldcamp

Next month there will be a committee meeting following the consortium meeting.

CJT Grant

Joe Goldcamp reviewed how the CJT Grant only covered six companies that initially applied and how the time period was limited. Vickie DeThomas and David English approached the state to reopen the grant and allow the opportunity for the new members to participate in the grant. Natures Blend and Omnitech Partners used funds but there is more money available for use. The majority of the training has to be completed as a group.

The members brainstormed to come up with problem areas to put together another training plan that would better serve the group's needs. The areas below were discussed:

- Programming – Networking, Equipment & Personnel
- Marketing – Expanding Customer Base, Website Development
- Small Companies Sharing a Trainer
- Lean Manufacturing
- Forklift Training
- Quality Control
- ISO (noncertified)
- DOD requirements
- G-Code Verification
- Diminishing Labor Force
- Global Competition

The CJT Plan will be established and sent out to members for their review.

The next meeting will be March 6th at 7:30 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 AM.