

## Made in Rhode Island Manufacturing Collaborative

Public Session

Thursday, March 27, 2014, 2:30 p.m.

Rhode Island Commerce Corporation

315 Iron Horse Way, Suite 101, Providence, RI

The following were in attendance:

### Collaborative

*Marcel Valois*  
*David Blanchette*  
*Paul McGreevy*  
*Kelly Carello*  
*Christina DiChiera*

### Advisory Council

*Lisa Carnevale*  
*Giovanni Feroce*  
*Bill McCourt*  
*Harsha Prakash*  
*Howie Sneider*  
*Jessica David*

### Commerce RI Staff

*JR Pagliarini*  
*Sherri Carrera*  
*Lori Bassett*

Mr. Valois convened the meeting at 2:38 p.m. Minutes from the 2/26/14 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Pagliarini led the group through the draft of the report that will be sent to the General Assembly.

Mr. McCourt questioned the fee being one time versus annual. Ms. Carello said that a renewal process should be in place so that contact information can be maintained. A yearly renewal process was suggested by Ms. Carello and Mr. Prakash. Mr. Pagliarini suggested that we start with a \$20 annual fee then adjust it if needed. "The Committee recommends a nominal annual application fee of \$20 to offset the costs of the program..." will be added to the report.

Discussion ensued about the definition of “Made In RI” in regards to location of workers, registration, etc.

Mr. Feroce questioned the renewal of the “Made in RI” registration, whether it would be by calendar year or if it would be based on the date of application. Ms. Carello said that the Secretary of State’s Office would work with their IT Department and it would be based on the date of the original application.

Ms. Dichiera mentioned the website database crossover and commented about the great job Jennifer Howard has been doing on that project. There will be an online directory linked to the Secretary of State’s website that will list the Made in RI registrants; there will also be a supply chain match making site available which will serve a much broader community. Coordinating the two lists will come eventually.

Mr. McCourt reminded the group that there are no incentives tied to Made in Rhode Island, it is a marketing campaign and it involves self-policing on the part of the registrant.

Mr. Sneider questioned the definition of “all of Rhode Island manufacturers” as defined by the consortium. Mr. Prakash responded that is “processing in Rhode Island...NAICS codes 31-33”.

It was noted that food and beverage companies are excluded from this program, but there are some companies that the group is hoping to include.

Ms. Carello noted that the Secretary of State’s Office’s is taking over the logo.

Ms. Carnevale would like more incentives available for those that qualify for the Made in Rhode Island program. Mr. Valois stated that incentives are already in place for those that are located in Rhode Island. Conversation followed about the incentives and the details. Mr. Pagliarini will add the following verbiage to the report: “The committee requests that the General Assembly investigates the advantages and disadvantages of adding future incentives to the program.”

Ms. Carello suggested the group meet twice a year to track the success of the program. She also questioned the marketing of this program. Mr. Pagliarini suggested a press release; Ms. Carello said the Secretary of State’s Marketing Director would be happy to help. Mr. Valois stressed that resources need to be allocated for this to move forward.

Ms. Carnevale thanked Ms. Carello for all her help with this program.

The meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m.