

Randy Leonard, Commissioner
Jimmy Brown, Director
1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 110
Portland, OR 97204
Phone: 503-823-4519
Fax: 503-823-3050
www.portlandonline.com/oni



*enhancing the quality
of neighborhoods
through
community participation*

Great – Guidelines Review Committee Meeting
Tuesday, April 13, 2004
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 |
| Kathy Bambeck | Bridlemile Neighborhood Association |
| Nancy Chapin | Alliance of PDX Neighborhood Bus. Assocs. |
| Leonard Gard | Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. |
| Raymond Hites | Lents Neighborhood Association |
| Stanley Lewis | Downtown Community Association |
| Michael O'Malley | Irvington Community Association |
| Jerry Powell | At-Large |
| Mark Sieber | Neighbors West/Northwest |

Staff:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Amalia Alarcon Gaddie | Office of Neighborhood Involvement |
| Jimmy Brown | Office of Neighborhood Involvement |

Absent:

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Brian Hoop | Office of Neighborhood Involvement |
| Moshe Lenske, Co-Chair | Woodstock Neighborhood Association |
| Ruth Spetter | City Attorney's Office |

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.
The committee has approved these summary notes and they are final.*

Approval of Minutes

- Motion made, seconded and passed to approve minutes for 3-23-04 meeting with no changes.

Approved motions

- No motions were approved at this meeting.

Summary of Notes for April 13, 2004

- Discussion on Business Associations. Group favored keeping business associations within current structure of ONI Guidelines. Nancy will come back to next meeting with updated proposal after discussion with business association leaders.

Business Associations, Section VI

- Nancy's proposal was shared with the group. Committee concerned that a parallel system could be created – and how does that adhere to the transparency desired by the City should it allocate public funds to business associations. Committee members also agreed that they would prefer that business associations continue to be addressed in the guidelines.
- Nancy brought up the “Boston model” where the city takes block grant funds and funds business associations as a part of their community development efforts. There has been talk of finding ways for the city to fund business associations here in Portland. For the moment, though, all Business associations are asking for from ONI is inclusion – no services, no dollars.
- If business associations are going to receive any privileges in the future, then the guidelines should outline a definition of who qualifies as a business association. Nancy's suggestion is that BA's should be registered with the state and must have regular meetings that businesses are invited to. Discussion followed about whether or not APNBA gets to set the criteria for being “recognized” as a BA or if there is any other organization(s) that should participate in that discussion. A comment was made that if there is a chance that BA's might receive funds or other support in the future then there needs to be a definition of a BA in an effort to ensure some accountability.
- Nancy will come back to the next meeting with a proposed definition/criteria for being a BA. The BA section of the guidelines will be finalized at this next meeting.

ONI Accountability

- Concern that the only city bureau that doesn't “play by the Public Involvement rules” is ONI. How can the bureau be made more accountable in the guidelines? Suggested that we add “including ONI” in the section of the code covering public involvement expectations in the “City agencies” section. Some committee members expressed the opinion that it seems redundant – that there are already accountability measures in other parts of code that people can turn to for remedy if they believe a bureau is not doing the right thing. Should there be a preamble to that code section saying something to the effect that “ONI, as the public involvement bureau, is expected to lead by example?”
- Another accountability issue is that grievances against ONI go to ONI only. Is there any other recourse? Most grievances that reach ONI are appeals of appeals, for

which ONI is the final arbiter. Perhaps for grievances that deal with a guidelines violation on the part of ONI from their inception there should be other options like going to the Commissioners, or the Ombudsman's office. It was brought to the attention of the committee that this option already exists for all bureaus therefore there is no need to amend this code section to add it. It was suggested that perhaps we add a cross-reference to the guidelines section on grievances that ties back to the code section that offers these options. The committee decided to leave the section as is, deeming there to be enough accountability measures in the code. For the record, Stan Lewis was opposed to the outcome of the discussion and felt it would be important to add the language discussed to the code.

Discussion on Timeline to complete this committee's work

- Patricia proposed that the committee have one more meeting where they discuss and finalize the BA issue, complete the Action Items section, incorporate all new language and then release the document. The hope is to set up 3 workshops to roll out the guidelines and visit all the coalitions (Patricia). Then hold one more meeting after the rollout period to incorporate and wordsmith input and clean up the document. Bring to council in July?

Public Comments

- Stemming from a discussion of a letter sent to the committee chair from the SWHRL. Is "standards" a legal term? Is it as binding as "regulation?" Ask Ruth Spetter to address this for the committee.
- Question whether or not there should be something in the guidelines about the ONI crime prevention program "targeting innocent people." Committee felt that this covered civil and criminal issues that did not belong in the guidelines. Suggested that crime prevention staff should get training regarding not getting "caught up in personal vendettas that persecute eccentric individuals," and being aware of class and socio-economic differences that can lead to friction.
- Mark Sieber reported back on the SEUL-led proposal to council for dollars for diversity outreach. They have had 5 very well attended meetings with very diverse representation. They are looking to find something better to replace the "communities beyond neighborhood boundaries" concept. Trying to see if council will agree to fund the project this cycle.

The committee has approved these summary notes and they 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, April 27, 2004

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM, City Hall, Lovejoy Room, 1221 SW 4th Ave

Prepared by: Brian Hoop, Office of Neighborhood Involvement