

**0:00** *Explanation of tribes vs. caucuses vs. committees. A “committee” is a group of people consistently contributing to Occupy Portland. Anyone can join committees. A “caucus” is a group that shares a particular life experiences. Anyone who has shared that experience can join. A “tribe” is a family group of people, often economic refugees, joined by common interests.*

*Present committees, caucuses, and tribes:*

**Engineering**

**Education**

**Action**

**Tribal Council**

**Information**

**Open**

**Food/Sanitation**

**Facilitation**

**Housing**

**Volunteer Coordinating**

**Spending**

**Portland People ‘s Alliance**

**Medical**

**Finance**

**Radical Caucus**

**Faith and Spirit**

**Rumorz**

**Women’s Caucus**

**Peace and Safety**

**Strategy/Operation**

**5:00** *agenda proposed:*

*Brief discussion of last night’s GA decisions.*

*Discuss whether to pursue legal entity for OP to receive financial information.*

*Break-Out group discussing re-occupation*

*Committee Announcements*

**6:00** *Explanation of hand-signals*

**9:30** *Explanation of spokes: if you are a spoke, you are not a decision-maker for your members. You are responsible for communicating what was actively discussed among your group. In certain circumstances Spokes can nominate a member of their group to better articulate their message.*

**10:00** *recap of last night’s GA*

**15:00** *motion to discuss last night’s proposals at end of agenda today. Motion consensed.*

**16:00** Facilitation gave further details of Spokes. Spokesperson can only do it once every three meetings. Spokes encouraged to keep notes to prevent conflicts.

CQ: What about spokes with less than three members? (these are preliminary rules)

**18:15** Facilitation was asked not to use unnecessary complex words (“your group’s purview” vs. “your group’s mission/responsibility”)

**19:00** Spokes asked to list themselves and write down what their group does. Also meeting times so other people can find you and help you. Also describe how your group plans to make decisions. E-mail this info to [pdxspokescouncil@gmail.com](mailto:pdxspokescouncil@gmail.com).

**21:00** First proposal of night: Kip from finance back to further discuss creating a legal entity to manage funds and have a bank account on behalf of Occupy Portland. Basic statement: movement needs money. This proposal will not be a final structure but will allow group to start collecting money while Finance moves forward with soliciting donations. Proposed financial entity will be open, accountable, and accessible. Anyone can join the finance committee. Finance wants one member from each group to help talk about strategy and use of funds. The finance committee will not distribute money, it will only acquire money. The spending committee will distribute money.

Proposal: We’ll establish a legal entity named “Friends of Occupy Portland.” Finance recommends creating 501 (c) 4 for maximum flexibility on how money is spent.

DR: If funds are centrally located they can be frozen when this movement is declared a terrorist organization. (That’s unlikely to happen)

PoP: At GA we discussed various options, there was no consensus on 501 (c) 4. (This is a proposal to discuss whether we create our own non-profit to handle solicited funds, or ask an affiliated one to handle those funds for us. That is the decision we are discussing tonight. We aren’t deciding tonight exactly which financial entity we’re pursuing, just whether we are pursuing one at all)

DR: Spokes can also discuss whether non-profit should represent “whole movement” or just “finance committee.”

*we broke to discuss the matter for a while, then reconvened for a first round of clarifying questions*

CQ: Will all of the limitations, requirements, etc. we previously discussed be put in the written proposal? (yes)

CQ: How much protection would putting the funds under a church, vs. our own non-profit, give against having the funds frozen (I don’t know, Finance thinks funds being frozen is unlikely)

DR: Under title three of the Patriot Act, if you’re a terrorist organization there’s no protection.

CQ: Is Occupy Wall Street a non-profit? (They are looking into forming a non-profit. They are currently a "special finance project." There are two other Occupies looking into forming a non-profit)

CQ: Can we collaborate with Occupy Wall Street if they do form a non-profit? (Sure)

*a member of the finance committee began to read from the full proposal:*

FC: Everyone involved with organization would be volunteer.

*someone else complained that this action by Finance Committee member meant that the loudest voices were dominating the circle. Facilitators agreed but asked for help calling people out of order. we returned to clarifying questions.*

CQ: Who would be the directors of the non-profit? (The board of directors, trustees, etc. will consist of one person from each committee represented in the spokescouncil. These board-members would change every ninety days. No person can serve on the board for more than one 90-day term in a two-year period.)

CQ: Limits on political activity? (A 501 (c) 4 does not have limits on political activity. However donations are not tax-deductible. Given we're already pretty political Finance likes that idea)

CQ: Can the National Lawyer's Guild provide guidance? (This proposal was drafted by current Occupy lawyers. Also a social justice advisor recommended this proposal)

CQ: Why aren't donations enough? Can't we depend on non-monetary assets? Can't we struggle for struggle is good? (Right now we have no place to store money. With an entity we can have a bank account. It will be publically owned and not make one person responsible)

CQ: Are there other options beside a non-profit like a trust or something similar? (There is currently a GA-approved trust account with an attorney. This means only one or two people have access to the money. This creates liability and isn't transparent.)

CQ: Is this for the finance committee specifically or for all of Occupy Portland? This to avoid conflict of mission statements. (Finance solely exists to represent Occupy Portland as a whole, not individual groups. Special accounts are the only other option)

CQ: Can there be a google doc publically open of all debits and credits? (yes)

CQ: Bank account or credit union account? (Credit union, local)

CQ: Transparency is good. (A trust fund is set up between an individual and a attorney. This limits transparency and causes problems for the individual and their attorney)

*facilitation reminded everyone that only spokes should be in the center of the circle temp check on whether to continue asking clarifying questions or move to concerns. but first, an announcement:*

“My name isn’t important but my message is. I know many actions are planned for next week. Many of these businesses around here are locally owned by community members. Please remember the 99% when planning actions next week.”

*facilitation broke out for five minutes for real to develop concerns about this proposal. when we returned, facilitation asked that everyone sit who was not talking. this motion was followed for the rest of the meeting.*

### Concerns!

C: Food is concerned that only “committees” would have representation on board of trustees.

C: Radical is concerned that approval for spending should go through GA rather than board of directors.

DR: GA has already approved a Spending Committee for disbursing funds. Finance committee only handles acquisition of funds.

C: Faith and Spirit has no concerns in respect to the attention given this proposal.

C: Let it pass, it’s been through GA and is in the hands of qualified peoples.

C: Peace and Safety is concerned that if we don’t financially organize we won’t have good equipment.

C: The word “donation” versus “contribution.” (There was a concern that the word “donation” might prevent us from using money in a certain way. So we can change it to “contribution”)

### *one more stack of concerns*

C: Strategy/communications is divided. They are worried about economic/political liability associated with forming non-profit. There are many possible realities arising from this plan. We do understand the concerns about a small group representing all. We are confused about true benefit of forming non-profit of any structure. Any structure will have a small group, please explain benefits.

(On one case we have non-profit. On second case we have finance committee. On third we have spending committee. First case is a legal entity. Second case raises funds. Third case spends money. You will be represented in all cases. )

(Also no matter what there will be a small group of people controlling money. Non-profit adds legal structure to increase accountability.)

DR: 501 (c) 4 aren’t taxable? (there are different requirements)

CQ: Is the non-profit intended to be fundraising or group simple. (We want to make it a benefactor to Occupy rather than representing Occupy directly)

*facilitation recommended that we move to evolution after one more stack of clarifying questions. temp check opposed more clarifying questions.*

Livestream: c4 is only taxable under gift taxes when money is given to a specific political campaign or political representatives.

PoP: Can we skip the break-out and just do evolutionary announcements? (After extensive discussion, yes.)

PoP: Don't you need 90% consensus to change process? (Yes, we'll do a three minute break-out, we should have just followed accepted process)

*three minute break-out, then facilitators moved to Evolutionary Amendments*

EA: Strategy/Operation did not reach consensus but had multiple ideas relating to same concern. People thought it best to discourage cash donations and encourage the donations of resources. One idea was that one or two members of each group be on the board. (That's spending committee business, there's no evolutionary amendment)

EA: Amendment concerning specifics board of directors.

PoP: Proposal is simply to pursue "financial entities" details of that entity are a future discussion.

*group agreed with Point of Process*

EA: Make sure the financial details are posted in a google document (They'll be put online)

EA: Evolutionary amendment to move through other entities rather than form our own.

*another stack*

EA: Evolutionary amendment to have people who are honest and trust-worthy on the board (each group can elect their representative as they choose)

*facilitators announced move to consensus on proposal. we broke out to spokes to find out whether each spoke-represented group agreed, disagreed, or stood aside.*

The Proposal: We decide to go forward with pursuing a legal entity that will allow us to manage our funds. That discussion as to this entity's details will be handled through committees at the Spokescouncil.

*Strategy/Operations demanded two more Evolutionary Amendments, the group decided to let them speak*

Two additional evolutionary proposals: 1) include clause for immediate dissolution  
2) enter into open series of meeting to establish standards for opening transparency. After some discussion it was agreed that both amendments didn't address the proposal at hand and were indeed new proposals.

*five-minute break to discuss whether groups approved of proposal*

*All spokes reconvened*

Action

Food/Sanitation

Open

Dude

Facilitator

Medical

Radical

Faith

WOMen's Finance

Strategy/Operations

+3 others

13 total

4 stand-asides

0 opposed, 13 in support

Proposal reached consensus.

*facilitator opened floor to proposal announcement*

Process and Procedures Analysis proposes that committees act in accordance with the general criteria ratified by General Assembly.

Proposal empowering General Assembly to control the formation of committees. GA would require committees to have at least three members; conduct regular announced meetings; and have a mission statement. Committees would be required to have representation at General Assembly.

Proposal is online at Occupy Portland online discussion board. Summary: OP will propose to police and Mayor Sam Adams that police will no longer wear riot gear and will handle all arrests peacefully and non-violently. In exchange, OP will follow traffic laws except when escorted by police or with advance notice. Traffic is a part of us, we should let them see what we're doing. Stopping at a crosswalk gives us a new audience. If police uphold agreement, we'll twinkle support.

Proposal to have Solutions committee act on immediate legislation regarding corporate personhood. They want approval of Occupy Portland. They have details of a proposal to advance this action. Widespread support.

Proposal for peace and love.

*facilitators opened floor to group announcements*

A group is forming modeled on Care Bears, OccuBears, frontlines in fight against police brutality. The group needs help constructing OccuBear suits.

The United Performing Arts Collective is creating a flash mob, more information online. Email at [occupytupac@googlegroups.com](mailto:occupytupac@googlegroups.com).

The Action Committee meets tomorrow at Smith Building at PSU in cafeteria at 5:30 pm.

Kitchen/Sanitation is having an open meeting Tuesday at 5 pm in front of First Congregational Church. Kitchen has new email: [opdxkitchen@gmail.com](mailto:opdxkitchen@gmail.com). Sanitation would like to ask everyone to clean up after themselves tonight. Kitchen is still looking for a commercial kitchen, please contact them.

Sexual Assault Survivor Advocacy committee will be fielding police brutality complaints. Email: [omchomsky@gmail.com](mailto:omchomsky@gmail.com). Please indicate whether you'd like to pursue legal action.

*facilitators moved to general announcements*

A group of people is meeting at Powell's now to discuss Black Friday.

A task force to respond to threats from individual private interests to turn the media against us. Contact: [anti.corporate@yahoo.com](mailto:anti.corporate@yahoo.com).

*thanks to everyone for participating, that's a meeting*