Friday, June 19, 2019
Tulkoff Food Products
2229 Van Deman St.
Baltimore, MD 21224
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Company
Brian Briggs, Chair TIC Gums
Delegate Carey Maryland General Assembly
Suzy Ganz Lion Brothers
Senator Klausmeier (Evan Richards) Maryland General Assembly
Saundra Lamb Semforex
Christine Ross Maryland Chamber of Commerce
Tom Sanders Coherent Technical Services
Scott Simmons McCormick & Company
Jim Strong United Steelworkers District 8
Phil Tulkoff Tulkoff Food Products
Dr. Willie E. May Morgan State University

Ex-Officio Members:
Kelly Schulz Secretary, Department of Commerce

Notable Guest(s)

Guest Speakers
Mike Galiazzo Regional Manufacturers Institute

Commerce Staff:
Heather Gramm
Sarah Sheppard
James Palma
Todd Sabin

I. Call to Order
At 2:15 p.m. Chairman Brian Briggs called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests.

II. Review and Approval of March 28, 2019 Minutes
Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the March 28, 2019 MMAB meeting were approved.
III. Chairman’s Updates

The Chairman gave openings remarks. Secretary Schultz commented on her tour of visiting Maryland counties. Of which, she has visited seven counties and meeting with manufacturers in most. Secretary Schulz then discussed the reorganization within Commerce announcing the new Assistant Secretaries for Business Development and Tourism.

IV. Maryland Manufacturing Update

Todd Sabin reviewed recent “wins” and updates for the state in the manufacturing industry. He then provided updates on the More Jobs for Marylanders and Partnership for Workforce Quality programs. He proceeded to provide updates on the Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Programs, as well as MD MEP’s recent video series on “The Faces of Manufacturing”.

Secretary Schulz mentioned Baltimore County joining the Youth Apprenticeship Program. Bringing the total county partners to 10.

Christine Ross stated the Maryland Chamber Foundation will fine tune their Teacher Externship Pilot Program this summer and market it further to MSDE this fall. They hope to have at least one externship per county by 2020 and are planning to host a post externship event. Scott Simmons stated this could expand into what the initiative is currently doing, and encourages more women and minorities be involved. Brian Briggs requested that Christine Ross provide an update of the program at the next meeting.

V. Old Business

A. Image of Manufacturing Initiative Update

Scott Simmons opened by discussing the success of the Baltimore County bus tour on June 24th where 24 teachers were hosted. Phil Tulkoff discussed the success of the Baltimore City bus tour where 20 teachers were hosted. Pat Nolan said his company can host these tours at their facilities in Western Maryland and/or Cecil County.

B. Small Manufacturing Business Support Initiative

Saundra Lamb led the discussion by introducing the pilot survey and asking the Board members to review and provide feedback by July 15th. A report on survey findings will be provided at the next meeting, as well as next steps in conducting focus groups to gather additional data.

C. Manufacturing Co-Ops in Maryland

In Bobby Patton’s absence, a discussion on this topic will be slated for the next meeting.
VI. New Business

A. Morgan State University

Dr. May provided an update on Morgan State University’s (MSU) work with farmers of industry hemp, as well as academic which includes a bachelor’s program in Medicinal Plant Science. This will include lab based research, its medicinal uses, as well as research programs with growers. MSU is working with 13 growers to analyze their yield and conditions for a successful crop. There is currently a 70% fail rate. The work they will do with the growers will provide good hemp data for growers to have more successful yields. The desired result is to increase the processing of hemp in the state. Brian Briggs expressed the need for updated regulation for the industry as each state has its own regulations on its transportation.

Dr. May then provided an update on the 2-day workshop MSU will host the first week of November in conjunction with the 14 Manufacturing USA institutes. He stated that one of the goals is to have Manufacturing USA engage and partner with historically black colleges and universities which have traditionally been with larger universities.

Dr. May then introduced MSU Professor Kevin Kornegay who discussed and showed a short video on their Cybersecurity Assurance Program known as the CAP Center. The CAP Center will host the next MMAB meeting.

B. Regional Manufacturing Institute

Mike Galiazzo provided information on the partnership between the Regional Manufacturers Institute and Maryland Public Television in putting together a 13-part TV series on Maryland manufacturing. The series is aimed at informing the public about the industry’s impact on the economy and how it is part of our community in the state.

VII. Adjournment of MMAB Business Meeting

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m. by Chairman Briggs. Board members and guests were then offered a tour of Tulkoff Food Product’s facility.