NYS & CSEA Partnership

Running Effective Labor-Management Committee Meetings

Facilitator Responsibilities

- 1. Manage the Agenda
 - a. Follow agenda items in order. You can be flexible when participants suggest an alternate process and the majority agree to it. If your process doesn't seem to be working, take a break and come up with a revised process.
 - b. Keep the discussion focused on the topic.
 - c. "Park" off-topic issues for a later discussion.
 - d. Periodically summarize the discussion to help give members perspective.
 - e. Bring the discussion to a close.
 - f. Help the recorder capture important points.



g. Be clear with the group when you are facilitating and when you are contributing as a group member.

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- 2. Manage Conversational Traffic
 - a. Intervene if the discussion fragments into several simultaneous conversations.
 - **b**. Tactfully prevent any one person from dominating the discussion.
 - c. Bring someone into the conversation who might not be participating.
 - d. Remind people about agreed-upon ground rules.

Timekeeper Responsibilities:

- **1.** Keep track of time following limits set in the agenda.
- 2. Give regular updates to the group so they are aware how much time has been spent and how much time is left on a specific agenda item.

Recorder Responsibilities:

- **1.** Record the committee's ideas, decisions, actions, and other details of the meeting.
- 2. Take handwritten notes, use easel pad, or record notes using laptop or other technology.
- 3. Stop the conversation for clarity or to catch up (if necessary).
- 4. Record:
 - a. Agenda items
 - b. Main discussion points mentioned by idea, not by specific name
 - c. Action items (who, what, when, etc.)
 - d. Brief description of decisions made

Committee Member Responsibilities:

- **1.** Participate fully.
- 2. Ask questions.
- **3.** Offer solutions to problems.
- Keep members focused during meeting.
- Remind timekeeper about time (if necessary).
- 6. Ask recorder to clarify or share notes (if necessary).

