



# **Twin Cities Maker**

## ***2020 Member Meeting Information Packet***

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## 2020 Member Meeting Agenda

1. Fiscal report  
*Scott Erie, Treasurer*
2. Membership Report
  - a. how Covid has affected our membership base
  - b. what we've done so far to modernize the membership process
  - c. future plans  
*Jonathan Murray, Membership Coordinator/Director*
3. Where we've been, where we're going  
*Becca Steffen, President*
  
4. Open Q & A  
Discussion topics:
  - a. Any other issues raised by members in attendance
  
5. Election Results of ballots

## Candidate Statements

### Joseph Bozarth

As a long time member and manager at TC Maker I have long been invested in this organization and its success. Makerspace's are special places where people of all walks of like can come together to make, share, and teach. There is something magical about a great makerspace that I have not seen replicated by any other type of workshop. It is the community. The community aspect of makerspaces is what makes them a wonderful and exciting place to be. As an organization we have hit this to carrying degrees over the years but there is always room for improvement. As a board member I would like to help us foster a better sense of community and grow our organization in a way that will help us maintain that magical sense of excitement, wonder, and endless possibilities that every good makerspace gives you the second you walk in the front door.



### Kat Cantner

#### Creative Energy

Making is immersive. Community and creativity are powerful healing forces in times of loss and trauma. Twin Cities Maker and The Hack Factory have the potential to provide a safe, restorative space for our members as we navigate both this global health crisis and recent civil and political unrest. Twin Cities Maker can lead our community forward with hope and positivity during this period of transition.

Over the past few years I have watched the Hack Factory transform through major renovations and improvements. Our physical space, the tools we offer and the resources we provide have grown hugely as the result of dedicated volunteers and excellent leadership by the board.

The new rules and regulations regarding cleanliness and access to the Hack Factory have proven the board's dedication to the safety of our members. And TCMaker members themselves have stepped up support our healthcare workers through the production of PPE. It is clear that we are all dedicated to keeping our community safe.



## Risk Assessment

COVID-19 has generated an avalanche of uncertainty and anxiety. Is it safe to come in? How high is the risk? Will a mask keep someone from infecting me? Can members still work together? Can I ask for help if I need it?

Everyone has a different individual assessment of risk. As the winter progresses, fear and anxiety will likely increase as our members try to balance working from home, educating their children, and growing social isolation. Will their risk assessment change? Will their time become more limited? Will TCMaker remain a supportive and essential part of their lives?

TCMaker leadership has done an excellent job of addressing physical safety in the Hack Factory. But how do we ensure our members **feel** safe? How do we regain a sense of community during a global pandemic? During this time of social isolation and mental health crises, how can our space become more inviting and inclusive?

## Pandemic Community Building

Last year I began teaching a hybrid online/in person geology course at Minneapolis Community and Technical College and this summer I was tasked with moving the course entirely online. Creating a socially distant asynchronous but inclusive community is one of the greatest challenges of this post-COVID world. I would like to share what I've learned with the board and work towards a unique solution for TCMaker. In my professional work I have experience analyzing demographics, listening to diverse stakeholders, and creating custom solutions that encourage the development of virtual communities.

## Twin Cities Maker Community

Through TCMaker I have made lifelong friends – mostly through chance meetings in the shop. Under our current regulations accidental encounters and casual conversations are less likely to occur. Hopefully these regulations will not be necessary in perpetuity, however we can take this opportunity to focus on different social engagement tools. Although I do spend time in the shop, there are hundreds of members I have not yet met because our working hours do not overlap. How do we build community asynchronously?

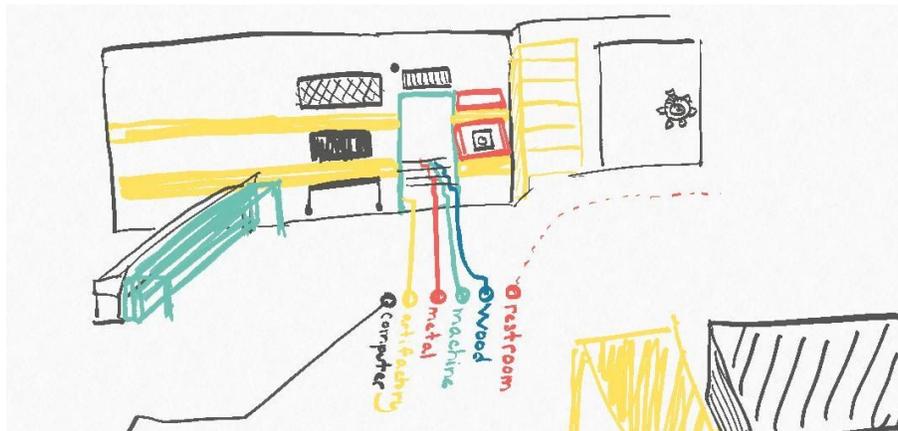
I would like to focus on developing a robust online community that extends beyond the “regulars”. In order to do so, we will need to delve into member demographics and map out connections and relationships our members currently have with other nonprofits and organizations. Essentially, I am proposing to join the board as a Relationship Manager.

## The Hack Factory

Physical spaces need well-designed user interfaces to invite member engagement. Over the past three years I have watched the Hack Factory continually grow and improve to respond to the needs of its members.

Individual departments are designed around the needs of their users and those spaces have been well cared for by their shop managers.

I would like to focus on engaging new members and encouraging existing members to explore new shops and opportunities and deepen their connection to TCMaker by bridging its physical and virtual spaces. In the physical space, I propose a series of road signs and signage to improve navigation from the front entrance of the building inspired by the navigation in the Children's Hospital in Saint Paul. In tandem with this signage, I propose a display that encourages connectivity with our virtual community that will be designed based on demographic analysis and targeted campaigns.



*Proposed navigation system on Hack Factory floor*

## Commitment of Engagement

In spite of my desire to participate over the past three years, I have promised more to TCMaker than I have delivered. Navigating anxiety and depression in my own life has proven a challenge. With a new suite of medications and treatment and a stable part-time job (and despite current events) I have more time and emotional bandwidth to commit to the community. The Hack Factory facility is an important part of my creative and emotional life and I'm looking forward to prioritizing the TCMaker community.

I have not been engaged with TCMaker leadership and am not fully educated on your current programs for member engagement. I look forward to listening and learning more about the hard work you have already done.

## Our Future

In the coming months people will be looking for new hobbies and for ways to connect safely with one another. TCMaker is well poised to tap into this energy and engage new members.

The needs of our current and future members have changed. I would like to learn more about who our members are and how we can support them in the coming years.

I hope you will consider me as a candidate for the TCMaker Board.

Thanks,  
Kat

### Links

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kcantner/>  
<http://www.kcantner.com/>

### **Scott Hill (Incumbent)**

No Statement Submitted

## **Voting Instructions**

### **Board of Directors seats**

This year we have two Board seats open for election. **Please vote for two candidates on your ballot.** Votes will be counted, and the top two recipients will be declared the winners. A runoff vote will be taken in the event that the top two candidates cannot be clearly determined.

### **Voting at the Annual Meeting**

If you will be attending the meeting, you do not need to return any ballots. Ballots will be provided at the meeting via email by electronic election software.

Please plan ahead to make sure you have access to your email attached to your member account if you are planning to vote during the annual meeting.

### **Granting your vote to another member**

You may grant your voting privilege to another member. You must specifically name the member to whom you are granting your vote, and that member must attend the Annual Meeting.

To grant proxy voting privilege, fill out and return the proxy voting form enclosed. Do not return any of the ballots.

You may rescind your proxy at any time up to the beginning of the Annual Meeting, 1:00PM CDT on October 3, 2020.

### **Voting by mail/email**

Ballots will be accepted by email or mail up to the beginning of the Annual Meeting, 1:00PM CDT on October 3, 2020. You may send ballots by email to:  
**elections@tcmaker.org**

You can also send your ballot by physical mail to:

**ATTN: Member Meeting**  
**Twin Cities Maker**  
**3119 E 26<sup>th</sup> St**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55406-1884**

## 2020 Member Meeting ballot

### Board members

Select two candidates. Votes will be tallied, and the top two recipients selected.

Joseph Bozarth	
Kat Cantner	
Scott Hill (Incumbent)	
Other:	
Other:	

Absentee ballots must be received by the start of the Annual Meeting October 3, 2020 at 1 PM central time CDT by one of the following methods:

Return this form via email to:  
**[elections@tcmaker.org](mailto:elections@tcmaker.org)**

Or via mail to:  
**ATTN: Member Meeting**  
**Twin Cities Maker**  
**3119 E 26<sup>th</sup> St**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55406-1884**

## Proxy voting form

If you cannot attend the Annual Member Meeting, you may assign your voting right to another member. This proxy voting right is only valid at the Annual Member Meeting on October 3, 2020.

Please provide instructions for your proxy vote:

I assign my proxy vote to:

My name:

My address:

My phone number:

Date:

Return this form via email to:  
**[elections@tcmaker.org](mailto:elections@tcmaker.org)**

Or via mail to:  
**ATTN: Member Meeting  
Twin Cities Maker  
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