

Twin Cities Maker Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2011 at Hack Factory, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Attendees

Attendees: Karin, Riley, Michael, Dave, Brandon, Bob

Scribe

Bob Poate

Old Business

- Previous minutes reviewed. "Events worksheet" item changed to table to "next month" (October, this meeting) instead of "next week". Approved.
- Monthly financial report emailed to board, will review fully after the meeting. We're spending more than we're earning, but we're still in the black. We're losing about \$100 per month. We have about 2 grand in the bank. Still missing dues from 15 members from September. We currently have ~75 members total, including those who haven't paid yet for October, so we are still operating at a loss. Approximately 35 % - 40 % of members are paying student membership rate (\$25 per month) instead of full rate. We've also lost 5 memberships due to staff (Department Heads are comped with free membership for their extra service). We currently have 54 paid members, and 5 compensated staff. Original goal was to be at 87 members, but 90 may be a better number to shoot for.
- Cheryl as potential PR Minion. Haven't talked to her since the day she accepted the position. Michael and Riley were the contacts with her and will contact her again.
- 501 (c) 3 - Need any 2 board members to meet with Bob (attorney) Wednesday next week. Becca has narrative for application. Michael also has notes, but they will make sense only to himself.
- School Factory and Springboard for the Arts - Karin has answers and will email that to Board and will discussed via email. Springboard says that if we're better served by School Factory, we should go with them. However, we may be able to get assistance from both - dual sponsorship. Tabled.
- Security camera alternative for welding area. Dave, Jude, and Tony will install an electrical box to able/disable some metal working tools with a physical lock box. Determine which machines will use the lock box - welders, big drill press... Big

subpanel that was dedicated to CNC will be moving over to the metal working area.

- Rebranding. Discussion of putting it up to a vote - Should we be known as Hack Factory or TC Maker? There is a concern about having a name for the organization and another name for the work space, that it is confusing and dilutes our brand name. Many believe we should be just one entity and one entity alone. Chris, Scott, and Darren, will work on voting system. Voting system will be out in 2 weeks, and will be voted on in the following 2 weeks so it will be official by next meeting. The votes will be electronic (email); the process doesn't need to be as complicated as the vote for the by-laws. Dave will spearhead the blog announcement, discussion on the forum will be spearheaded by Riley. Voting will be closed the at midnight Tuesday the day before next Board meeting.
- Shop signage. Not done yet, Riley has been pursuing it. His local FedEx has the right size paper now, but can't print from his thumb drive. He'll email the files to the FedEx guy.

New Business

- Upcoming Events. U of M thing at Library on November 9. Dave waiting to hear back from Krista to hear about logistics. Building of Art Shanties is also a possibility. Adam may be able to run Makerbot at U of M thing. Riley, Dave and Ryan are also both up for it. Dave may be able to cover Locksport on November 1 as Michael will be busy at work, clearancing everything. Weekly Ehack Night is up and running (just members) Monday nights. Michael suggested that it be open to non-members as well, maybe for a suggested donation of \$5. Or have it free, sign a guest waiver, and they can use electronics tools - oscilloscope, soldering irons, multimeters, etc. Discussed. It will be free. Monthly CAD night, 3rd Tuesday of every month is taught by Bill. There are another couple new members who may be interested in teaching it, too. First Board Game night will October 20 (Thursday), anyone can bring in a board game, event is free, bring a snack. October 22 will be Collar Making. Bow making class is not on calendar for some reason (even though it's happening). Next Woman's Night will be welding and knitting, on October 25. October 26 is Pumpkin Hacking Night, during Open House. Scott may be point person, not sure.
- Propose moving Board Meeting to another night of the month (2nd Tuesday?). Debate. While on Wednesdays, we can't connect to members, register new members, or do anything else while we're having a meeting. Having the Board Meeting on a non-Open House night would also avoid distraction from Open Meeting night. Voted and passed, 4 to 2, to move to the 2nd Tuesday. Vote on Branding decision will be for finished by midnight on the *Monday* before meeting).
- Wiki updates and documentation. Wiki is being actively updated. Tools section is up on the wiki now; please read and comment. Board needs to start the discussion side of the

wiki page, and do the official version next month. TC member wiki wall has been started, and we are trying to unify logins between forum and wiki. Scott has something enabled to keep spam crawlies from running amuck. Have to check with Scott on details.

- Member Code of Conduct as a result of recent events. Dave wants a Code of Conduct Policy to keep people from writing in the space. Chris Odegard will start and put in wiki.
- Develop IT Department Head (Scott) with team (Skyler, Dave, and other volunteers. Brandon has also offered to be involved). Scott has offered to be department head to organize any sort of material in the business. Need a new name: IT Guru, IT Point Person, whatever. Scott will come up with title; position will not be an actual Department Head and will not be compensated with free membership.
- Camera discussion, again. Cameras or no cameras to avoid tool damage? Redundant with the lock-out system to be installed in the metal-working area? Discussion. We'll start with cameras on the doors and lock-out.
- Developing Budget. One year, 5 year...? Let's start with a 1 year. Ongoing discussion, need Department Heads and Board. After November 7, people should be available for discussion. Two - 4 hours will be needed. Need to do some research and thought beforehand. Need to get TC Maker email addresses for Department Heads, too. Chris has a live, ongoing account of expenditure and proposed budget on the wiki.
- Brandon - We need to keep "Official Page" on wiki, with only 4 people who are able to edit or make things official and keep unofficial things from becoming "official."

Next Meeting

- November 8

Next Meeting Agenda Items

- To be determined.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned.