

## MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING SCHEDULE

- 11:30a – Registration Opens
- **Registration fees must be paid online with a credit card. Only cash and check will be accepted at the door.**
- **Walk-in registration is strongly discouraged. Members who choose to register at the door will incur the standard monthly meeting registration fee for their membership type, the standard \$20 late registration fee, AND an additional \$25 walk-in fee. PLEASE NOTE THAT MEAL AVAILABILITY CANNOT BE GUARANTEED FOR WALK-IN REGISTRANTS.**
- Noon–12:30p - Lunch
- 12:30p-12:45p – Announcements
- 12:45p-1:45p – Education Session
- 1:45p-2p - Closing Announcements

**No Member Meeting in July  
(July 21,2025; Board Meeting Only)**

### August 20, 2025

<b>Title:</b>	<b>An Action That Could Save a Life:</b> Real-World Travel Safety and Risk Management for Executive-Level Professionals
<b>Presenter:</b>	Traci Ruiz
<b>Description:</b>	<p>You plan events down to the last detail—but what happens in the moment no one expected? When something dangerous unfolds in real time—do you freeze or do you lead? In this story-driven, scenario-based, interactive session led by Traci Ruiz—a 25-year police leader who trained officers in hand-to-hand combat and de-escalation tactics for nearly two decades—you’ll learn how to detect early red flags, respond with confidence under pressure, and take fast, effective action when personal or psychological safety is at risk.</p> <p>You’ll laugh, maybe tear up, and definitely walk away with tools that can be used immediately—plus, one action you may not realize could literally save a life.</p>
<b>Competency:</b>	Travel: Federal, State, and Local
<b>Location:</b>	DoubleTree by Hilton Battle Creek
<b>Registration Sponsor:</b>	Brighton Howell Area

<b>Credit Hours Include:</b>	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain D: Risk Management)
------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------

### September 17, 2025

<b>Title:</b>	I Can't Wait to Make My Next Presentation!
<b>Presenter:</b>	Dave Weinandy
<b>Description:</b>	Just like effective interpersonal interactions, the best presentations are not speeches. Rather, they are conversations that invite listening. Everyone has the potential to be an engaging, clear, passionate, and memorable speaker with a message and delivery that can positively impact an audience, whether that audience is hundreds or one other person. In this nonthreatening, interactive, and enjoyable training, participants will learn how to become the self-aware communicator they want to be, while developing their unique presentation style and brand. The life-skills we will cover can be applied to one-on-one connections, virtual meetings, and when leading and guiding others with their presentations. We will cover topics such as: maximizing physical and vocal delivery, enhancing credibility, reducing speaker anxiety, as well as creating appealing introductions and conclusions.
<b>Competency:</b>	Personal and Professional Development
<b>Location:</b>	Delta Hotel by Marriott Kalamazoo
<b>Registration Sponsor:</b>	Brighton Howell Area
<b>Credit Hours Include:</b>	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain H: Event Design)

### October 15, 2025

<b>Title:</b>	Innovation Exchange: Technology Trends in Meetings
<b>Presenter:</b>	Moderator, Nick Stratton
<b>Description:</b>	Join us for an interactive roundtable discussion focused on the latest technology shaping the meetings industry. Attendees will dive into topics like artificial intelligence, event apps, and other emerging tools, sharing ideas and experiences at their tables. Each group will then report out, giving everyone a broader perspective on how technology is being used and where it's headed. Expect to walk away with fresh insights, practical tips, and new ideas to apply to your own events.
<b>Competency:</b>	Technology
<b>Location:</b>	DoubleTree Lansing

<b>Registration Sponsor:</b>	Experience Grand Rapids
<b>Credit Hours Include:</b>	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain K: Technology Integration)

### November 19, 2025

<b>Title:</b>	Lead the Room: Etiquette Essentials for Confident, Inclusive Meeting Planning
<b>Presenter:</b>	Shelley Boyd-Davis
<b>Description:</b>	In this empowering session, discover how modern etiquette enhances every stage of meeting planning—from first impressions to follow-up. Learn how small, intentional actions create lasting impact, foster inclusion, and elevate your professional presence. Whether welcoming VIPs or navigating unexpected changes, you'll gain the confidence and tools to lead with grace, clarity, and respect.
<b>Competency:</b>	Protocol
<b>Location:</b>	Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center
<b>Registration Sponsor:</b>	Brighton Howell Area
<b>Credit Hours Include:</b>	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain H: Event Design)

### December 17, 2025 - **Bring your leaders**

<b>Title:</b>	From Turnover to Thriving with a Joyful Corporate Culture
<b>Presenter:</b>	Robin Shear
<b>Description:</b>	If you're ready to reduce turnover and boost engagement, this lively and interactive keynote with Robin Shear delivers three simple (and fun!) strategies to bring real joy back into your workplace. Instead of complex programs, you'll get an easy-to-implement action plan that helps your team feel seen, heard, and motivated to stay and contribute. Whether you're new or a longtime leader, this session inspires meaningful culture change from top to bottom—and equips you with tools your team will actually use come Monday morning.
<b>Competency:</b>	Business and/or Leadership or Personal and Professional Development (GMS)
<b>Location:</b>	AC by Marriott University Area Lansing
<b>Registration Sponsor:</b>	Meet Mount Pleasant

<b>Credit Hours Include:</b>	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain A: Strategic Planning)
------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------

### No Member Meeting in January (January 21, 2026; Board Meeting Only)

### February 18, 2026

<b>Title:</b>	Mental Health in the Workplace
<b>Presenter:</b>	Sean Egan, Director of Labor
<b>Description:</b>	Investing in mental health and safety is critical to build strong workplaces, a strong workforce, and strong communities. Employers who invest in their employees' mental health and safety see a significant return on investment including improved employee satisfaction, increased productivity, and reduced absenteeism and turnover. This framework emphasizes workplace mental health as a public health priority. It highlights how workplace stressors affect not only employees but also business productivity and the economy. Organizations are encouraged to incorporate mental health strategies that prioritize workers' needs and promote resilience.
<b>Competency:</b>	Personal and Professional Development
<b>Location:</b>	Hyatt Place Lansing
<b>Registration Sponsor:</b>	Available
<b>Credit Hours Include:</b>	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain A: Strategic Planning)

### March 11-13, 2026 – Annual Education Conference

<b>Location:</b>	Sheraton Grand Rapids Airport, 5700 28th Street SE, Grand Rapids
<b>Credit Hours Include:</b>	Earn multiple credit hours during the 2.5-day conference for GMS, CGMP, and CMP (CMP excludes Ethics and Professional Development core competencies)

### April 15, 2026

<b>Title:</b>	Stretch the Budget, Not the Planner: Strategies for Cost-Effective Events
<b>Presenter:</b>	Darla Bishop
<b>Description:</b>	Budgets are tight, expectations are high—and planners are feeling the pressure. In this fast-paced, practical session, Dr. Darla Bishop shares cost-saving strategies that help you deliver high-impact events without burnout or budget bloat. Learn how to prioritize

	spending, collaborate effectively with suppliers, and make smart financial decisions that serve both attendees and your sanity. Whether you're planning a board meeting or a statewide conference, you'll leave with actionable tips to stretch your budget—without stretching yourself too thin.
<b>Competency:</b>	Financial & Contract Management
<b>Location:</b>	DoubleTree Bay City
<b>Registration Sponsor:</b>	Available
<b>Credit Hours Include:</b>	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain E: Financial Management)

### May 20, 2026

<b>Title:</b>	Leading Through Change Without Burnout
<b>Presenter:</b>	Kenisha Coon, Kenisha Coon Consulting
<b>Description:</b>	This training equips leaders and teams to navigate high-stress, evolving systems without burning out. Rooted in equity, evidence-based coaching, and trauma-informed leadership, participants will gain practical tools to lead with clarity, sustain impact, and foster team cultures that thrive—especially in environments demanding continuous change, emotional labor, and systemic transformation.
<b>Competency:</b>	Education and Programming
<b>Location:</b>	Courtyard Downtown Lansing
<b>Registration Sponsor:</b>	Available
<b>Credit Hours Include:</b>	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain A: Strategic Planning)