

ILLINOIS ECONOMIC RECOVERY COMMISSION

GLOBAL MARKETS SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: December 16, 2009

TIME: 4.30 pm – 6.30 pm

LOCATION: 70 W Madison Street, Chicago, IL, Room 3400

Attendees

C. Bernardini, G. Webb, D. Cradit, W. Miquelon, D. Whitley, G. Wass, J. Hoelzle, S. Joshi, M. Sorgman, I. Dumea

Invited Guests/ Presenters:

M. Gaudette, C. Haeni, L. Morrissey, E. Voyles, C. Zethmayr

c.c.

A. Rorke, J. Weisensee, J. Brodson, J. Reynolds

1. Charles Bernardini opened the meeting by informing the attendees that the agenda for the meeting is the presentations from three organizations: Midwest U.S. – Japan Association, Switzerland Trade & Investment Commission and the Rockford Area Economic Development Council.
2. Marie Gaudette, Executive Director, Midwest U.S.-Japan Association presented history of their organization, key activities of the group and offered the following key observations / recommendations:
 - Leadership of the Illinois Economic Development group should have business / industry executive background
 - State of Indiana did an excellent job in getting Honda plant to Indiana
 - Health Care should be the key focus in attracting new business opportunities from Japan to Illinois
 - Need to target specific trade shows e.g. Bio 2010
 - Obtain a copy of A.T. Kearney study done 3-4 years ago
3. Claudine M. Haeni, Trade Commissioner, Switzerland Trade & Investment Promotion summarized their group's key role and activities in the 12 mid-west states. She highlighted their role in the potential High Speed Rail project for the Midwest area. She also expressed desire to receive monthly / quarterly statistics on State of Illinois' economic data on a routine basis. She highlighted Denver Metro Economic Development Group as 'best of class' in providing this type of information on a timely basis.
4. Eric D. Voyles, Vice President, National Business Development, Rockford Area Economic Development Council made a formal presentation on their role, activities and key accomplishments. Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey provided in-depth commentary on his experience in working with RAEDC and highlighted their success in attracting business from China and Sweden. Copies of Mr. Voyles presentation were provided to the attendees.

Satish V. Joshi