

Lansing Makers Network

Board of Directors

Regular Meeting Agenda

04/07/2025, 6:00 pm at 2730 Alpha Access

Board Members:

benny Vasquez, Chair

Lex Savoyat

Lysne Tait

James Etherton

Kelsey Earle

Kirk Taskila

Visitors:

Em Szmazinski

Jo

Meeting Secretary: Kelsey Earle.

Meeting called to order: 6:05pm

1. Housekeeping (benny)

- **Approving Agenda**
 - Approved
- **Declaration of newly relevant conflicts of interest for board members**
 - None

2. Chairperson's Report

- Lots of events coming up.
 - Astronomy on Tap on Thursday - one of our bigger events to bring in community members
 - Board members should be volunteering when possible - please connect with Lex to sign up
 - Please share events on personal social media when you can - will receive a toolbox to help craft those messages
- Doing great!

3. Leadership Committee Report

- Technology (Lex & benny)
 - Thanks to Em (Marcy) for doing the most!

- hello club is mostly ready to go, i have an import script ready to migrate members when we're ready to abandon the existing portal
 - Almost ready with this. Need to train volunteers.
 - Have officially started paying for Hello Club
 - Cannot import payment information into new system - so members will have to resubmit payment. Will receive email to do this.
- badgey has volunteer data now and an interface to clock in/out. it looks bad but is working enough to get by. ACLs are still being worked as well as coordinator interfaces
- the side door is ready to take pins on badges, boop your badge, press some numbers, door opens. badgey interface to set your own pin doesn't exist yet. this is in response to a recent incident we can talk about that later
- phones are pending, we have a pbx server that mostly works but is on the test number with only the kitchen phone functioning. more still to do but networking is looking much better for it this time
 - Phone in the breakroom works. Calls going out work.
- printers continue to be fixed as issues are discovered
- a new server has entered lmn offices, it hosts the lmn dev marketing site relieving pressure from digital ocean
- designs continue to be implemented in both the new marketing site and badgey
- Ryan and Sammy are working on pages for the website - making plug ins and themes
 - Could use some help making decisions and confidence
- Volunteering(Lex)
 - Lots of new volunteer applications coming in. Only one week behind in reviewing applications.
 - Looking for new shift lead on Saturdays. One of new volunteers said that's a good time for them.
 - Changing membership portal and payment portal - so this may be a learning opportunity moving forward. May present challenges, but we can work through it.
 - Stripe is new payment processor
 - Hello Club new portal
 - Fees for either Stripe or Square are only for processing.
- Operations(Lex & Lysne)
 - Applied to Community Foundation to get capacity building grant - WE GOT IT!
 - Help board create a strategic plan for growth of the organization
 - There are 2 consultants who want to work with us.
 - Leadership committee need to sit down and figure out which one will work better. Interview these consultants.
 - We get the bill - bill goes to Community Foundation - they pay the bill.
 - Strategic plan helps us as larger grants and organizations want us to provide this to them in the application process.
 - Decisions for the board can be held up against the strategic plan to make sure we have alignment for the overall goals for the year.

- Met with landlords last week told them we are interested in staying in the building. Our lease is up in October, so we had to let them know if we were staying or not. We wanted enough time to negotiate. Will receive a new copy of the lease agreement. Looking to get at least a 5 year agreement.
 - One of the guys will come over and help us with maintenance if needed.
- Also wanted to talk to them about a mural - wanted to make sure it's okay. Muralmatics. Summer camp for teens. Kids do the prep work and help with idea generation. He paints the murals. Need \$3000 from us in order to help support the kids portion.
 - Suggestion to do a membership drive after Hello Club is launched to raise the funds
- Muralists renting the back space right now to paint mural panels - community pool in Ann Arbor. May 1st installation.
- Next month welders are using the space for Scrapfest
- Electrical workers sign in Sept., and start work in Oct. usually. Sometimes they do the same floats two years in a row
- Grant team - Lex, Kirk, and Kelly - Have a list of opportunities. Kelly works at Dart, trying to make a case for us and build connections
 - 3 priorities to raise money 1) mural, 2) kitchen refresh, 3) sewing machine repair
 - MSU turned down application for sewing machine repair clinic
 - Insurance and cannabis companies have to donate funds
 - Meetings will be held monthly
 - Lysne - please make a tax document folder and share with grant team
- Outreach (Lex & Lysne)
 - Lots of events coming up but not a lot of people who can/want to help out.
 - Astronomy on Tap -
 - Girl Scouts woodworking badge - will be making wooden candy dispensers
 - Specifically repeatable class that we could run - community interest
 - Consider making our own badge to give to them
 - First official school field trip in May - high school international students - Lansing Schools Newcomer Center
 - Man up 2.0 on May 8th. NAMI collaboration and Positive Somebody - Making sword from hammer and nail and another choice of craft - expecting 30-40 participants. Want to do more events in the future.
 - Kitchen Refresh scheduled - like How to Holiday but all kitchen themed
 - Refinish cutting boards, pans, sharpen knives
 - Demonstrations of brewing outside
 - Collab with Lansing Foodies
 - May 23rd
 - 21 events scheduled from now to June
 - Lots more events: [+](#) Event Planning .
- Jameson just agreed to be the new blacksmith area manager - needs a little grace as they transition to a new job

- New member Dana found some great Facebook Marketplace finds and is working on getting other equipment
 - Got some new tongs and charcoal for that area
- 517 Entrepreneurship and Innovation week - put on by LEAP. Lysne went and met with head of LEAP. A few events this week if anyone is interested.

4. Treasurer's report

Lysne

- Last month we paid all insurance at once. Needed a little extra for rent this month. Did have to take from our savings.
 - Made \$4,050 this year so far in classes since January (with fees and supplies taken out - profit)
 - Listed 3 more woodshop classes added because we were getting calls about it
 - Chair class and casting class still have open spots we want to fill.
 - Expected another \$4,000 from other classes listed on Evenbrite right now (basically through May)
- Raise Right - Get percentage of whatever people pay for a gift card. Can potentially advertise that if we want. Got a \$500 gift card, got \$15 back.
- March utilities were \$3,000 - winter expenses
- Summer is usually quieter - dip in membership
 - Thought about summer deal to drive membership previously
 - Classes that target teachers
 - Summer themed classes
 - James suggested trellis
- Almost done paying off Maynard
 - \$400 and \$500 per month for the 2. \$500 is almost done.

5. Secretary's Report

- Kelsey
 - Policy review - keep an eye on and make sure to stay on top of as needed

7. Committee Updates and Continued Business

Grants and Funding

- Covered above in the operations and stuff

8. New Business

Education updates (Jo)

- Developed a plan/wishlist of education
 - Goal of classes leading to membership
 - Planning on coming weekly to work on this plan

Lysne would like to comment that Judy made a new art for the break room and it's fantastic.

8. Public comments and suggestions

- Suggestion box (Digital and Physical)
 - Hello! My name is Amanda Hahn and I am from Stockbridge MI. I am currently having a conversation with the YMCA of Lansing about a possible facility in Stockbridge, and I thought, that a collaboration with the YMCA and makers network would be an excellent collaboration this towns youth and adults could really make use of.
If this is something you would be interested in starting a conversation about, please feel free to reach out.

Best Regards,
Amanda Hahn

Schedule next board meeting

- **Next Board meeting:** May 26th 6:30

Action items from last meeting

- Lysne send MSU Coop invoice for membership

Action items for next meeting

- Lysne - please make a tax document folder and share with grant team
- Lysne - comparison of what we have made on classes compared to this year
- Kelsey - review policies and make sure we are on schedule for updates (Lex to email)

Motion to adjourn

benny motions to adjourn

James seconds

7:32 meeting adjourns

An Executive Session was held

Unanimous approval

Closed Meeting