

**How good facilitation could possibly help groups of thoughtful, committed citizens save the world eventually – or at least make their lives a little easier while they are trying**



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” – Margaret Mead

### **What is “facilitation?”**

- **Managing the process so that it helps the content rather than hindering it**
- **Helping the group have a good conversation**
- **Different from “consulting”**



### **What is “facilitation?”**

- Making sure everyone understands what you are trying to accomplish in the meeting.
- Managing the conversation so that (a) you get healthy participation from the people in the group (b) you make progress toward the purpose you are trying to accomplish
- Capturing the results of the conversation – particularly any agreements and action items so that you don’t have to have the same meeting over and over again.

### **What is “facilitation?”**

**A moment to learn...a lifetime to master.**



### **Example: East Waco Action Team Meeting October 2011**

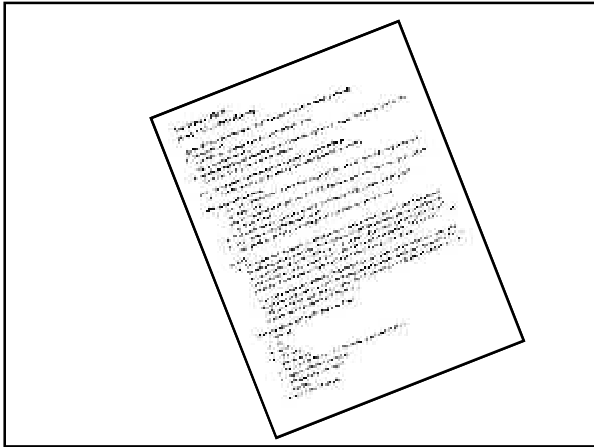


### Three parts to a meeting

- Before the meeting
- During the meeting
- After the meeting

### Before the Meeting

- Do you want an outside facilitator?
- The pre-meeting: "At the end of this meeting I will be happy as long as..."
- Preliminary logistics
- The planning document



### The Agenda

- Keeps you on track
- Visual point of reference
  - Flip chart
  - Paper

### Green/Yellow/Red

- Property value appreciation rates will meet or exceed that for the city as a whole
- Elm Street will be re-established as an interesting commercial district and as a destination for the broader Waco community;

