

Alliance of Automotive Service Providers, Minnesota (AASP-MN)
Mechanical Advisory Committee
Meeting Recap
Tuesday, September 21, 2021
Roseville Central Park

Present: Tony Newman, Tom Archambault, Jeremy Nordgren, Wayne Watson, Brian Crabtree, Loren Feldkamp, Mike McLynn, Troy Kaplan, Judell Anderson

Call to Order

Jeremy Nordgren called the meeting to order. A committee roster was distributed, and the committee objective was reviewed. Participants introduced themselves.

Planning

- Potential topics for a fall Mech XChange event were discussed. It was determined to hold a late October/early November event to discuss OEM information access. Seth Thorsen was identified as a possible facilitator and host site at his new shop in Medina. Jeremy will follow up.
- Judell reviewed the results of a recent member survey about the conference. She reported that the roundtable discussions and industry-specific breakout sessions were the most important to members, followed by the keynote address and vendor displays/social hour. The most popular topic for breakout sessions was shop operations/efficiency. Committee members indicated their preference for a full-day event with keynotes, roundtable discussions, concurrent breakout sessions and vendor displays/social hour.

Technical Training Resources

In an effort to enhance AASP-MN's benefit offerings, Judell inquired as to the sources of technical and other training programs being utilized by committee members. The goal is to expand "value add" programs for members by negotiating discounts with some key training providers.

Other Old/New Business

- The 2021 Get to Know Your Neighborhood Auto Repair Pro campaign is winding down. Judell receives monthly reports on campaign results from Risdall and all is trending positively. A full report by Risdall representatives will be delivered to the committee at the next meeting.
- Tom Archambault updated the committee on the search for a new Executive Director. He stated 12 individuals applied and the search committee has selected 6 candidates to interview. The first round of interviews will begin next week. Assessment testing will be conducted on top finalists, followed by second interview(s). It's anticipated that a recommendation for the new hire should be ready to present to the board late October/early November.
- Tom reported that a fundraising campaign to support MNCARS will soon kick off. The goal is to raise \$200,000 to support MNCARS activities over the next 3 years. He is on a fundraising committee with Dan Sjolseth and Dave Bock who will lead the effort. All committee members were encouraged to participate at the minimum \$2500/year level.
- General roundtable/catch-up: Supply chain disruptions and shortages are prevalent across the industry, along with rising prices for oil, parts and other supplies.

Upcoming Events

- The Race for Automotive Education, September 28 – 30 is sold out!

Schedule Next Meeting & Adjourn

The next meeting of the Mechanical Advisory Committee will be held at a date to be determined in early December.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.