

UPTOWN 5 CONGRESS

QUARTER III

TASK FORCE REPORTS AND PROPOSALS

MARCH 1975

UPTOWN 5 TASK FORCE DESIGN				
ECONOMIC	CULTURAL			POLITICAL
TASK FORCE	EDUCATION TASK FORCE	SYMBOL TASK FORCE	STYLE TASK FORCE	TASK FORCE
COMMUNITY ECONOMICS	COMMUNITY EDUCATION	COMMUNITY SYMBOL	COMMUNITY STYLE	COMMUNITY CONSENSUS

ECONOMIC TASK FORCE REPORT



THE ECONOMIC TASK FORCE of Uptown 5 is responsible for working with the business community to enable the future development of economic services in Uptown for the benefit of all its citizens out of responsibility for the new urban culture.

THE ECONOMIC TASK FORCE reports the following accomplishments of the past quarter:

1. The task of caring for the more than fifty city blocks in Uptown 5 was towards the everyday cleaning of Uptown streets. A problem-solving group met in January on the weekend of the 18th. From 9 o'clock Saturday morning until 5:00 p.m. Saturday, a group of Uptown citizens thought through the issue of creating visible signs and what effect such signs would have in Uptown 5. In February, two weekends were set aside to test the PSU model by sweeping streets and hanging decor in the community.
2. Also in February, two problem-solving sessions were held on Saturday's to examine one of the critical issues about Uptown housing. That issue has to do with decision, or how does a community make up its mind. Landlords, property managers, and renters came up with a model for a big event in the Spring to be held throughout all of Uptown 5. The model calls for one housing PSU to be held simultaneously in 5 different locations in Uptown 5 on the same day. Using the same methods and tools, each location will examine one of the five wards and decide the type and quantity of housing for every building. In addition, a decision would be made about all the empty lots in a ward and how they should be used. The final product will be the assembling of these five reports and the creation of a broad based community decision. A funding proposal was written to cover the expenses.
3. Efforts continued through the businessmen's task force to give support to the Wilson Avenue project being supported by the Uptown Chamber of Commerce and Model Cities. A series of cluster meetings with small businessmen is scheduled for early next quarter. Plans are underway for increased involvement of Uptown businesses in the Spring Festival and for increased participation in events like the Housing PSU.

EDUCATION TASK FORCE REPORT



THE EDUCATION TASK FORCE of Uptown 5 is responsible for seeing that effective community education, relevant to the needs of all the citizens of Uptown be brought into being so that all citizens are equipped to be responsible participants in building the future.

THE EDUCATION TASK FORCE reports the following accomplishments of the past quarter:

1. The regular quarterly LENS seminar, "Living Effectively in the New Society", was held again for Uptown residents, but with a new twist. The seminar for the Uptown Community Experiment was held together with other community experiments from the Chicago area: Oak Park, 5th City, Mundelein, Harvey and Irving Park. Over 60 people attended from these communities; Uptown 5 was represented by ten residents. It was a great course which found housewives, teachers, nurses, businessmen, school principals, factory workers, and college students--intensely engaged in workshops analyzing the social processes of their communities.
2. Advanced training of Guild leadership took several forms this quarter, but an exciting first was participation in the Global Academy. Paul Hyler and Cliff Wilson participated in the eight week resident training program as the first Uptown Guilders to do so.
3. Also, advanced training took the form of participation by six Guilders in the Social Methods School of last December. For four days we worked with people from community experiments across the entire North American Continent to train ourselves in effective methods for engagement in local communities. One of the highlights of the school was a tour of 5th City, the foundation for all the other 100 communities.
4. University 13 continues preparation; of its 26 courses 21 have had extensive preparation done, 11 are ready to teach. Consultations are continuing with the YMCA College and other institutions for U-13 accreditation. Proposals for funding to secure a building are being written for submission.

SYMBOL TASK FORCE REPORT



THE SYMBOL TASK FORCE of Uptown 5 is responsible for the conscious celebration of authentic human life in the 20th century community through methods of song, story, ritual and symbol creation.

THE SYMBOL TASK FORCE reports the following accomplishments of the past quarter:

1. Task force activity took many forms this quarter, and especially striking was the week-end spent in creating decor to be placed in the Uptown 5 community. In each of the five wards, a blue and white four foot art form has been displayed in a business window or in an empty store window. The art forms show people creating the future in Uptown 5, and tell the story of the significance of such work.
2. On week 4, February 1, a problem-solving group met all day Saturday to look at the issue of community celebrations in Uptown 5. Various national and local celebrations of a patriotic, religious, and cultural character were assembled into one inclusive picture. Uptown 5 now has a yearly calendar which depicts the celebrative life of the community. Ancient and modern seasonal festivals which highlight the celebrative year are named. They show how a common community rhythm of celebration might develop.
3. Guild exchange visits were inaugurated this quarter when several Uptown 5 Guilders attended the 5th City Congress. In 5th City, the Congress is held only once a year so this was a significant occasion to launch the Guild exchange program. Uptown 5 guilders attended also the Chicago Regional Community Exchange Consultation. Participants were present from the other five community experiments in Oak Park, Mundelein, 5th City, Harvey and Irving Park.
4. This quarter saw the further development of the Uptown 5 Community experiment, when the Guild core and the Galaxy auxiliary began meeting regularly on Tuesday evenings. The gathering begins with a supper meal, and includes a conversation, a study and a workshop. The symbol which holds together this meeting of the secular and the religious has been called a cadre.

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5. The Annual Uptown 5 Christmas Caroling event was held December 20, 1974 with over 200 people participating from all five wards and seven churches represented. Its impact carried into this quarter and set the tone for further selfconscious forms of celebration of authentic life in Uptown.

6. This quarter saw the development of the Clergy Collegium which included three from Uptown and represented five churches. They met regularly, planned sermons, studied a book in common and discussed means for corporately sponsering an Easter Sunrise Service.

7. The auxiliary of the Uptown 5 Galaxy continued to meet weekly and began meeting regularly as part of the cadre to implement further Symbol Task Force events.

STYLE TASK FORCE REPORT



THE STYLE TASK FORCE of Uptown 5 is responsible for the effective engagement of all the age groups in the community; children, young adults, adults, and elders, through creating a comprehensive care network for urban communities.

THE STYLE TASK FORCE reports the following accomplishments of the past quarter:

1. The elders' LENS seminars, "Living Effectively in the New Society", were a great success this quarter four seminars were held: Camen Manor, the Brightview Manor, Lawrence House and 5040 N. Kanmore CHA. Over 200 elders participated in these seminars.
2. After two quarters of elders' seminars, twelve elders met to launch the Elders Node in Uptown 5. The overall task of the Node is to catalyze the re-engagement and care for the more than 7,000 elders in Uptown 5, as a sign of relevant elder engagement in the 20th century. Temporarily, the Node meets at the I.C.A. building and conducts its activities from there. A search is now underway to locate a facility for the Node in Uptown 5, and proposals are now being written to fund the Node activities.
3. The style and tasks of community care in an urban setting have taken a big step forward this quarter. A care model emphasizing the physical care of Uptown 5, was created out of a series of conversations and workshops at the Thursday evening Ward meetings. The model is now called the Community Care Services League, and you may have seen the model in action when some Uptown citizens appeared on the streets sweeping on weekends or hanging decor on another.

POLITICAL TASK FORCE REPORT



THE POLITICAL TASK FORCE of Uptown 5 is responsible for creating the forms that will enable our community to make corporate decisions about the future of Uptown.

THE POLITICAL TASK FORCE reports the following accomplishments of the part quarter:

1. "Doing the work of Uptown 5" was the slogan for the ongoing task forces of the guild. Every other weekend, Uptown 5 citizens were active in task forces doing the necessary work; this task force was responsible for coordinating the efforts.
2. Again, the task force produced a handout brochure for distribution throughout Uptown 5. This quarter a new type of brochure was experimented with. In October, two brochures were produced detailing and announcing the weekend work. This quarter, the problem-solving and the task forcing were combined into one brochure. 1,000 of these were printed and distributed. As a result, 100 Uptown citizens participated in the PSU weekends and 80 citizens in the Task Force weekends.
3. The first issue of the "Voice of Uptown 5" newspaper was produced this quarter for distribution in the Uptown community. Stories and articles were solicited from the community. An editorial group appeared to do the actual copy writing as well as the proof reading. A photographer was present at Uptown 5 events to secure photos which might be used in the newspaper. People worked through the week and on weekends. A consultation was held with the 5th City guild, since they have been producing the 5th City Voice for the last eight years. It was exciting to see the newspaper take form as we experiment with was news a global-local community needs to be informed today.