

**Meeting Minutes
For APRIL 22nd, 2014
RI DEM • Room 300**

Initial Report Development

In attendance: Janet Coit, DEM, Council Chair
Jamia McDonald, EMA
Dr. Michael Fine, DOH
Kevin Flynn, DOA/Planning
Grover Fugate, CRMC
Marion Gold, DOA/OER
Meredith Brady (for Michael Lewis), DOT
Richard Licht, DOA
Jack Leyden, State Building Code Commissioner
Marcel Valois, CommerceRI
Vladimir Ibarra (for Elizabeth Roberts, Lt. Gov.)

Director Coit called the meeting to order at 11:12 a.m.

The first item on the agenda was approval of the April 14th Council meeting minutes. Director Licht motioned to approve. Director Coit seconded. All members voted in favor.

Director Coit noted that this would be a working meeting which would discuss various policy and action recommendations based on discussions during previous meetings and comments received from member agencies. This will form the basis of the preliminary report to the Governor.

Jan Reitsma showed slides of the report outline, including key principles, such as no net increase in bureaucracy or regulation, and emphasis on better coordination, especially between agencies, but also with the private sector. Director Valois commented that policy and action recommendations must be "cost neutral to business." Council members discussed balancing of long-term costs and benefits of proposals.

When Jan Reitsma moved on to the more detailed action recommendations, questions were raised about both organization and language, suggesting it would be difficult to make much headway in the current format. At the suggestion of Director Licht, a smaller working group, consisting of Directors McDonald, Gold and Fugate, was formed to work with Reitsma to review the work and make recommendations to the full Council.

Director Coit opened the meeting to public comment.

Peter Galvin of the Rhode Island Chapter of the Sierra Club thanked the Council for its work and urged the group to coordinate with legislative efforts.

Eugenia Marks of the Audubon Society of RI also thanked the Council for its efforts. She also asked for visuals and flow diagrams to help communicate the various relationships between state agencies, as

appropriate for the final recommendations. Director Coit noted that there were indeed plans for such visualizations, most especially for use in a PowerPoint presentation.

Frank Stevenson of DEM noted that certain words, such as “mitigation,” may have multiple meanings in climate-change discussions.

Director Licht thanked Jan Reitsma for his presentation and for the efforts of Director Coit for keeping the Council on track to a May 1 draft report.

With no further comments or business, Director MacDonald motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Gold seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.