



Monday, September 25, 2017
17th Floor Conference Room, World Trade Center
401 East Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202
8:30am – 10:30am

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Brian Briggs, Chair
Del. Ned Carey
Loretta Eggleston
Suzy Ganz
Joanie Gerber
Sen. Katherine Klausmeier
Saundra Lamb
Patrick Nolan
Bobby Patton
Christine Ross
Tom Sanders
Scott Simmons
Jim Strong
Phil Tulkoff
Dr. Willie E. May

Company

TIC Gums
Maryland General Assembly
Boilermakers Local S 50
Lion Brothers
Bikle Manufacturing
Maryland General Assembly
Semforex
Orbital ATK
Patton Electronics
Maryland Chamber of Commerce
Coherent Technical Services
McCormick & Company
United Steelworkers District 8
Tulkoff Food Products
University of Maryland College Park

Ex-Officio Members:

R. Michael Gill, Secretary, Department of Commerce

Commerce Staff:

Kris Shock
Todd Sabin
Sharon Markley

I. Commerce Department Welcome

Secretary Gill welcomed members and staff to the inaugural meeting of the Maryland Manufacturers Advisory Board (MMAB). His remarks emphasized the importance of customer service, a culture of “yes”, and talent acquisition as key to successful manufacturing. He reported on the implementation of the More Jobs for Marylanders Act (MJM) and requested Kris Shock, Senior Director, Strategic Industries and Entrepreneurship, to provide an overview program. Ms.

Shock stated the program provides attractive tax incentives tied to job creation for a 10-year period; encourages additional investment in new equipment through accelerated and bonus depreciation, and strengthens Maryland's workforce. After Ms. Shock's review, Secretary Gill requested the Board provide input on the MJM's initial form and how it may be improved upon to better support Maryland manufacturing.

II. Chairman's Remarks and Call to Order

Chairman Brian Briggs called the meeting to order and welcomed members and staff. He reviewed the purpose of the MMAB as outlined in House Bill 245. As industry advisors, the Board shall advise the Secretary on manufacturing competitiveness as highlighting in Section 3-108, including: manufacturing attraction, expansion, and retention, workforce preparedness, developing a business climate conducive to growth, the promotion of industry, and create partnerships to promote industry.

III. Introductions

MMAB members gave brief introductions of their backgrounds, companies, and thoughts on key issues facing their companies as manufacturers in Maryland. One of the key themes shared by many members was the need to address better access to a workforce that will support their operations.

IV. Key MMAB Priorities

Chairman Briggs reviewed the primary manufacturing strategies developed in the Department of Commerce 2016 Strategic Plan and the update provided in the subsequent 2017 Progress Report. Manufacturing strategies recommended include: training programs, industrial energy conservation strategies, supply chain review, reshoring, and the State as a national hub in one or two key sub-sectors.

V. Closing Remarks

In respect to members' time, Chairman Briggs kept closing remarks brief and asked Todd Sabin, Program Manager, Manufacturing for any additional comments for the Good of the Order. Mr. Sabin advised members to complete their Contact Information form included in their packets, and informed them of the Regional Manufacturing Institute (RMI) Manufacturing Day being held on October 6th. The next meeting of the Board will be in December, date to be determined.

VI. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25am by Chairman Briggs.