

Minutes

North Coast Marine Manufacturing Alliance Meeting

Tuesday, August 6, 2013

1:00 – 2:30 PM

NWTC

Type of meeting:

Steering Committee Meeting with Associate Members

Note taker:

Debbie Thompson

Attendees:

Amy Anderson, Steve Baue, Pete Bilski, Tom Buske, Josh Delforge, Joe Draves, Jeff Frank, Grayson Gerndt, Jeff Guenther, Phillip Henslee, Tyler Hoffman, Steve Popp, Nicole Selner, Ann Franz and Debbie Thompson

AGENDA TOPICS:

Member and Subcommittee Updates

All

- A new 40' Carver boat is being tested soon in the water. Josh Delforge will be traveling to Michigan City for its debut at a boat show on August 25 – 28.
- Joe Draves of NWTC reported faculty will be returning to campus August 19. The fall and spring semesters will now be 15 weeks (formerly 17 weeks) in length. Fall semester classes will begin September 5.
- E.H. Wolf & Sons, Inc. has completed acquisition of a new fuel line, allowing their company to hire an additional 20 employees. Per Steve Popp, this acquisition will double their fuel line.
- Grayson Gerndt reported Cruisers had a successful boat show at Stone Harbor in Sturgeon Bay.
- Jeff Frank of Ace Marine reported that things are looking good for their company, and they are able to acquire more work.
- The North Coast supply chain subcommittee will be meeting on August 22 with recycler vendors to learn about what they have to offer, with the possibility of doing a group recycle sell.
- Forward Service Corporation is launching a pilot vanpool program in northeastern Wisconsin. A vanpool is a group of 5 to 15 people who can ride together from Green Bay to work and home on a regular basis in a van. Riders split the cost of operating the vanpool, with a subsidy from Forward Service Corporation for qualified applicants. The company pays \$35 per month, in addition to each employee paying \$35 per month. A copy of the brochure is included with the minutes.
- Twin Disc was voted in as a new associate member of the Alliance. Palmer Johnson is an authorized Twin Disc distributor/service center and encouraged them to join.
- Ann reported the teacher institute was held last week. Survey results from the event were outstanding. The plant tours were highly rated, along with the hands-on activities held at NWTC's North Coast Marine Manufacturing Training Center.
- Grayson shared an article that was in the *Milwaukee Magazine* on yacht building in the region. The article [Local Anchors](#) - From Door County and Manitowoc to Sturgeon Bay and Oconto, northern Wisconsin has made a name for itself in yacht production. The article will be linked to the website.

Tall Ship Festival Subcommittee

All

- Ticket packets were distributed by Ann to Alliance members for the Tall Ship Festival. The free tickets are good for one day only. Anyone working a booth will be given a wristband at the entrance. Contact PMI for additional discounted tickets.
- Ann is hoping to get a response from NWTC students who are eligible to work security from 5:00 – 10:00 p.m. She will follow-up if she does not hear anything soon.
- E.H. Wolf and Sons, Inc. will not be sponsoring the \$4,000 fee for the photo shop. Alternative revenue sources were discussed. Steve shared that he believes the company will sponsor the tent rental (\$1,300).
- Tom Buske is continuing to work on getting the Higgins boat to the festival. Corporate legal has sent out paperwork regarding legality of the boat. Tom will need the signed paperwork back soon for the boat to be there.
- The Lego model of a Higgins boat has arrived.
- **Anyone having a booth at the festival will need to provide their own extension cord.**
- Jeff reported the Coast Guard boat will be located in an open space on the south side of the grounds, off of Dousman Street. He hopes for a viewing platform, but it seems unlikely.
- Tyler from Cineviz presented the boat builder images he received for the photo shop booth. He will need a higher resolution photo for Bay Shipbuilding. Phil will find out if he can get a picture for the event.
- Ann spoke with Ron Tupper regarding the video. Steve will be doing the voice over tomorrow. Ann will email the video to the Alliance membership as soon as it becomes available.

WEDC Exporting Opportunities	All
<p>The WEDC is trying to recruit members to an upcoming suppliers' show in the Netherlands. After further investigation, the expo was directed to suppliers of marine builders. WEDC is interested in meeting the Alliance about future trade missions and expos including one in Australia. Canada is the number one buyer of our boats, followed by Australia. Ann will invite a representative from the National Marine Manufacturing Association and WEDC to present about these opportunities at the October meeting.</p>	
Fast Forward Training Grant	All
<p>The Fast Forward Grant should be out in October. Joe Draves reported NWTC has identified an existing manufacturing leadership associate degree program available at another WI technical college. Randy Smith of NWTC is working on developing this degree. Some of the courses are already being taught. Students could achieve a certificate for completion by the first year and then receive their associate's degree after the second year. Classes could be provided at member companies beginning January 2014.</p> <p>Ann asked members to check with their HR people to try to determine what their 2014 hiring and training needs might be. Alliance member HR representatives are also invited to our September meeting to learn more about this opportunity. Randy Smith will give a presentation on the Supervisor in Manufacturing Associates degree.</p>	
Next Meeting Date	All
<p>The next North Coast Marine Manufacturing Alliance steering committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11 at 1:00 p.m. on the NWTC Green Bay campus in the Business Assistance Center's Boardroom. Alliance member HR representatives are encouraged to attend, as Fast Forward Grant initiatives will be discussed.</p>	