

Meeting Minutes
Prairie State Local Government Sustainability Network
December 18, 2013

Facilitator: Curt Paddock, Will County

Recorder: Haven Leeming, Coordinating Support, The Chicago Community Trust

Participants:

- Haven Leeming, The Chicago Community Trust
- Sarah Coulter, Park Forest
- Deb Stone, Cook County
- Catherine Hurley, Evanston
- Michael Davidson, The Chicago Community Trust
- Bryan Tillman, Highland Park
- Katie Parkhurst, Algonquin
- Aaron Joseph, City of Chicago
- Scott Tess, City of Urbana
- Curt Paddock, Will County
- Laura Oakleaf, Cook County
- Kate Tomford, Illinois Energy Office, DCEO
- Martha Dooley, City of Schaumburg
- Kristin Lynnett
- Joan O'Keefe, DuPage County
- Brita Pagels, Consultant
- Joy Hinz, DuPage County

Welcome and introductions:

- Curt welcomed all guests to the call.
- EV charging rebate has been extended til April 17th

Implementation segment:

- Curt gave an introduction to STAR Communities and the speakers

Kristin Lynnett – Experience of Tacoma, Washington

- Has been city's sustainability manager for about 4.5 years, has been the first person in that role
- 200,000 people, south of Seattle
- New city manager with new performance measurement expectations
 - Per the 2010 council resolution, needed to have sustainability indicators
 - So, it made sense to use the already-established STAR goals
- STAR goals in Tacoma:
 - More than just environment—everyone is a sustainability manager

- Understand current community efforts
- Identify and track outcomes to measure progress
- STAR helped Tacoma create introductions and community sharing for community partners
- Tacoma hadn't been doing a good job of messaging about sustainable community
 - No connections between efforts
 - Needed to redefine Tacoma's efforts by its successes (not compare it to Seattle or Portland)
 - Still need to better define "sustainability"
- It was a 10-month process
 - She was able to do her other work
 - But in the initial assessment phase, she hired two graduate students to help her with the 20-30 meetings to get the information
- It was an excellent benchmarking exercise
 - Used STAR as a gap-analysis so they can improve in the future as a city
- It's a clear and inclusive framework—everyone "gets" it
 - Easy to communicate to community members

Catherine Hurley

- STAR has a rating system, which is rather intensive and a lot of programs across the community

Q&A:

- Cost/ member of ichly?
 - Not a member of ICHLY
 - Specific fee for pilot based on size of community
- What other communities other than Evanston are working on this?

PSN In-Person Meeting

- Brita sent out an e-mail last week with a survey; please fill out the survey
 - It's a short survey
 - It is due today as well
- Planning committee will meet again on December 20th
- Trying to make sure the space is close to the Metra station
- Hoping to create an interactive meeting

Topic(s) for next meeting(s) determined

January:

February:

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