Grid

Make a grid on the floor using tape (at least 5 squares across by 5 squares down). The facilitator will have a sheet of paper with the grid drawn on it…but his/her sheet will have Xs on certain squares, marking the path from one side of the grid to the other.

The group(s) cannot speak to each other while trying to figure out the path. For example, the first person will step on a square. If that square is not part of the path, the facilitator will tell them no and the next person will try. The entire group needs to get across using the correct path. If someone steps incorrectly, the entire group starts from scratch.

The objective is to get the group thinking about the importance of communication and teamwork and draw parallels between the activity and their real life experiences as a staff/hall government/etc.

Possible Questions:

How did you go about getting across?
How did you communicate?
How did not talking affect you?
How can you apply this to the way you work with your staff/government?
What would you do differently next time?
What worked, what didn’t?

Processing Questions:

1. Ask the various individuals to describe their experience.
2. What worked in the process? What hindered the process?
3. How did you decide on the strategy you used?
4. What role did you personally play in the exercise?
5. What critical elements in communication emerged?
6. Why is this essential as we work in teams?
7. What metaphors can you think of that this exercise may represent?