

Rule of One-Third

Decisions

PROCESS

- From a list of items on a flip chart, members select a third plus one as most important to them personally. (For example, if there are 12 items on a list, each person selects 5 items. They do not need to be in ranked order.)
- The facilitator asks to see hands for the first item on flip chart. The recorder counts and records these in a color distinct from other colors on the chart.
- Repeat until all items have been accounted for.
- Facilitator has the group name which items were selected most often.
- The group adopts the list.

ALTERNATIVES

- The final list is given to a subcommittee for further study and recommendation.
- Selected items are subjected to another form of analysis with the full group.
- This gets the best results when it is preceded by clarifications and advocacies.

cont.

TIPS

- This is quick and does not require extensive discussion of items.
- Let members know that the numbers will not make the decision, the group will. If the group agrees, an item that did not rate among the highest can be added to the list.
- An item that receives less than half of the votes of the people in the group, it is usually not regarded as a group priority.
- This is accurate for the top and bottom third of a list.
- Members feel heard and groups feel empowered.

NOTES AND APPLICATIONS
