

Meeting Minutes
Prairie State Local Government Sustainability Network
Wednesday, February 15th, 2017
3:00—4:00 pm

Facilitator: Kumar Jensen, *City of Evanston*

Recorder: Cecilia Govrik, *Kane County*

Participants (11):

- Amy Jewel, *City of Chicago*
- Brian Tomkins, *Metropolitan Mayors Caucus*
- Cecilia Govrik, *Kane County*
- Hildy Kingma, *Village of Park Forest*
- Kate Buczek, *Cook County*
- KC Doyle, *Cook County*
- Kumar Jensen, *City of Evanston*
- Laura Oakleaf, *Cook County*
- Martha Dooley, *Village of Schaumburg*
- Molly Center, *City of Elgin*
- Scott Tess, *City of Urbana*

Announcements:

- Cook County mentioned that an energy benchmarking report for the first three years of Chicago building energy data is now available (report is posted on the PSN website).
- Elgin completed a progress report for their Sustainability Action Plan and presented it to city council, noting that about 75% of the actions are completed.
- Kane County is working with the Fox Valley Sustainability Network to plan a GreenTown event for April 27th in Aurora.
- Metropolitan Mayors Caucus is interested in determining what role the organization could play in assisting municipalities with energy benchmarking.
- Park Forest is in the budget process and is looking at including funds for a Climate Action Plan.
- Schaumburg is using the Greenest Region Compact framework to write a sustainability plan that is expected to be published by 2018.
- Urbana recommended that other communities review the Electrify America website (www.electrifyamerica.com) to submit proposals for electric vehicle charging projects as part of the Volkswagen settlement.

Guest Presentation:

Kumar Jensen from the City of Evanston and Amy Jewel from the City of Chicago gave a presentation (see PowerPoint on the PSN website) on their respective energy benchmarking ordinances. Evanston's ordinance covers energy and water since they have their own water utility. Highlights from Evanston's presentation included:

- Slide #4—shows a timeline for the two-year process of developing the ordinance
- Slide #6—summarized what size/type of buildings fall under the ordinance
- Slide #11—explains lessons learned from the process

The City of Chicago is in its fourth year of implementing its energy benchmarking ordinance, which covers about 3500 buildings and helps meet goals of the Chicago Climate Action Plan (slide #13). Some important highlights from Chicago's presentation included:

- Slide #15—explains which buildings are required to report data
- Slide #18—summarizes the 2016 data results
- Slide #20—shows the Chicago Data Portal and the Energy Performance Map resources available

USDN Regional Network Program:

PSN submitted a "Recommitment Statement" email in January to continue being part of the USDN Partner Program for 2017. Representatives from PSN will need to participate in quarterly conference calls (Cecilia & Scott will participate) for the Partner Network Coordinating Committee, and will need to convene a Steering Committee to start implementing the tasks identified in the USDN workbook activities last year. Cecilia will schedule a steering committee conference call in March with Scott, KC, Laura and Kumar.

Overview of Next Meeting:

The group discussed potential topics/speakers for the March call, and tentatively decided on inviting a representative from Johnson Controls to give a presentation on demand response programs—Martha Dooley has a contact person who may be available for the call. KC Doyle offered to facilitate the March call.