



Climate Resiliency Forum

Tuesday, May 28th, 2024 – 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM
Region 1 Planning Council

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Colin Belle, City of Rockford Planning and Zoning; Mike Bacon, Climate Reality Project; Neely Erickson, Illinois REALTORS; Alan Branhagen, Natural Land Institute; Rebecca Olson, Olson Ecological Solutions; Ann Wasser, Severson Dells; Brad Roos, Sustain Rockford; Jeff Bailey, West Gate Coalition; Todd Marshall, Winnebago County Health Department; Dennis Anthony, Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District; Bob Campbell, ZION Development Corporation

Staff Present: Lauren Kleve, Sydney Turner, Clara Romeo, Vanessa Mauries, Juliana Charlebois-Berg, Eric Tison, Estelle Adiaba, Autumn Carlson, Megan Devine, Ryan Salamon

3. Public Comment

a. No Public Comment.

4. Action Item: Approval of the Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2024

a. Motion by Winnebago County Soil & Water Conservation District, Seconded by City of Rockford Planning and Zoning, Minutes Approved.

5. Discussion: Climate Action Plan – Updates

a. Lauren Kleve, R1 Environmental Planner, elaborated on the development process of the Climate Action Plan (CAP). Providing a summary of the chapters and technical reports within the plan. Additionally, Ms. Kleve presented the remaining timeline for the CAP along with the public engagement strategy status, detailing the results of the workshops held at Winnebago and Boone Counties.

b. Throughout the presentation, forum members shared ideas of topics to include in the CAP and requested clarification on the contents of the plan.

6. Discussion: Renewable Energy & Community Resilience



- a. Juliana Charlebois-Berg, R1 Sustainability Research Analyst, presented the U.S Department of Energy project, Recuperat, to the forum. This project aims to improve energy resilience for underserved communities affected by high-speed winds. Ms. Charlebois-Berg provided a project overview and highlighted key components of the project such as objectives and technical scope. Ms. Charlesbois-Berg concluded her presentation by requesting engagement opportunities from the forum.
 - b. Discussion was held on the Recuperat project objectives.
7. **Staff Reports**
- a. No staff reports.
8. **Agency Reports**
- a. West Gate Coalition is hosting an energy education and training event.
 - b. Sustain Rockford promoted their Solar Expo scheduled for July 18, 2024, at the Embassy Suites in Rockford.
 - c. Olson Ecological Solutions announced volunteer opportunities to help plant native vegetation for an IEPA 319 funded Watershed Education & Outreach Program on June 1st and August 24th.
9. **Other Business**
- a. No other business.
10. **Adjournment**
- a. Motion by City of Rockford Planning and Zoning, second by Climate Reality Project, to adjourn at 4:58 pm. Motion approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Meeting minutes prepared by: Vanessa Mauries

Minutes approved by action of the Forum:
