

Board and Member Meeting Notes

Dec 10, 2014

Financial Report

- Bank account - summary from last month
- Membership - at 22 currently, having gained and lost a few
- Non-profit status - JT's lawyer is willing to file it. Suggestion made to get examples from i3 and other makerspaces
- Liability Insurance search - JT talked with his agent, LVL1 (Louisville) suggested using local agent, i3 (Detroit) shared their company name.
- Projections for new location - 35 members covers \$1,500/mo rent, plus utils, internet and insurance, with ~\$300 surplus.
- EAC member, Angel, is leaving at the end of the year, so our Dickinson rent will go up \$100 to \$700/mo.
- Treasurer (John) can reimburse members for propane refill purchases - just save and submit receipt.

Savings and Spending

- Fiscal year ending soon, so spend anything?
 - Tools, etc. Consensus - "no, save it"
 - \$3,000 is 2 months rent (first/last), plus moving expenses, etc.
- Mike R. volunteered to fix up the small lathe to get it to working condition. Some expenses can be covered by petty cash.

Updates:

- Heat - electric and propane. Kim possibly paying MG&E so we could have furnace heat as well. Wait and see if that goes down as planned.
- Closing up procedures - Leave electric cannon htr on always, plus oil heaters. Turn off propane htr, lights, and lock up. Instructions posted on exit door.
- Current sub-lease arrangement with EAC reviewed.
- New tools described.
- Webcam & "Open/Closed" switch described, new website discussed.

Report from Location Scouts

- Advance St - 2 offices, big warehouse, taller ceilings, 3,000 sq ft (725 sq ft of that is office), \$1,560/mo (triple net included), \$80/mo is what current tenants pay for gas/electric. Some electrical could be added -

realtor says ask current (Electrician) tenants to bid it for landlord.
Possible to expand to neighboring “shotguns” in building. Parking out front, plus large parking lot in back.

- Bryan - haven't seen. 3,500sq ft (500 sq ft office), \$1,500/mo including triple net.
- JT's lead - 2,500sq ft space “3 blocks from here”, \$500/mo, needs some insulation/door draft improvements. Not on market so no competition.
- Fish Hatchery is acceptable area, S. Park not so much.

Advisory board?

- Meets quarterly, no stipend
- To advise us on strategic direction, opportunities, and help promote us. Also, we can pitch our plans to them, to get feedback on potential pitfalls we may not see, and get advice on new operations.
- Well-known, well-connected community members
- JT has two volunteers so far (accountant and lawyer!)
- Ben Heck? John will contact
- Lisa who works for Fiskars? - Andrea
- Pete P from Mke Mkrspc - Yes

Events Report

- Holiday Gift Sale went well, brought in money! :)
- New meetups - Bookbinding, Microcontrollers
- Future workshops?
 - Mike's metalworking ideas, Littlebits

Classes & Events

- No set class fees for any workshop, but a suggested donation is recommended. Materials fees are fine to charge.
- The Bodgery asks 20% of donations for use of the space, and the instructor may do whatever with the rest - keep it, donate it, etc.
- 50% member discount approved

New Business

RFID door-lock progress:

Timm requests NFC frequency

John will work on construction, do recon at Milwaukee to see their system, and buy parts

Alex, Timm, and Karen will help after the holidays.

- Suggestion - important to create a plan, so we're not just reacting to things right before they happen.
 - This would include a calendar, so future events are prepared for
 - A Marketing (sub-)Plan would be part of it
 - Financial Planning would be part of it
- Andrea volunteered to help with blog (contributing, encouraging others to contribute, etc)
- Shane from Milwaukee says he will come help configure the laser cutter
- Membership Perk - discount purchases via group buys (Adafruit, etc)
- John contacted Adafruit about becoming a reseller, and LittleBits about getting a sample pack donated which we can use for workshops and member use.