<u>PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR OF THE NIH GRANT</u> - Your role already is pretty well defined in the scenario. You are at this meeting to plead the case for the research. You feel that the MPVC is putting up road blocks to your research, and that MPVC doesn't understand the pressures that you are under to implement the study. You have come to plead your case despite your expectation that the MPVC Board does not really appreciate your operation. Although somewhat inexperienced at working with community groups, you are an articulate speaker. Sometimes, you let your passion get the better of you, even though you try to be diplomatic.

<u>REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE</u> - You are the mayor's chief assistant, and command a lot of power and respect from the other participants at the meeting. You have a good working relationship with most community groups. You pay particular attention to maintaining harmony with the community representatives, but also appreciate the economic base that the university provides the city and the Middleville Community. Sometimes you may clash with any of the stakeholders who sit at the table, but you have much electoral support in the MC and you must consider this in leading the deliberations. **Yes, you begin the meeting**, because you have the position and authority to bring about a resolution to the conflict that is brewing. You try to bring harmony and compromise to the table.

LOCAL COUNCILWOMAN - You are a local business person, member of the Democratic party, and quite liberal. You thought that the NIH proposal was important and still do – that's why you signed a letter. Besides, many of the faculty at the university, including the PI of the grant, patronize your business, a local clothing store located across the main street of the University campus. You don't really see it as your job to discourage the University from bringing in research dollars, but you represent a constituency in MC that is probably has mixed views about the study, with the MPVC being most organized and vocally opposed. Last election MPVC brought out a substantial number of voters in your behalf. Because you signed a letter of support, you feel caught in the middle. You don't say much and when prompted, defer to the position taken by the representative from the mayor's office.

<u>PRESIDENT OF MPVC</u> - You see yourself as the voice of the MC community. You are a community leader, and, as such, you state you position loudly, clearly, and unequivocally. The neighborhood is largely composed of recently arrived immigrants, and the thought of having more police in the neighborhood to intrude on family life is considered intrusive and immoral. About 35% of the MPVC membership, however, are sympathetic to the need for more police, but are opposed to a research project in their community, especially one that did not discuss it when the project was being proposed. You are persistent in your objections, and take direct aim at the Principal Investigator for not consulting the MPVC.

<u>PRESIDENT OF CITY-WIDE ANTI-VIOLENCE ORGANIZATION</u> - You are very interested in the NIH proposal, and foresee it resulting in a safer city. You perceive the MPVC position as prejudiced and symptomatic of the NIMBY syndrome (Not In My Back Yard). You don't live in the MC, and have no objections to the project being implemented there and throughout the city. You object to pretty much everything the MPVC board president says.

<u>PASTOR</u> – You believe that everyone should get along. You just want this conflict to work its way out, but you don't have much time and energy to put into this issue. Your congregation is planning for a large fundraising campaign that is taking up much of your time and effort. In fact, during the meeting, your telephone rings. It's one of the funding campaign leaders who needs some immediate advice. You excuse yourself from the meeting to take the call and return a few minutes later. Even though you missed some of the meeting, you don't mind chiming in to reinforce the importance of getting along.

Robert M. Goodman, Ph.D. Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences Graduate School of Public Health University of Pittsburgh