



## Community Advisory Forum

### Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (3:30 PM – 5:00 PM)  
127 N Wyman St, Rockford, IL 61107

#### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:33 PM.

#### 2. Roll Call

##### Members Present:

**Boone County Health Department:** Amanda Mehl (Late Arrival), **Eliminate Racism 815:** Dick Rundall, **Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois:** Courtney Geiger, **Highland Community College:** Samantha Zumdahl, **Natural Land Institute:** Alan Branhagen (Late Arrival), **Midland States Bank:** Martesha Brown, **Rockford Public Library:** Bridget Finn, **The Workforce Connection:** Gina Caronna-Marvin, **Winnebago County Housing Authority:** Deb Alfredson (Late Arrival), **Citizen:** Dyanna Rose Walker

**Staff Present:** Chelsey Glatz, Eric Setter, Isaac Guerrero, Gabrielle Gamily, Sydney Turner, Vanessa Mauries

**Guest: Fehr Graham:** Ross Grimes

#### 3. Public Comment

- a. No comment

#### 4. Action Items

##### a. Approval of August 2023 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Brown entertains a motion to approve the August meeting minutes.

Motion by Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois, seconded by Rockford Public Library, to approve August Meeting minutes. Motion approved by a unanimous voice vote.

#### 5. Discussion Items

##### a. Organization Representation

Ms. Glatz explained the meeting logistics to be implemented for upcoming meetings.

##### b. MTP Presentation to Stakeholders

Ms. Turner invited the forum to schedule presentations for the Region 1 Planning Council. Ms. Glatz provided further explanation for the invitation extension.

## **6. Agency Reports**

### **a. US EPA Brownfield Coalition Grant**

During the presentation, Mr. Setter discussed the Brownfield Assessment Coalition Grant that was awarded. He explained the definition of a brownfield and outlined the various steps and phases involved in brownfield work. Mr. Setter also highlighted four priority areas in the region and shared an opportunity for land banking. He invited the forum to provide any additional site identifications, ask questions, and offer feedback.

Discussion was held.

### **b. Emerging Industries Cluster Analysis and Action Plan: Discussion on Draft Report**

Mr. Guerrero provided background analysis information and identified the four industries mentioned in the Emerging Industry Cluster Analysis & Action Plan Draft Report. He also requested feedback from the forum by November 17th. Ms. Caronna-Marvin shared her views on the report from the perspective of The Workforce Connection. She emphasized the significance of the forum's feedback in improving the report.

Discussion was held.

### **c. Department of Energy: Renewables Advancing Community Energy Resilience (Community Needs Assessment)**

Ms. Gamily introduced the DOE RACER project, explaining its purpose and the role of Region 1 Planning Council and the involvement of the Community Advisory Forum, in addition to opportunities for engagement at the next meeting.

Discussion was held.

## **7. Other Business**

### **a. N/A**

## **8. Next Meeting**

### **a. Thursday, December 14, 2023 3:30-5:00 PM**

## **9. Adjournment**

### **a. Ms. Glatz adjourned the meeting at 4:34 PM.**

Meeting minutes prepared by: Vanessa Mauries  
Minutes approved by action of the Forum: 12/14/2023