

THE LENS MEETING

The meeting was attended by graduates of the summer LENS course and the October 19-21 LENS course, and opened with singing. The conversation centered around a reading from The Journey to Ixtlan. The group then sang "A New Day," and turned to a "relate and assimilate" session on the LENS course experience. The first question was, What news have you seen in the past ten days that was meaningful in relation to LENS?

---In the events connected with the Attorney General's resigning, seeing the leaning of the Political Process as in the social imbalances analysis.

---Edgewater Community Mental Health Center had a brainstorming session, using the brainstorming methodology.

Have you used things from the course?

---I used the techniques at a meeting I was to lead Tuesday, and it works.

---I was helping someone write up a job resumé, and used the methods for getting out and organizing the data; the job was done in half the time.

What effect has LENS had on your day-to-day life?

---I'm singing more.

---I'm not as uptight about the happenings in the political process, able to take a longer view.

---I'm more conscious of how I use space, keep it neat, etc.

What implications of LENS do you see for Uptown?

---Many of the participants are related to school structures here.

What elements of the course do you see in Uptown? Social processes, etc.?

---Community elders are getting it together.

---A new proposed shopping center

To look into these last questions more, the group workshopped:

What is one thing you are excited about in Uptown, or vision in Uptown in, say, the next ten years?

---It's my home.

---A new city.

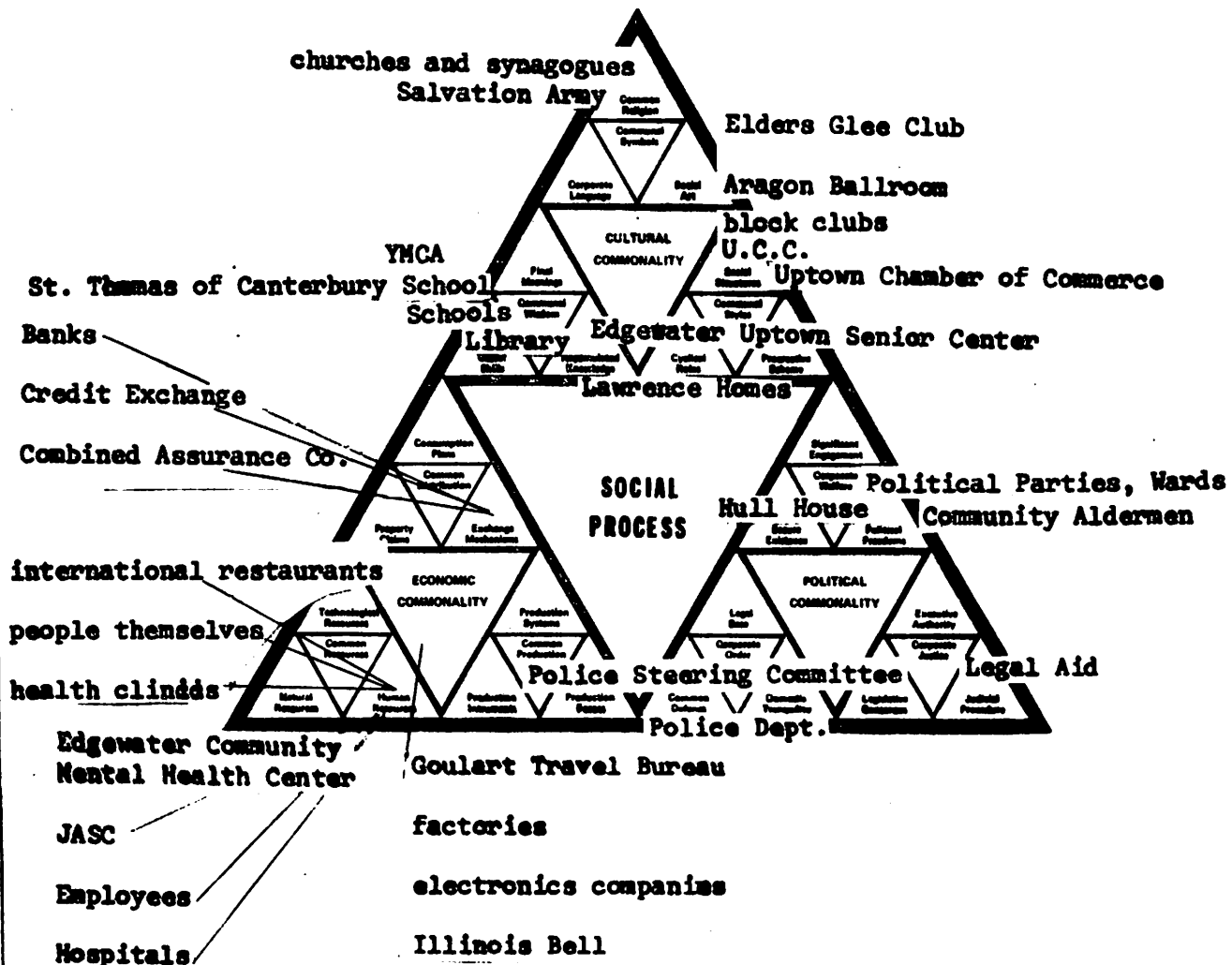
---City of the future.

---All kinds of people.

- Vision of light industry in one area, housing in the area from Broadway to the lake, and Broadway as a shopping area.
- A great city.
- A community within a city.
- Vision of a new community college.
- New respect for elders of the community.
- Again a prosperous community.
- An extension of Newtown.
- No groups pushed out, but some lifestyles encouraged to change a little.
- sign of the past's gifts.
- Global city of the U.S.
- Turning around, setting precedents which give hope.
- New urban model.
- Preschool.
- Urban unification without stagnation.
- Mall (no cars) along Broadway, with a moving sidewalk.
- Conquering destruction.
- Traffic signs in four languages.
- Rise again.
- Shopping center.
- Test tube to new world government, with leadership emerging from Uptown.
- global village, showplace of a model for the world.
- revival of the glories of the Aragon Ballroom era.
- Community-wide celebrations.
- Model community.
- Working together, concerned with people's needs.

- ---Regular cultural festivals
- Vitalized, cosmopolitan area.
- Care for the individuals within the community.
- Appreciation of the international character of the neighborhood.
- Festivals.
- The gift of the people themselves.
- An example to Downtown.
- Understanding of the social process.

The next question was, in the things going on in Uptown, what are the crucial agencies that come to mind, and where on the social process triangles would you put them?



What things do you notice about the triangle?

---Topheavy

---Only 2 things in Wisdom.

---Where would you put volunteers? Probably in Ultimate Concern, of Final Meanings.

---Nothing in Justice (legal aid was added to the diagram at this point).

What trends do you see happening in Uptown? First, in the Economic?

---More welfare.

---Consumer Rights Association producing better consumer protection.

---physical plant generally being rebuilt.

---small businesses leaving, but new ones arriving.

---new store at Wilson and Broadway.

---more goods being manufactured.

---stores with unacceptable goods leaving; economic upgrading in the quality of goods and of stores.

---more stable community; less transiency.

---more cooperation among businessmen.

---investment in Uptown.

---new housing.

---more human-rehabilitation services.

---longer banking hours.

What trends in the Political?

---more citizen participation and involvement.

---more and better representation.

---higher voter registrations.

---better visibility of politicians.

---little people getting involved.

---police workshops: increasing police-community involvement.

---improved services from the city.

---decrease in crime

Cultural trends?

---bi-lingual schools

---Chinese/Japanese

---Health

---Preschool

---Dealing with many community groups.

---Elders' community participation.

---Role of religious institutions, after a period of decline, is increasing.

---More unity.

---Less ripping-off.

---Beautification

---New college

---New middle-school.

What do you see as blocking the future?

---Wilson Avenue filled with lack of incentive.

---Major real estate agents uncooperative

---Voter apathy.

---Lack of communication, or misdirection of it.

---Real estate tax structure encourages deterioration of buildings.

---Absentee landlords.

---Overemphasis on rebuilding or new buildings, as opposed to fixing up the buildings that are there.

---Continued individual concerns.

---Lack of plan for total community.

- Decisions made outside of Uptown. (government)
- Priorities not made within the community.
- Inadequate communications between service organizations.
- Exhaustion of human resources.
- Need for a Community Node.
- Dispersed leadership. (need central)

Core issues?

- Communication: not across entire population of residents for deciding goals and needs.
- Political: upward down to us.
- Decisions made outside.

The possibility of dealing with these issues and needs is exciting. What are some of the things, in your imagination, which could be done immediately?

- Compilation of services.
- Increase services communication. (Clearing House)
- "Town Crier" image of information dissemination.
- Community newsletter.
- Systematic group outreach---contact.
- Billboards.
- Interagency Council support.
- Clean one block as a sign or symbol.
- Parade.
- Awaken people to participate.

What role can this group play?

- Utilize our ties.
- Steering Committee.
- Warehouse or storehouse for common goals, information, communications.
- Develop principles.
- Intensify Town Hall services.
- Look beyond our immediate concerns.

Creative things are happening in Uptown. We are seeing new ways to unblock the future.

Practical announcements and issues:

Next LENS course: November 16-18, at the Water Tower Hyatt House Inn. Again, \$70 per person cost. Some scholarships available. Call Audrey Ayers at 722-3444 for further information, or to register.

Expenses from the last LENS course: because of the number of scholarships, there is an outstanding hotel bill.

Total hotel bill:	\$4300
Received:	\$1800
Promised:	\$1200
Need to raise:	<u>\$1300</u>

Are there groups, businesses, etc., that you know about in Uptown that might be willing to help underwrite this and future LENS courses in Uptown?

Should this group meet again? If so, when?

---In-depth consideration of what we represent as a group; build a model of where we would like to go.

---We could bring resumés to meeting.

---Could break up into small groups for particular tasks, bringing our work back to the larger group.

The group decided on a time and place for the next meeting:

Monday, Nov. 12, at ICA, 4750 N. Sheridan
7:00 p.m. punchbowl and conversation;
7:30 p.m. sharp, meeting begins.

I send us out to be those who care for the earth.

Song: "I Can See a New Day"

Oct 19-21 LEUNG
grads

Aquilar Jose	949 W. Lawrence	561-1266
Aquilar kathleen	949 W. Lawrence	561-1266
Anderson Jay-Alvin	4874 N. Paulina	AR-14780
Aviler Carlota	5235 N. Sheridan	728-0337
Carter Golria	4843 N. Kenmore	334-6706
Cathey Carolyn	639 W. Roscoe	281-8732
Cherian G.V.	4640 N. Sheridan	769-2878
Ciesielski Dennis	820 W. Agatite	-----
Clark Warren	5030 N. Marine Dr.	271-3368
Costello Ruth M.	909 W. Foster	361-2900
Criollo Emma	4750 N. Clarendon	878-0612
Cross Dorothy	2772 E. 75th St.	374-2638
Damofle Urania	4731 Magnolia	271-5047
Davis Capt. Richard	244 N. Kedzie	334-4580
Davis Capt. Virgil-Ann	244 N. Kedzie	384-4580
Dunn Genevieve R.	1440 Sheridan	256-1479
Edwards Greta	4710 N. Sheridan	275-7312
Erazo Anita	1124 W. Addison	327-4213
Escobar Claudio	5114 N. Kenmore	275-8616
Grein Lawrence	4721 Kenmore	271-2916
Hanson Margaret	3314 Magnolia	L01-5197
Hlubik Martha L.	4740 Malden	334-5431
Hlubik Stephen A.	4740 Malden	334-5431
Kaye James	939 Castlewood	769-3737
Jennings Dennis	935 Ainslie	561-0263
Johnson Flora	645 No. Michigan	549-5272
Keane Sr. Mary J.	640 W. Irving PK. Rd.	WE5-7045
Larahan Sr. Jean M.	640 W. Irving PK. Rd.	WE5-7045
Lazo Joy	4823 No. Magnolia	784-5871
Levinson Miriam	8843 Robin Dr.	296-8948
Lutis Louise	434 Wellington	273-4560
Mackey Gladys	5030 Marine Dr.	334-5944
Legarda Alejandro	925 Carmen	728-0337
Legarda Olga	925 Carmen	728-0337
Melchiorre Florence	1121 Compton Pt.	543-1203
Melchiorre Michael	1121 Compton Pt.	543-1203
New Trudy	909 W. Foster	878-8325
Nishimoto Robert	2025 W. Balmoral	RA8-2522
Odanaka Fred H.	6090 N. Kimball	267-3873
O'Donnell Harriet	2449 W. Leland	275-3699
Older Molly	3629 N. Pine Grove	281-4383
Oullette Zulma	810 W. Lakeside	769-3827
Parkhurst Orville	909 W. Foster	L01-2900
Randall John duncan	5257 Magnolia	RA8-6161
Ringstrom Sonia	5434 N. Wayne	RA8-4568
Rush Richard	3619 N. Janssen	SA9-6506
Rodriguez Cesar	4650 N. Sheridan	878-3028
Sabath Robert A.	7655 N. Sheridan	262-4507
Schneider Linda	1112 W. Ardmore #3	784-3987
Schr Alexa	1300 N. Dearborn	WH4-6250

Scudiero Duminick	820 Armitage	275-7997
Sourelis Grace	5030 Marine Dr.	878-4948
Stark Nancy MS	5415 N. Sheridan	-----
Tellez Alejandro	4717 N. Winthrop	728-0337
Temple Eleanor	8014 S. Justine	723-4238
Vendl Beverly	2No28 Linda (Wheaton)	665-8836
Vendl donald	2No28 Linda (Wheaton)	665-8836
Watts Joyce H.	22 N.Quincy (Hinsdale)	654-8973
Watts Ralda	22 N.Quincy (Hinsdale)	654-8973
Webster Fae	4428 N. Magnolia	769-1433
Zerwin Mitchell	1940 W. Foster	744-8330