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office of neighborhood involvement
City of Portland, Oregon

enhancing the quality of neighborhoods through community participation

City of Portland, Office of Neighborhood of Involvement
Great – Guidelines Review Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 22, 2002
8:30 AM to 10:00 AM, Lovejoy Room, Portland City Hall

MINUTES AND SUMMARY NOTES

Members Present:

Patricia Gardner, Co-Chair	Pearl District Neighborhood Association
Moshe Lenske, Co-Chair	Woodstock Neighborhood Association
Kathy Bambeck	Bridlemile Neighborhood Association
Nancy Chapin	Alliance of PDX Neighborhood Bus. Assocs.
Raymond Hites	Lents Neighborhood Association
Brian Hoop	Office of Neighborhood Involvement
Stanley Lewis	Downtown Community Association
Michael O'Malley	Irvington Community Association
Jerry Powell	At-Large
Mark Sieber	Neighbors West/Northwest
Charles Shi	Communities Beyond Neighborhood Boundaries
Ruth Spetter	City Attorney's Office
William Warren	Central Northeast Neighbors

Absent

Cathy Crawford	University Park Neighborhood Association
Leonard Gard	Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc.
David Lane	Office of Neighborhood Involvement

Visitors

Lee Perlman	Media

Decisions by this group are subject to change at future meetings.
Opportunities for public input are at the end of meeting and future workshops.
These summary notes have been approved by committee and are final.

Approval of Summary Notes

- Oct 8, 2002 minutes approved with one change, Jerry Powell fills an at-large position.

Approved Recommended Code or Standards Revisions

- No formal vote taken on language at the 10-22-02 meeting.

Summary Notes for Oct. 22

- Patricia and/or Ruth have new language proposal for first paragraph. Need to get.
- Discussion on what should be minimum size, both acreage and population, for a neighborhood association.
- Review of info on average size of neighborhood associations.
- Discussion on who can automatically be members of neighborhood associations. Should business owners, workers, non-profits, students, etc. be included?

Update on Public Meetings Ad-Hoc Group

Issues brought up:

- Leonard and Ruth are going to come up with language to improve the section in appendix.
- Enforcement of open meetings rules will be an issue.

Motions:

- No action.

Updates on Communities Beyond Neighborhood Boundaries Ad-Hoc Group

Issues brought up:

- No meeting yet. Latino Network and APANO exploring what their roles will be with this issue. Latino Network may develop a proposal on public involvement to present to City Council.

Motions:

- No action.

Standards for Neighborhood Associations

Issues brought up:

Discussion on the size of neighborhood associations

- Review research on minimum, average and maximum sizes of Portland neighborhoods.
  Geography:
  - Smallest: Woodland Park 32 acres and Healy Heights 36 acres
  - Largest: St. Johns 7055 acres and Forest Park 6,996 acres
  - Average: 952 acres

  Population:
  - Smallest: NW Industrial Area 21 people and Healy Heights 221 people

- Largest: Centennial - 20,587 people and Hazelwood - 19,916 people
- Average: 4,798 people

Households:

- Smallest: NINA - 0 households, Healy Heights - 91households, Ardenwald - 129 households
- Largest: Hazelwood - 7,641 households and NW District - 7,567 households
- Average: 2,029 households

- Minimum size of neighborhood associations of 200 households is arbitrarily based on minimum number required for a bulk mailing.
- Academic research suggests an idea neighborhood is one-quarter mile square walking distance from the center, or ability to walk to a corner grocery. Transit oriented planning uses this concept that you don't walk more than 15 minutes from any transit stops.
- We want to avoid allowing small groups of disgruntled individuals from breaking away and disrupting what are feasible sizes for functioning neighborhood associations.
- East Portland neighborhoods are talking about breaking into smaller units which tends to be 1000 to 2000 households and 100 acres.
- Question needs to be what is the size you need to have a viable and organizable neighborhood association?
- Acreage minimums are crucial for addressing downtown and Pearl density levels that are increasing.
- Densest block is 200 households in SW Portland.
- Concern raised that acreage is more important to establish since population size can change and become denser over time.
- We can deal with some of these issues through an appeals and grievance process.
- Questions to answer for next meeting:
  - What is the mean of acres, population and household size?
  - How many neighborhoods could split and match the mean size.

<u>Proposals</u>

- Suggestion to hold the minimum to 1000 households and 100 acres as a politically feasible balance.
- Suggestion that neighborhoods range from 100 to 1000 acres. No, Patricia wants a very specific minimum.
- Suggestion minimum of 100 acres and 750 households.

<u>Motions:</u>

- No action.

<u>Membership</u>

- Issue of business representation in neighborhood associations. Should we require groups to have a business representative on the board? Many associations already do.
- Could have it say someone lives, owns real property, or operates a business.
- Question what if someone runs a business that is located absentee but does not have a building located in the area?
- Concern brought up that businesses could pack a meeting with all their workers when there is a contentious land use review action.

- Will need to consider if business definition covers non-profits.
- Committee generally supports the concept that we add operation of a business as a membership option.

Proposals
- Maintain membership, which is open to any person who lives or operates a business and/or owns any real property within the recognized boundaries of the neighborhood association.
- Suggestion that workers should have a right to be members.
- Suggestion that we can suggest options for associations to include students, workers, non-profit organizations, etc.

Motions:
- No motions.

These summary notes have been approved by committee and are final.
The information contained in this document is preliminary and informal in nature and does not necessarily reflect the views or adopted policies of the City of Portland or the final outcomes of this project; the reader should exercise caution in its interpretation.

NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday, November 12
8:30 AM - 10:30 AM
City Hall, Lovejoy Room, 1221 SW 4th Avenue

Tuesday, November 26
8:30 AM - 10:30 AM
City Hall, Lovejoy Room, 1221 SW 4th Avenue

Tuesday, December 10
8:30 AM - 10:30 AM
City Hall, Lovejoy Room, 1221 SW 4th Avenue

Needs to be rescheduled
Tuesday, December 24
8:30 AM - 10:30 AM
City Hall, Lovejoy Room, 1221 SW 4th Avenue

Prepared by: Brian Hoop, Office of Neighborhood Involvement