

# A FLOW CHART FOR THE USE OF CONSENSUS TO MAKE DECISIONS

## SAMPLE MEETING AGENDA

Date of the meeting

Facilitator's name and phone number

Note keeper's name and phone number

Time keeper's name

7:00 to 7:10 - Introductions, agenda review

7:10 to 7:30 - Food collection for the week.

7:30 to 7:45 - Cooks and kitchen locations.

7:45 to 8:00 - Servers, literature table staff and cultural programs at the meals.

8:00 to 8:15 - This week's clean up schedule.

8:15 to 8:30 - Solidarity actions to support and provide food to.

8:30 to 8:45 - Promotion for group with flyers, literature tables, media, web postings and emailing.

8:45 to 9:00 - Financial report on income and expenses and benefit concerts and events.

9:00 to 9:15 - Communications report of groups emails, phone messages and mail.

9:15 to 9:30 - Critique meeting and choose date, time, location and facilitator of next meeting.



**FOOD NOT BOMBS**

P.O. Box 424 - Arroyo Seco, NM 87514 USA

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## FIRST MEETING

INTRODUCE PROPOSAL

ASK FOR QUESTIONS TO CLARIFY PROPOSAL

FIRST DISCUSSION OF PROPOSAL

CALL FOR CONSERNS

RESTATE PROPOSAL

ASK FOR CLARIFICATION OF RESTATED PROPOSAL

SEND TO SECOND MEETING OR COMMITTE

ASK FOR QUESTIONS TO IMPROVE PROPOSAL

## SECOND MEETING

REINTRODUCE PROPOSAL

ASK FOR QUESTIONS TO CLARIFY PROPOSAL

SECOND DISCUSSION OF PROPOSAL

RESTATE REFINED PROPOSAL

ASK FOR CLARIFICATION OF RESTATED PROPOSAL

CALL FOR CONSERNS

PROPOSAL IS RESTATED

ASK FOR STAND ASIDES OR BLOCKS

ASK FOR CLARIFICATION OF RESTATED PROPOSAL

SEEING NO BLOCKS  
THE PROPOSAL IS ADOPTED

IF BLOCKED OR HAS MANY STAND ASIDES  
RESTATE PROPOSAL AND SEND TO NEXT  
MEETING OR TO COMMITTE TO IMPROVE

THE PROPOSAL IS IMPLEMENTED

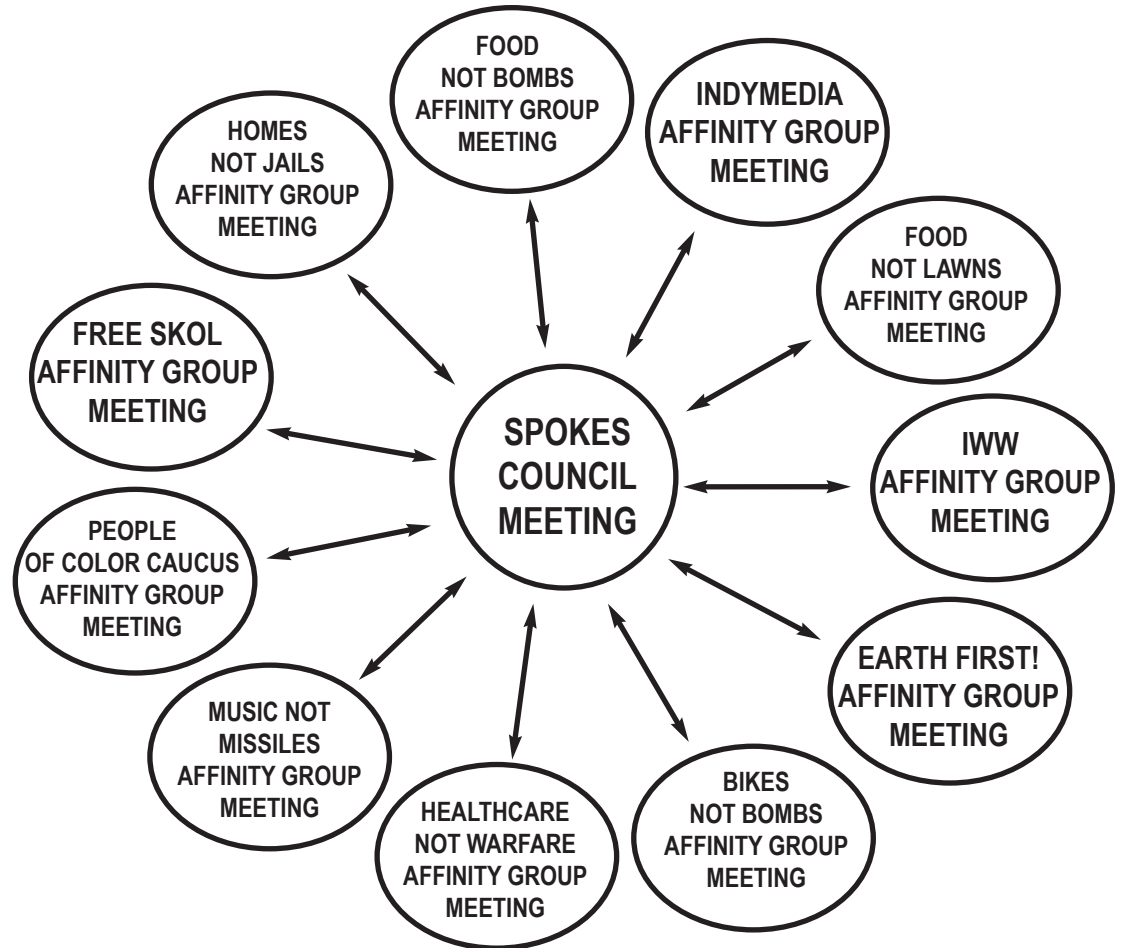
## REGULAR MEETINGS USING CONSENSUS

Regular meetings using the consensus process provide access for everyone to participate fully in the activities of your group. The consensus process encourages creativity, equality and a commitment to the implementation of every decision. Consensus encourages the adoption of the decision that most reflects the desires of everyone in your group seeking to adjust each proposal based on the ideas of everyone concerned. Give each proposal a couple of meetings to consider to create the most effective decisions. The consensus process can be the foundation for social change in your community. After years of practicing the use of consensus your group will be prepared to fill the power vacuum created by the collapse of the current political and economic system.

Introduce the proposal, open a discussion on the proposal, ask for concerns, restate the proposal based on the input from the discussion and ask if there are any blocks or stand asides. If there are no blocks and few stand asides the proposal is adopted. Some one should only block if they believe the proposal is contrary to the principles of the group. People stand aside if they are not excited or able to help implement the proposal. If there are a number of stand asides or blocks find out what changes would be needed to lift the block or stand asides. One or more blocks stops a proposal from being adopted. Stand asides do not stop consensus.

## COMMUNITY WIDE DECISION MAKING USING CONSENSUS

Each affinity group sends their proposals to the spokes council meeting. The spokes council adopts the proposal and sends it back to affinity groups for consensus or modification. Each proposal returns to spokes council for community wide consensus then returned to affinity group for implementation. Affinity groups send two or more people to the spokes council meeting. Affinity groups and spokes council can use agenda and consensus process on other side of this page to guide them in reaching consensus for each proposal.



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