

# Sunnyside Community House

## Good Neighbor Agreement

*Session 1 - Tuesday, Jan 8 2019*

### Welcome - Rules of Engagement

*Matt, 5 min*

- Stay calm and listen to what other people are saying. Being a good neighbor is about compromise. Uncivil conduct (shouting, derogatory language, name-calling, etc) will not be permitted.
- Speak only for yourself. Don't assume you know what other people want or think by using "we" or "they".
- Don't put people on the spot. Our discussions are about finding solutions to common problems, not judging neighbor's concerns or opinions.

***Action: In order to participate in this discussion everyone must indicate their agreement to follow these rules.***

### Introductions

*All, 5 min*

A quick spin around the room to introduce ourselves. Please keep your introduction very brief. This is not the time to relate a particular experience or make comments on any specific matter.

# SCH Background

*John Mayer, 5 min*

John will provide a brief overview of the history, mission and operations of the Sunnyside Community House including services provided, hours and staffing.

# GNA Overview

*Matt + Discussion, 10 min*

The main purpose of a GNA is to establish the framework for a productive, lasting relationship between the parties based on clear, direct communication and a commitment by all parties to thereby participate in pursuit of the established goals. A GNA is not a legal document or contract. Though non-binding and unenforceable, it can (and should) provide a framework for continued monitoring and evolution by all parties.

## Example GNAs

- [Right to Dream Too, Lloyd Neighborhood](#)
- [Transition Projects Shelter, Foster-Powell Neighborhood](#)
- [Johnson Creek Secure Residential Treatment Facility, Ardenwald-Johnson Creek Neighborhood](#)

## A Good GNA Is

- Based on an understanding of differing concerns and points of view
- Born from open dialogue where people are able to work through ideas together
- Demonstrates the value of relationships between neighbors

## A Good GNA Is Not

- A list of rules or consequences
- Dominated by a single point of view or narrow concern
- Based on unrealistic demands or commitments

## Process

*Matt + Discussion, 10 min*

Development of the GNA starts with the establishment of primary goals and core principles via open community meeting , in our case meetings of the SNA Safety & Livability Committee like this one. The goals and principles established at these meetings will then be taken up by a Drafting Subcommittee which will be responsible for producing the actual language of the GNA. As sections of the GNA are drafted, the Drafting Subcommittee will present them at the community meeting for feedback and further discussion. Once the Drafting Subcommittee agrees on a finished draft it will be presented to the parties for a ratification vote. Ratification must be unanimous among the affected parties (though each party may vote to ratify based on their own rules and procedures).

As we work through issues together, it is important to remember that this is as much a learning process as anything else. It is critical that all participants remain open and committed to learning about any topics that the group may be engaging with. This may include bringing in outside experts to help us understand more complex issues and topics, and it is essential that we all are committed to putting in the time and effort required to take advantage of these learning opportunities.

### Drafting Subcommittee

The Drafting Subcommittee will be responsible for working out specific language to be included in the GNA using the goals set by the larger Safety and Livability Committee.

- Up to 2 representatives from each stakeholder, plus facilitator

- Will meet up to twice per month for 2 hour working sessions
- Members must be willing and able to respond within 48 hours to written correspondence on an ongoing basis.

**Action: Discuss and agree on this framework.**

## Initial Community Meeting Goals

*All - Remaining time*

### Identify stakeholders

- SNA (Neighbors)
- Sunnyside Community House (SCH)
- Community House Guests
- SE Uplift?
- Sunnyside Environmental School (SES)?
- Portland Parks?
- City of Portland?
- HBBA?
- BABA?

### Establish Core Principles

{EXAMPLES}

This agreement is based on the assumption of certain rights:

1. Every person (including residents, neighbors, visitors, staff, service providers and other community members) has the right to personal safety.
2. Every person has the right to a healthy environment.
3. Every person has the right to quiet enjoyment of their home.

### Establish Goals

{EXAMPLES}

1. Initiate and maintain open communications and understanding between the parties so that they can be responsible partners to each other.
2. Develop clear expectations and procedures for resolving problems.
3. Enhance neighborhood safety and livability and promote access to services

## Establish All-Party Agreements:

{EXAMPLES}

All participants agree to:

1. Participate in the agreement.
2. Maintain and enhance good working relationships between the parties.
3. Jointly and directly resolve problems as quickly as possible. The first line of communication will be one-on-one via in-person conversation, telephone call, or email.
  - a. Provide participants in this agreement with updated contact information if there are changes to key staff or organizational leadership.
  - b. Use the communication procedures outlined later in this document whenever further planning, problem solving, or conflict resolution are necessary