



Monday, September 24, 2020

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2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Delegate Ned Carey
Suzy Ganz
Saundra Lamb
Bobby Patton
Christine Ross
Tom Sanders
Scott Simmons
Phil Tulkoff
Craig Wanner
Senator Katherine Klausmeier
Patrick Nolan
Jim Strong

Company

Maryland General Assembly
Lion Brothers
Semforex
Patton Electronics
Maryland Chamber of Commerce
Coherent Technical Services
McCormick & Company
Tulkoff Food Products
The Whalen Company
District 8, Baltimore County
Northrop Grumman
United Steelworkers District 8

Ex-Officio Members:

Kelly Schulz Secretary, Department of Commerce

Notable Guest(s)

Holden Wilen, Baltimore Business Journal
Mike Kelleher, Maryland MEP
Andy Cook, Made in Baltimore
Dr. Ron Williams, Coppin State University
Andrew Stettner, The Century Foundation
Lee Wellington, The Urban Alliance

Commerce Staff:

Todd Sabin
Heather Gramm
Ernesto Chanona
Connie Page

I. Call to Order

At 2:00 p.m. Heather Gramm called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests. She noted that Heather and Todd are still working on the new Chair of the Board.

II. Review and Approval of June 22, 2020 Minutes

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the June 22, 2020 MMAB meeting were approved, unanimously.

III. Secretary's Updates – Secretary Kelly Schulz

Secretary Schulz updated the Board on where we are at when we last spoke. The Grant Relief Program for the Business community, we are getting an additional 50 million dollars for the Business Relief Program. An additional \$45,000,000 was put in the grant application process. We original has \$50,000,000. The Governor gave an additional \$45,000,000 to go into the grant portion. Not the loan, we found that most of the businesses were looking at the \$10,000.00 grants. So we have been able to fund about 9400 businesses which includes 2 rounds of funding. We had \$5,000,000 that we put into **MSBA** to go to the economically disadvantage small businesses. We have been partnering with second round of care acts funding that the Governor distributed \$50,000,000 also to the Department of Housing and Community Development and created a nonprofit recovery initiative. There were around 20,000 applications for our grant relief program in the two weeks the applications were open and we said if we got more funding we would continue going through first come first come bases we would make sure we would continue to fund businesses that were having Covid related loses. With the DHCD fund they were going to create a process as well and we said we already had 230 roughly additional nonprofits that were in our system that we could fund if HCD wanted to do that, so the nonprofit did not have to reapply for additional funds from different programs, so we received up to \$8,000,000 to continue funding those nonprofit applications in our systems which we were able to do. The Maryland State Arts Council as well as the Department of Commerce they received \$500,000 from Federal Art's Organization and found an additional\$500,000 internally that they turned over to \$1,000,000 emergency grant program. They were able to fund 125 arts organization and individual artist. They did such a great job, we worked with HCD to find an additional \$3,000,000 so they could continue that work. We had the Manufacturing Incentive Program Partnership with MEP working on launching the Maryland Manufacturing Network online portal. Over the last couple of months, we have been looking at some of our core missions we have had businesses that have expanded during the Covid. We have been able to do recruitments. There are good economic development project. At the beginning of the year we had decided that this would be the year of the entrepreneur. We launched a few weeks ago our new project of Innovation Uncovered. This is a way to showcase and promote the most innovative startup companies. We are accepting nomination to be able to present to Maryland Future 20 at Open.maryland.gov/innovation. The winners will be announcing in November. We are also encouraging our partners to share business stories at [#innovationuncover](https://twitter.com/innovationuncover). The Secretary thanked everyone that participated in the Advisory Group. Since we started reopening in May, keeping Maryland Open for Business has been a priority of ours and the Governor. Since we started reopening process back in May. We have been doing public service announcements, using local celebrities and community members, radio talking about how important

it is to keep Maryland open for business by continues to social distant, created healthy habits and wearing masks. We created #maskmaryland. We cannot afford businesses to shut down again. Maryland unemployment numbers fell again in July, we are at 7.6%. Maryland has the lowest rate in the Mid-Atlantic region. Maryland had a job growth 2.1%. Maryland will continue to grow and we are on a good positive trend.

IV. State of Manufacturing Update: Todd Sabin

Commerce and Labor and other departments have really come together over the recovery period. The August report from the US Department of Labor Bureau and Statistics, Maryland added 53,900 jobs in July with Manufacturing experience an increase 15,000 jobs to the manufacturing jobs. Maryland unemployment rate decreased to 7.6% in the preview 3 month Maryland gained 156,200 job. Governor Hogan announced more that \$10 million has been awarded to 445 small businesses though the Maryland Department of Labor Covid-19 Relief Fund, saving 808 jobs. The Maryland Manufacturing Policy Academy convened over the last couple of months. The strategy will focus on racial inclusive diversity as well as supply chain resilience. Heather Gramm is working on Goal 1 – Lunching an industry survey. Todd Sabin is working on Goal 2 creating an inventory of manufacturing resource. Todd Sabin and Mike Kelleher objective is to promote manufacturing throughout the State of Maryland.

V. Racial Inclusion and Diversity in Manufacturing: - Lee Wellington, Executive Director, The Urban Alliance - Andrew Stettner, Senior Follow, The Century Foundation - Any Cook, Program Directory, Made in Baltimore, Dr. Ron Williams, Coppin State University.

Lee Wellington, Dr. Ron Williams, Andrew Stettner, Andy Cook presented a PowerPoint presentation on racial inclusion and diversity in Manufacturing. The Urban Manufacturing Alliance is teaming up with The Century Foundation to launch Industry and Inclusion 4.0. They are bringing together manufacturing experts from across the country and a cohort of eight workforce leaders to form a coalition that will strategize how to solve our national recruitment challenge, and to forge a more racially inclusive future for manufacturing. These organizations see a major win-win proposition for urban communities of color, who are in need of stable, good-paying careers that can be started without a college degree. The coalition members are developing deep partnerships with employers, educational institutions, and community groups, and deploying training models anchored by industry-recognized credentials that give workers the tools they need to succeed. And they are engaging in ongoing conversations with their industry partners about how companies can change their cultures and practices to enable new workers of color to advance and thrive. Equity and inclusion, and as they pertain to race in particular, are critical to sectors across the economy in securing talent and incorporating diverse perspectives as they face a challenging and changing environment. African Americans, Latinos, and Asian Americans have been a crucial part of the history of American manufacturing and its role in the ascent of the world's most powerful industrial nation. As companies, communities, and governments come together to further industrial rebirth, racial equity can and should gain a central place in not only workforce recruitment, but in the overall envisioning of the sector as well.

VI. Discussion of Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Heather Gramm and Todd Sabin to create a strategic plan for the upcoming year. The next meeting will be TBD in January 2021.

VII. Adjournment of MMAB Business Meeting

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m. by Heather Gramm.