

Lansing Makers Network

Board of Directors

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 30, 2024, 7:00 pm at 2730 Alpha Access

Present: Brian Adams, Jody Applegate, Carl Raymond, Charlie Finkel, Lex Savoyat, Joe Zimmerman, Jerry Jodloski

Spectators: James Etherton, Evelyn Down, Maria Alcaraz, benny Vasquez, John Cardinal, Tony Kuhlman, Jerry Fahner, Maria Riolo

Minutes: Lex Savoyat

Meeting called to order: 7:00pm

1. Agenda

- **Approving Agenda** Motion: Lex Savoyat, Second: Joe Zimmerman
- **President's Report**
- **Treasurer's Report**
 - Vote on How-To Holiday 2024 Budget
- **501c3 discussion**
- **Fiscal Cliff**
 - Vote on Licensed Space Proposal
 - Vote on Expanded Membership Proposal
- **Secretary's Report**
- **Other Action Items**
 - Vote to Invite New Board Members
 - Vote on Board Rebuild Proposal
- **Schedule the next board meeting**
- **Executive Session**

2. President's Report

Detailed outline: [ED Summary Oct 2024](#)

- Would like the board to review the Step 0 plan and agree on it as a plan going forwards.
 - [Step 0](#)
- Nicole will be stepping up as Volunteer Coordinator, will not be taking the gratis membership, and a plan will need to be made to oversee her as she will not report to the ED.
 - **PROPOSED MOTION: Lansing Makers Network's board of directors would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Evelyn Down for her leadership of the volunteer program. Evelyn remained in this position long after being ready**

to step-down while we struggled to fill the role. Our community is better for Evelyn's mark being left on it.

- Unanimous Approval
- Brian met with Sarah Jennings of Maner Costerisan, about the current financial issue, as well as an ongoing relationship.
 - Suggests that we put together an RFP for this, which Brian will manage.
- **Sponsorship Program**
 - Brian is setting up time with LEAP to discuss sponsorship opportunities
- Brian is working with WILX to set up coverage of upcoming events.
- Brian is working with the Nonprofit Network to get advice to help the LMN structure, and to potentially discuss setting up a time for the board to get group training
 - https://www.nonprofnetwork.org/index.php?option=com_jevents&task=icalrepeat_detail&evid=322&Itemid=176&year=2023&month=06&day=27&title=nonprofit-board-101-in-person-no-cost&uid=92239b1930ee1b091d277bc32414487b
- Brian is creating a Digital Infrastructure Team, to get assistance with our current infrastructure projects.
- Brian has sent his resignation letter to the board, effective December 31st, 2024.
 - **Adams Resignation Letter**
 - Charlie remarks that the oversight of the Executive Director is the responsibility of the entire board and that we've not. Charlie would like to step down from the board in the near future. We thank Brian for all of his efforts.

3. Treasurer's report

- Report: ■ Treasurers report - OCT2024.pdf
- Jody met with State Farm and renegotiated. Insurance will be going up to \$185/month because of the larger area of the space. They toured the space today.
- Questions about where Stripe Payments are coming from, will need to investigate more.
 - Maria and Jody will confirm, but it is thought that these are from EventBright
- Since Sunday, we've taken in \$1200 from donations and new memberships.
 - Largely because of recent facebook post.
 - All Paypal listed are straight donations from the website.
- We are currently down ~\$4300 this month.
- Jody and Brian will work together on filling out the budget going forwards.
 - **Draft Nov-Dec 2024 Budget**
- We have 2 weeks to
- Brian: IBEW asked if we would be willing to hang a banner, Brian is working on negotiating a sponsorship with them.
 - Perhaps a number of the local unions would be willing to do as well.
 - This is an opportunity for us to begin pounding the pavement.
- Including the amount that we anticipate receiving from the upcoming classes, we are still very short for covering next month's bills
- Vote on How-To Holiday 2024 Budget
 - **How-To Holiday 2024 Budget**
 - Joe Zimmerman Motions, Carl Seconds, no opposed, motion carries.

4. 501c3 discussion

- Status of accountant hiring
 - Brian met with one possible accountant - the current estimate is \$2500 - 5000 to get our 501c3 status back - an official proposal is anticipated soon
 - Accountant would redo 990s, 1023s for our missing years
 - The larger price is if we are not able to submit the EZ form.
 - Is not able to give a timeframe until they see the entire situation.
 - Brian will need to draft a letter to the IRS to explain why we ended up in this situation
 - They will likely need quickbook access.
 - Two members have stepped forwards to donate to cover. Brian is planning to donate \$2000 to help cover the fee.
- When we have the proposal, the board will meet on Zoom to vote to avoid having to wait until the November meeting
- 1023 form section
 - Jody is working on filling the non-financial page. Maria A has been helping gather information.

5. Fiscal Cliff

- Vote on Licensed Space Proposal
 - **Licensed Space Proposal**
 - Amending proposal to move forwards on 1 and 5. Offer to LMN members first.
 - Lex to move forwards with
 - Brian: moves to approve amended proposal. Lex seconds. Charlie abstains.
- Vote on Expanded Membership Proposal
 - **Expanded Membership Proposal**
 - Amending proposal: Sustaining supporter and Auto Renew remain. Everything else is stricken
 - Brian opposes, motion carries.
- Selling tools
 - Ironworks has an operational wood bandsaw that can be sold.
 - Electronics has very specialized equipment under the bench that can be sold on Ebay.
 - Not worth the effort, so we'll not be selling any tools

6. Secretary's Report

- How-to-Holiday underway Nov. 16.
- November 9: Michigan Disability Rights Coalition Hackathon;
- November 10: Silversmiths group
- December 7: Krampusfest, we are allowed to sell things, not sure whether we have electricity. Put out a call for people that want to join the Krampus parade.
- April 2025: Maker Showcase at MSU Science Festival

7. Additional Action Items

- **Vote to Invite New Board Members - tabled**
 - The board discussed a proposal to add new members to the board that had been proposed by Lex in email to the board
 - It was agreed that, while the board would like to invite new members, but would like to interview those new members before they vote on them.
- **Vote on Board Rebuild Proposal - tabled**
 - Brian will lead a committee to work on this proposal - working session scheduled for anyone who'd like to join

8. Schedule the next board meeting

- **Next zoom session:**
- **Next work session:** Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 7:00 pm in person
- **Next board meeting:** Wednesday, November 20, 2024, at 7:00 pm in person
- **Board Member Interview:** Monday, November 4, at 6:00pm on video conference

9. Member Discourse

- Maria A. looking through eventbrite, the woodturning class amount was returned. She and Jody will investigate why it went to an incorrect account.

10. Executive Session

- An executive session was held