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*enhancing the quality  
of neighborhoods  
through  
community participation*

**City of Portland, Office of Neighborhood of Involvement  
Great – Guidelines Review Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, September 24, 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
Nancy Chapin	Alliance of PDX Neighborhood Bus. Assocs.
Cathy Crawford	University Park Neighborhood Association
Leonard Gard	Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc.
Raymond Hites	Lents Neighborhood Association
Brian Hoop	Office of Neighborhood Involvement
David Lane	Office of Neighborhood Involvement
Stanley Lewis	Downtown Community Association
Michael O'Malley	Irvington Community Association
Jerry Powell	Goose Hollow Foothills League
Mark Sieber	Neighbors West/Northwest
Charles Shi	Communities Beyond Neighborhood Boundaries
Ruth Spetter	City Attorney's Office

Absent

Kathy Bambeck	Bridlemile Neighborhood Association
William Warren	Central Northeast Neighbors

Visitors

Lee Perlman	Media
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*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.*

**Approval of Summary Notes**

**Information & Referral  
Center**  
503-823-4000

**Crime Prevention  
Center**  
503-823-4519

**Neighborhood Mediation  
Center**  
503-823-3152

**Metropolitan Human  
Rights Center**  
503-823-5136

**Civic Involvement  
Center**  
503-823-4519

- Motion to accept minutes for Sept. 10, 2002. Passed.

### **Approved Recommended Code or Standards Revisions**

- No action taken on language at this meeting.

### **Summary Notes for Sept. 10**

- Update on Public Meetings Ad-Hoc Group, (*see below.*)
- Creation of an ad-hoc group to create a process for dealing with Communities Beyond Neighborhood Boundaries.
- Began discussion on Neighborhood Associations focusing on what order to list requirements.
- Brief discussion on holding evening meeting in November. No resolution.

### **Update on Public Meetings Ad-Hoc Group**

#### **Issues brought up:**

- Group has three options to pursue:
  - State law always applies to neighborhood associations
  - State law doesn't apply so we can make our own rules
  - Sometimes state law does apply (such as when deliberating a land use action or neighborhood plan), and sometimes it doesn't (organizing a block party).
- Need to define if neighborhood associations are a public body and if they are part of City government or not. A fundamental decision.
- Getting money from City government should not mean you are a part of the City. Lots of organizations get funding from the City. This may be an issue Council needs to deliberate on.

#### **Proposals:**

- No proposals.

#### **Motions:**

- No motions.

### **Communities Beyond Neighborhood Boundaries**

#### **Issues brought up:**

- Discussion on creating a short-term group to create a process for deliberating on communities beyond neighborhood boundaries.
- Include Cristina Germain in group.
- Concern raised to include Latino Network and Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon representatives.
- Volunteers are Brian Hoop, Patricia Gardner, Charles Shi, Kathy Bambeck.

#### **Proposals:**

- See motion.

### **Motions:**

- Create an Ad-Hoc Group to develop a process for deliberations on Communities Beyond Neighborhood Boundaries. Passed.

## **Neighborhood Associations**

### **Issues brought up:**

- Discussion focused on how to reorder and prioritize topics currently under Neighborhood Association category. Strong interest to begin with - what does it mean to be recognized? (*See proposed order below*)
- Discussion on how we can best organize document to address ways people function when trying to resolve a conflict. Most people only use this document when they have a conflict. We should order in importance to activists.
- Discussion on whether mediation should be required or simply encouraged in certain situations. Perhaps grievance and mediation process should be required where democratic process breaks down and significant minority of neighbors raises concern.
- Reference basic requirements on grievances to a lengthier grievance section.
- Discussion on whether resolution of boundaries should be a requirement or operation.
- Question regarding importance of word placement, ordering and meaning of words. Ruth says what words mean is more critical than the order they are in.
- Discussion on whether or not all these requirements need to be in the bylaws of each neighborhood association. We need to be clear what minimum requirements need to be in association bylaws since they are most fundamental document for a group.
- Discussion on whether or not requirements should include getting federal non-profit recognition and state non-profit corporation recognition. Several people do not think that is necessary.
- Discussion on which document has a higher authority – the contracts between the City and the neighborhood offices and coalitions vs. the ONI guidelines with neighborhood associations.
- Discussion on what authority should ONI have to decide which neighborhood associations can and can not be recognized when they first form. Should it be discretionary or prescribed by rules? (Example when east Portland area community groups were not automatically recognized when the City annexed the area in last 10 years.)
- Discussion about pros and cons of allowing neighborhood associations to decide their boundaries. What about when a minority of neighbors want to break off? Who is responsible for coordinating grievances?
- Discussion about the definition of households and the minimum number of households to define a neighborhood association. Densities are changing rapidly to a point where some blocks have as many residents as entire neighborhood associations. Geographic areas of associations vary drastically.

### **Proposals:**

- Proposed order:

- I: Recognition (*Refer to existing sections: A, C, J, F, H, I, J*)
  - A. Basic Requirements – Preamble
    - 1. Boundaries (*Existing section J and #2*)
    - 2. Membership
    - 3. Non-Discrimination
    - 4. Meeting requirements
    - 5. Public meetings
    - 6. Bylaws
    - 7. Grievances
    - 8. Dues
    - 9. Liaison to Neighborhood Offices (?)
  - B. Benefits of Recognition
- II: Operations (*Refer to existing sections: B, D, E, G*)
  - A. Communications
  - B. Mediation
  - C. Resolution of Boundary Disputes
  - D. Grievance Procedures
  - E. Liaison to Neighborhood Offices (?)

**Motions:**

- No motions.

*These summary notes have been approved.*

*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, October 22  
 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM  
 City Hall, Lovejoy Room, 1221 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue

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

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

Prepared by: Brian Hoop, Office of Neighborhood Involvement