

Heart of the City Organizational Partnership Policy

Draft crh 1/12/10

Community partnerships are a critical feature of Heart of the City's mission. Heart of the City believes organizations, and ultimately people, working together on sustainable issues can be more effective and efficient in streamlining efforts and not duplicating resources. In addition, Heart of the City believes in supporting those organizations who exemplify our mission as well as those who assist in advancing its work. With this in mind Heart of the City understands that the organization has limited resources and therefore must use board approved guidelines in committing time and/or money to efforts outside of the organization no matter how well deserving.

The following guidelines were approved by Heart of the City board members on ~~??/??/2010~~. The board of directors will use these guidelines when deciding which organizations to support. Decisions of support will be announced to the general membership at regular meetings and in monthly info bits email newsletters.

NON-MONETARY ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS (i.e. Rock River Storm Water Coalition)

Organizations may request Heart of the City non-monetary membership which instead requires attendance of meeting and/or volunteer hours. The following criteria should be used when making non-monetary membership decisions:

1. Local organizations will be given priority in the following order -defined as Fort Atkinson first, Jefferson County second, Rock River Basin, third, Southern Wisconsin fourth, and Wisconsin fifth.
2. Organizations who are working directly on action items which are highlighted in HOC 3-5 strategic plans will be given priority.
3. Start up local (see above definition) organizations meeting our mission criteria who would otherwise not have the resources to begin
4. HOC membership volunteer(s) time does not inhibit or take away from HOC priority work as stated in HOC 3-5 year strategic plan.

EXCHANGED ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS (i.e. Fort Historic Preservation Committee)

HOC and partner organization may see mutual benefit in participating in each others organization (i.e. ability to leverage funding, letters of support, coalition building, etc). In this case, neither organization would be pay for their membership but the memberships would be "exchanged." HOC and partner organization would be included in membership lists and be asked to participated as regular members (i.e. attend meetings, volunteer, vote, etc) unless otherwise agreed upon. A designated board member would be in charge of renewing this membership agreement annually with said organization to ensure that the agreement would continue. Though there seems to be less financial and/or resource strain on HOC in this type of membership, ~~criteria like those~~ stated in the above section should be used so that HOC is selective about whom they work with and not form loosely affiliated affiliations with many numerous organizations ~~so not to water down thus diluting~~ the stature of the partnership.

MONETARY ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS (i.e. Chamber of Commerce, Town and Country R,C & D, etc)

HOC recognizes ~~that it would be of the~~ great benefit ~~to of~~ partnering with ~~numerous~~ local, regional and national organizations however HOC understands that it has limited resources to do so. In addition, HOC should be selective when discerning which organization to ~~become a member of so join, so~~ that it's resources can be most effectively used towards advancing it's mission. The following criteria should be used when making monetary membership decisions:

1. Annually, HOC commits no more than \$500 or X% of it's budget if below \$2000 to organizational memberships.
2. Local organizations will be given priority in the following order -defined as Fort Atkinson first, Jefferson County second, Rock River Basin, third, Southern Wisconsin fourth, and Wisconsin fifth-.
3. Local organizations who are working directly on action items which are highlighted in HOC 3-5 year strategic plans will be given priority.
4. ~~Start Start~~-up local (see above definition) organizations meeting our mission criteria who would otherwise not have the resources to begin

OTHER BENEFICIAL PARTNERSHIPS- ?