

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Prairie State Local Government Sustainability Network**  
**Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**3:00—4:00 pm**

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**Facilitators:** Cecilia Govrik, *Kane County* & KC Doyle, *Cook County*

**Recorder:** Cecilia Govrik, *Kane County*

**Participants:**

- Brian Tomkins, *Metropolitan Mayors Caucus*
- Cecilia Govrik, *Kane County*
- Hildy Kingma, *Village of Park Forest*
- Joy Hinz, *DuPage County*
- KC Doyle, *Cook County*
- Kumar Jensen, *City of Evanston*
- Molly Center, *City of Elgin*
- Scott Tess, *City of Urbana*
- Terri Treacy, *Sierra Club (guest speaker)*

**Announcements:**

- DuPage County—looking at Chicago Region Trees Initiative (CRTI) canopy goals and joining with county campus plan; Working on 5-year update to Solid Waste Plan
- Elgin—just launched curbside textile collection; looking into participating in the Mayors Monarch Pledge
- Evanston—currently developing the RFP for residential solid waste and also working toward citywide curbside food crap collection
- Kane County—released RFP for the first solar project at a Kane County government building and currently reviewing proposals
- Metropolitan Mayors Caucus—currently focusing on the Public Sector Energy Efficiency Program and the recent shift of these services to the utilities rather than DCEO, administering SolSmart technical assistance for 12 municipalities and 3 counties, and looking at the action items/deadlines associated with the Global Compact of Mayors.
- Park Forest—looking at developing a Climate Action Plan; Involved in Equity training through USDN
- Urbana—interviewing for an ESCO vender in July and will then move on to project implementation; also following what's happening with PACE legislation

**Guest Presentation:**

Terri Treacy from the Sierra Club gave a verbal presentation (no slides) about solar ready building code, and the effort the Sierra Club is leading to introduce legislation in 2018 that would make the solar ready provisions from the IECC appendix part of the Energy Efficient Building Act of 2009. Terri also shared these resources:

[International Energy Conservation Code \(IECC\)](#)  
[IECC Solar-Ready Appendix](#)

National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)  
[Solar Ready: An Overview of Implementation Practices](#)  
[Solar Photovoltaic Technology](#)  
[Solar Thermal](#)

Contact information:

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Springfield Representative

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### **Discussion—Survey Results:**

USDN provided an annual survey as part of the Regional Partner Network program that was distributed to PSN members in June. The results of that survey have not been received from USDN yet, however participation in the survey was quite low.

Scott Tess gave an overview of the PSN survey that was distributed in spring 2017 to help guide future efforts of PSN. There were 12 responses (out of 30+ members on contact list). In general, the results show that active members still find the monthly calls and the face-to-face meeting valuable. A small number of members (4) expressed interest in filling leadership roles with PSN, but a higher number (7) may be interested at a later time. Since PSN is no longer financially supported by Chicago Community Trust, some survey responders offered suggestions of seeking a partnership with a local university and/or a student coordinator for the group.

### **Discussion—PSN Transition:**

Call participants discussed the need to transition to a less formal network by moving to quarterly conference calls instead of monthly or every other month, and making use of a Google list serve for communication amongst members.

The group also discussed the potential to apply for a USDN Peer Learning Exchange grant to fund an in-person meeting. Two core members of USDN would need to be the main applicants, so Park Forest and Evanston could apply on behalf of the group.