



**Board Meeting
January 28, 2010**

Minutes

President Nick Williams called the meeting to order at 5:06 PM.

Voting Members Present: Nick Williams, John Shrout, Bill Sellnow, Ed Hayes and Ben Hulgan.

Honorary Member: Cindy Wigley.

Members absent: Ed Childress, Vandy Cruise, Ralph King, John Pittard, Grant DeMuth, Jerry Cofield, Teresa walker and Andre' Thomas.

Minutes from the October 22, 2009 (Last Meeting) were reviewed and approved on a motion by Bill Sellnow and Second by Ed Hayes.

Ben Hulgan reported a current bank balance of \$11,980.40, with no outstanding obligations. Financial report was accepted on a motion by Bill Sellnow and Second by Ed Hayes.

OLD BUSINESS

Status of 2010 Membership Program: Ben reported that we currently have 30 paid memberships versus 42 last year. Of the 22 non-member companies (2009) that were sent letters inviting them to join the Association, only one has joined to date (Warren Distribution). We discussed ways to continue encouraging companies to join, and decided to make phone calls as a next step. A list of prospective member companies and who will make the calls will be sent separately.

Status of Plan to make presentation to local municipalities: Nick, Ed Childress and Ben have drafted a series of talking points. We decided to meet again to review and refine the presentation.

Action Item: Meeting set for Tuesday Feb. 9th at 3 PM in the MCEDC Boardroom. Participants – Nick, Bill Sellnow, Cindy Wigley and Ben.

Report on November & January General Membership Meetings: Ben reported that the November meeting in Arab was attended by 17 people who heard an informative panel discussion about Pandemic Preparedness and Response.

The January meeting in Albertville was attended by 12 people. 2010 Board of Directors were approved and a very productive discussion was held regarding ways the MCMA can be more relevant and effective in adding value to member companies.

Action Item: Schedule March meeting for Thursday the 18th at Guntersville Senior Center and arrange for a legal update program (Burr Forman, if possible).

NEW BUSINESS

2010 Board members were noted; however no new Board Members were present to receive a welcome.

Programs and Locations for 2010 General Meetings: March program noted above. May meeting will be at the Bevill Center at Snead SCC. Program will include presentation of 2010 Scholarships and we will invite local political candidates to come and address the group regarding their vision and platform relative to small business/manufacturing issues. Suggestions were made to have a health insurance-related program, possibly one to gain information on feasibility of a group plan offered to member companies through the MCMA. Another suggestion was made regarding whether we should try to establish an annual theme for meetings during a year.

Status of 2010 Scholarship Program: Ben reported that information and application forms have been distributed to all city and county high school counselors. Deadline is April 16th.

Action Item: Cindy Wigley stated that she was scheduled to meet with county school counselors and would make a pitch for our scholarship program ,and confirm current names and emails for the counselors.

Discuss ideas and suggestions from January General Meeting: We decided to table this item until we have more Board members present. A brief discussion ensued regarding the feasibility and value of creating a way for members to connect and share information through our website, i.e. blog, chat room, Face Book, etc. We also discussed finding a good date for this years Golf Tournament.

Action Item: Nick to talk with Cherokee Ridge and Ben to talk with Gunter's Landing to try and find a less tournament-crowded time of the season. Two courses currently under consideration: Lake Guntersville State Park (pending completion of renovation) and Gunter's Landing, due to the good event and good price they gave us last year.

Recognition for Board members: We decided to present a certificate of appreciation and a MCMA pen set (like we present to guest speakers) to Board Members leaving the Board. We had consensus approval for purchasing name tags for Board Members to wear at General Membership events.

Action Item: Ben will make these purchases and prepare the certificates.

Attendance expectations for Board members: We decided to pursue no formal action on this issue at this time.

There was no Other Business, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM.

Submitted by: Ben Hulgan, Secretary/Treasurer