

# Consensus & Facilitation Resource Sheet

## Books

### Consensus

*Building Consensus: Conflict and Unity.* (2001) Monteze Snyder, *et al.* Basic overview from a Quaker perspective. Earlham University Press, \$15.00

\**Building United Judgment: A Handbook for Consensus Decision Making.* (1981) Michel Avery, *et al.* Explains why, when and how to use secular consensus process effectively. This book, originally published by the Center for Conflict Resolution, has been reprinted by the FIC (see below). \$19 ppd.

*Consensus Through Conversation: How to Achieve High-Commitment Decisions.* (2006) Larry Dressler. Straightforward information clearly presented; misses some nuance but its simplicity makes this short book very appealing as an overview. Berrett-Koehler, \$12.00.

*On Conflict and Consensus: A Handbook on Formal Consensus Decisionmaking.* (1987) CT Butler & Amy Rothstein. Formalizes procedural steps for decision-making method. Full text available for free on the internet. Food Not Bombs Publishing, PO Box 853, Burlington, VT 05402; 800-569-4054; [www.consensus.net](http://www.consensus.net). \$14 ppd.

*Sharing Consensus: a handbook for consensus workshops.* Sweet, homespun booklet filled with Quaker anecdotes, written by a man who uses no name. Available c/o Nova Land, 128 Hidden Springs Lane, Cookeville, TN 38501. \$5.00 suggested donation for copying and postage.

### Facilitation

*Don't Just Do Something, Stand There!: Ten Principles for Leading Meetings That Matter.* (2007). Marvin Weisbord & Sandra Janoff. Clear principles, well applied, practical. Berrett-Koehler, \$20.95.

*Extreme Facilitation.* (2005) Suzanne Ghais. Well-balanced, solid, realistic. Jossey-Bass, \$40.00.

*Facilitator's Guide to Participatory Decision-Making.* (1996, 2007) Sam Kaner. Lots of handouts, information presented visually. Community at Work, \$24.95.

\**Great Meetings! Great Results.* (1997) Dee Kelsey & Pam Plumb. Nice overview, very accessibly written. Hanson Park Press, \$29.00.

\**A Manual for Group Facilitators.* (1977) Brian Auvine, *et al.* Clear writing, practical approach, covers many key topics. This book, originally published by the Center for Conflict Resolution, has been reprinted by FIC (see below); oldie but goodie. \$19 ppd.

*Meeting of the Minds: A Guide to Successful Meeting Facilitation.* (2001) Daniel Iacofono. Includes nice illustrations and a great section on graphic recording. MIG Communications, \$29.95.

*Standing in the Fire.* (2010). Larry Dressler. Emphasis on the internal work a facilitator must do in themselves in order to stay clear in their group work. Berrett-Koehler, \$19.95.

### Other

\**Difficult Conversations: How to Discuss What Matters Most.* (1999) Douglas Stone, Bruce Patton, Sheila Heen. Clear information for laypeople, variety of examples, realistic—highly recommended. Penguin, \$14.00.

*Head, Heart & Hands: Lessons in Community Building.* (2004) Shari Leach. Specifically geared toward cohousing groups. Wonderland Hill Development Company, \$20.00 ppd.

*Playing Along: 37 Group Learning Activities Borrowed from Improvisational Theater.* (1997) Izzy Gesell. In most books of this type i find only a few useful exercises for groups; in this book i marked over a dozen. PO Box 962, Northampton, MA 01061; 413-586-2634; <http://www.izzyg.com/palong.htm>. \$24.95.

\* Items marked with a star are available through the Bookshelf service of the Fellowship for Intentional Community. Call 800-995-8342, email [bookshelf@ic.org](mailto:bookshelf@ic.org), or look on the web at [store.ic.org](http://store.ic.org). FIC, RR 1 Box 156, Rutledge, MO 63563.

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Tree Bressen  Facilitation & Workshops

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## Organizations, Classes & Other Resources

**Group Works: A Pattern Language for Bringing Life to Meetings and Other Gatherings.** Card deck of 91 cards distills the core wisdom of skillful facilitation. Ongoing development and free download available at [www.GroupWorksDeck.org](http://www.GroupWorksDeck.org).

**Dynamic Facilitation.** Great trainings in a high-energy approach to releasing group creativity for problem-solving. Jim Rough, Port Townsend, WA 98368; 360-385-7118; [jim@ToBe.net](mailto:jim@ToBe.net); [www.ToBe.net](http://www.ToBe.net).

**Fellowship for Intentional Community (FIC).** North American network for people interested in cooperative living, offers many resources in group dynamics. 660-883-5545; [fic@ic.org](mailto:fic@ic.org); [www.ic.org](http://www.ic.org).

**Graphic Recording.** Capturing a group's expression in pictures drawn in the moment, instead of or in addition to words; see [visualpractitioner.org](http://visualpractitioner.org).

**International Association for Public Participation (IAP2).** Focused on improving quality of public engagement, has regional chapters that offer classes and other events; [www.iap2.org](http://www.iap2.org).

**National Coalition for Dialogue & Deliberation (NCDD).** Wonderful network, their blog alone contains zillions of useful postings on grants, training opportunities, and more. Check it out at: [www.thataway.org](http://www.thataway.org).

**Process Work Center.** Also known as process-oriented psychology, this approach integrates conflict resolution, archetypes, dreamwork and bodywork into a powerful mode of individual and group change, also called worldwork. 2049 NW Hoyt St., Portland, OR 97209; 503-223-8188; [www.processwork.org](http://www.processwork.org).

**Public Conversations Project (PCP)** does high quality dialogue work on issues such as abortion and gay marriage. Excellent workshops, also publishes free dialogue guidebook. 46 Kondazian St., Watertown, MA 02472; 617-923-1216; [www.publicconversations.org](http://www.publicconversations.org).

## Web Sites

**Tree's website: [www.treegroup.info](http://www.treegroup.info).** Offers documents for free use including articles on decision-making and facilitation, handouts, longer version of this resource list, links to selected sites, and more.

**Appreciative Inquiry Commons.** AI portal site: <http://appreciativeinquiry.case.edu/>.

**Co-Intelligence Institute.** Tom Atlee's fabulous site on how our society can work together more wisely for the good of all includes summaries of dozens of group process methods: [www.co-intelligence.org](http://www.co-intelligence.org).

**Community at Work** has an excellent resource list with links to bunches of professional networks, collections, other sites: [www.communityatwork.com/resources.html](http://www.communityatwork.com/resources.html).

**Northwest Intentional Communities Association (NICA).** Resource pages on meetings and group process at [http://wiki.ic.org/wiki/Running\\_effective\\_meetings](http://wiki.ic.org/wiki/Running_effective_meetings).

**Randy Schutt**, long-time activist, has a dozen short papers (1-12 pages each) on cooperative decision-making, see the list at [www.vernalproject.org/RPapers.shtml](http://www.vernalproject.org/RPapers.shtml). Contact Randy at PO Box 608867, Cleveland, OH 44108; [rschutt@vernalproject.org](mailto:rschutt@vernalproject.org).

**Starhawks's "Five-Fold Path of Productive Meetings"** is a free 59-page bonus chapter that was edited out of her book *The Empowerment Manual: A Guide for Collaborative Groups*; [www.starhawk.org/Empowerment\\_Five-Fold-Path.pdf](http://www.starhawk.org/Empowerment_Five-Fold-Path.pdf).

**Seeds for Change (UK).** One of my favorite sites on consensus: clear, values-based, thorough, and includes extensive historical and multicultural references—wow! [seedsforchange.org.uk/free/consens](http://seedsforchange.org.uk/free/consens).

**Training for Change.** Wonderful collection of tools and exercises, includes topics such as diversity, strategy, nonviolence, and more: [trainingforchange.org](http://trainingforchange.org).