



*Serving Boone, DeKalb, and Ogle Counties*

**Minutes of meeting of  
Community and Economic Development (CED) Advisory Subcommittee for Unit 2  
July 30, 2024, at 5:00 pm – Virtual format**

**Agenda**

1. Call to Order, Roll Call
2. Review and approval of minutes from Jul 25, 2023 meeting
3. Items for discussion:
  - A. Review of the current activities of CED in our 3-county area.
  - B. Discussion of suggestions related to the My Hometown Is Cool program and possibilities for fundraising sourcing to support student projects.
  - C. Strategies for getting local civic- and business leaders to participate in Poverty Simulation exercises.
4. Annual Extension Council Meeting: Tuesday, September 24, 2024, 6 pm-8 pm, at Timber Pointe Golf Club (5750 Woodstock Rd, Poplar Grove, IL 61065)
5. Adjourn

Present: Gina Caronna, Heather Wick, Sherrie Taylor, Dan Dietrich, Mike Delany.

Absent: Luis Gonzalez, Liz Vos.

1. Meeting called to order at 12:12, CST. New member Dan Dietrich introduced himself to the group.

2. The first order of business was to review and approve the minutes from the meeting on July 25, 2023 but, as Delany had inadvertently omitted them from the meeting notice, review was tabled until the next meeting.

3. For this next agenda item, Delany spent 35-40 minutes reviewing the program summary he had provided to committee members ahead of time (see Attachment A). Delany offered it as a review for committee members of the activities of CED in Unit 2 over the past nine months, in light of the fact that the committee had never really been introduced to everything CED is involved in.

Several of the attendees commented that the review was helpful to inform them about all that CED is doing.



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In the discussion of the Hometown Leaders program, Delany noted that there is interest in expanding the program to the state, national, and even international level. Sherrie Taylor noted that, when she was herself in 4-H, she had participated in a 4-H Day in Springfield that was actually a multi-day exercise.

For the next agenda sub-item, B, Delany solicited suggestions related to the [My Hometown Is Cool program](#), and in particular about potential groups with which to partner to deliver the curriculum. Heather Wick noted that FFA may be a useful group in Boone and clarified that they are not part of the regular school curriculum and therefore can more easily add something like this to their programming.

Finally, Delany appealed to the members to recruit local civic- and business leaders to participate in [Poverty Simulation](#) exercises whenever possible. A committee member suggested that Delany prepare and circulate to the committee an event calendar that highlights such events and lets the members get involved in marketing the activities. Delany agreed and will prepare such a tool.

4. Delany reminded all of the upcoming Advisory Council annual meeting, to be held this year in Poplar Grove at the Timber Point Golf Club on September 24. Heather Wick expressed her regret that she will not be able to attend, as she will be out of the country.

5. The committee having addressed all agenda items, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.



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## **Attachment A**

### ***Review of the current activities of CED in our 3-county area.***

#### **Career- and Workforce Readiness programming:**

- \* Real World/Life In Action
  - Sycamore (10/21)
  - Forreston HS (12/6)
- \* Work/Ready - DeKalb HS, KEC, RAMP
  - Dress 4 Success
  - Accountability
  - Time Mgmt
  - Social Media
  - Real World Banking
  - Interviewing Skills
  - Pitch lesson
  - Digital Citizenship

#### **Civic Engagement/Pipeline:**

- \* Hometown Leaders
  - Intro to County Govt – DeKalb
  - County Board meeting visit - DeKalb
  - County Government visit day - DeKalb

#### **Faculty connection:**

- \* Mark White, PhD meeting w/Ogle County EDO

#### **Statewide programming with local impact:**

- \* Moderate IRS webinar (11/2)
- \* Moderate State Legis Update webinar (1/10)

#### **Poverty Simulations:**

- \* Faith In Action Poverty Simulation (10/25)
- \* Boone County Hunger Coalition Poverty Simulation at RVC (2/23)

#### **Opportunity Equity Forum:**

- \* OEF event in Belvidere (10/26)
- \* OEF event in Rockford (5/15)

#### **Expert Advice:**

- \* SBDC support for ag tech business (10/17)