

Randy Leonard, Commissioner

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*enhancing the quality
of neighborhoods
through
community participation*

Great – Guidelines Review Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 27, 2004

8:30 AM to 10:00 AM, Lovejoy Room, Portland City Hall

MINUTES AND SUMMARY NOTES

Members Present:

Patricia Gardner, Co-Chair
Moshe Lenske, Co-Chair

Pearl District Neighborhood Association
Woodstock Neighborhood Association

Kathy Bambeck
Nancy Chapin
Leonard Gard
Raymond Hites
Stanley Lewis
Michael O'Malley
Jerry Powell
Mark Sieber
Ruth Spetter

Bridlemile Neighborhood Association
Alliance of PDX Neighborhood Bus. Assocs.
Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc.
Lents Neighborhood Association
Downtown Community Association
Irvington Community Association
At-Large
Neighbors West/Northwest
City Attorney's Office

Staff:

Amalia Alarcon Gaddie
Brian Hoop

Office of Neighborhood Involvement
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.
The committee has approved these summary notes and they are final.*

Approval of Minutes

- ☐ Minutes approved for 4-13-04 meeting with no changes.

Approved motions

- ☐ Motion approved to adopt proposals outlined by Patricia for Business District Associations. Brian will update language so group can review and confirm changes made at next meeting.

Summary of Notes for April 27, 2004

- ❑ Key issues discussed regarding Business District Associations included:
- ❑ Whether or not BDA's are part of ONI system or autonomous?
- ❑ What accountability measures would be in place? Why should BDA's have to follow rules if there is no funding to provide them organizational support?
- ❑ What would ONI's responsibility be? ONI's capacity to provide support is limited.
- ❑ What services should BDA's receive from the City. Currently there is no funding.
- ❑ Considered updating representative positions for future amendments to Standards.

Business District Associations (BDA's), Section VI

- ❑ Nancy reviews changes proposed by Alliance for Portland Neighborhood Business Associations that includes a new definition and simplified criteria for recognition.

Issue of whether BDA's should be part of ONI system or not

- ❑ Does GREAT want BDA's to be part of ONI guidelines or not? Discussion centers on whether or not BDA's should have to follow guidelines if they are not receiving City financial support.
- ❑ Proposed language creates a system that is kind of half in and half out leaving it ambiguous how far the City has authority to hold BDA's accountable. Concern APNBA is given authority as an official City organization it does not qualify for yet. Some feel BDA's need to stay in the system to maintain some minimal public accountability. There needs to be a line of communication between neighborhood and business associations. If we take BDA's out we lose that connection.
- ❑ Patricia mentions east side neighborhood leaders say they'd be concerned about BDA's not being part of ONI system.
- ❑ Nancy describes BDA leaders do not want to be part of ONI system. They feel the proposed measures are adequate. Anything else is over-regulation.
- ❑ Some GREAT members agree with this position, wonder why are we bothering setting up regulations. Allow BDA's to be autonomous. ONI should just focus on neighborhood groups. Specifically, unaffiliated groups are not getting enough services. How can we expect ONI to further dilute these services? Others disagree.
- ❑ ONI's position is for BDA's to remain in Guidelines. There needs to be some system of transparency and accountability, especially with increasing talk of the City eventually funding the business association system. The funding situation may or may not change soon which will affect the outcome of this language.

- ❑ Discussion on whether or not BDA's, and non-profits in general, have to follow open meetings laws. They do not. It was City Council that required that.
- ❑ Discussion on what are benefits for Neighborhood Associations as a result of following extra regulations. They get more time to speak before City Council.
- ❑ Concern that document does not outline ONI's responsibilities to BDA's. Concern that ONI cannot be bogged down with resolving more conflict issues if ONI's authority and responsibilities with BDA's are not clearly outlined.
- ❑ Group generally agrees we should put out a proposal even if its not completely resolved to encourage dialogue with business community about changes.

Suggested changes to Business District Association section

- ❑ Discussion about minimum size of BDA's- how many businesses need to participate. Nancy proposes having at least 75 businesses within its boundaries. They don't have to be dues-paying members.
- ❑ Section VI, B, c: Proposal to include non-discrimination clause.
- ❑ Section VI, C, e: Proposal to take out BDA's afforded all rights and benefits accorded to neighborhood associations.
- ❑ Leonard motions to adopt above changes.

Further Discussion

- ❑ Suggestion to drop section B3, not list the services they receive. Nancy lists other ways BDA's can receive benefits. The directory benefit could be listed elsewhere. Some feel neighbors benefit from BDA contact info being in directory.
- ❑ Others say not drop it but only make changes to Section B, 3: Introduction needs to state BDA's must be acknowledged before they receive services. The insurance liability issue - this can not be ONI's insurance. Need to be clear insurance would be provided by non-profits. Another proposal is to only take out insurance issues, crime prevention, etc. since BDA's can receive those benefits anyway.
- ❑ Concern re: Section B, 1: Impact on ONI to regulate these services and rules if ONI does not have the capacity to deliver.
- ❑ Discussion re: whether 75 businesses is too many for some small business districts.
- ❑ Concern re: Need to be clear that BDA's are not required to follow open meetings laws and open records law. Group agrees.
- ❑ Motion to adopt proposals outlined by Patricia approved, 2 abstain. Brian will update language so group can review and confirm changes made at next meeting.

Discussion on amendments to Office of Neighborhood Involvement.

- ❑ Brian proposes adding one non-ONI bureau staff representative. City staff were upset when they learned there was a section in City code dealing with responsibilities of City agencies and we did not include other city staff.
- ❑ Propose adding one position from a diverse constituency group.
- ❑ Propose to change language for reps from District Coalitions that they have a volunteer representative of each coalition, and not staff.
- ❑ Need to have a City attorney representative. Ruth's involvement has been important

Discussion on final compilation.

- ❑ Nancy, Moshe, and Mike volunteer to help review document.
- ❑ May 12th meeting cancelled to allow time to update documents. Next mtg. May 25th.
- ❑ Find who is responsible for Historic Districts, Conservation Districts, Design Districts.

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, May 25, 2004, 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM, City Hall, Lovejoy Room, 1221 SW 4th Ave

Prepared by: Brian Hoop, Office of Neighborhood Involvement