

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 businessmen 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

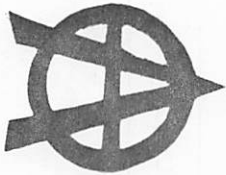


THE STYLE TASK FORCE of Uptown 5 is responsible for the effective engagement of all the age groups in the community; children, young adults, adults, and elders, through creating a comprehensive care network for urban communities.

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.

TASK FORCE PROPOSALS FOR QUARTER IV, APRIL - JUNE, 1975

The Economic Task Force proposes:

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1. That an economic development problem-solving weekend be held in early June. The main product will be an Uptown 5 economic development brochure detailing the present situation and the future possibilities. Representation from the business community as well as the community-at-large will be needed.
  2. That the guild continue to work with Uptown businessmen. Therefore, we suggest the completion of Wilson Avenue store front beautification project. Informal and formal meetings ~~should~~ continue with the businessmen, and the guild ~~should~~ continue to attend meetings of the Chamber of Commerce. Finally, businessmen ~~should~~ be encouraged to attend guild meetings and planning events.
  3. That a community-wide Housing problem-solving event be held on the Saturday of May 10, 1975. It shall be held simultaneously at these five locations: McCutcheon School, Goudy School, Stewart School, the Clarendon Field House and People's Church. Each ward will be responsible for getting its people to participate so that 200 people, at least, will be at each location. An ongoing task force will be created to follow through the detailed work of creating the May 10th event, getting it funded, staffing the event, doing the preparatory research and ensuring the management. Landlords, property owners, renters, building managers and businessmen are some of the people who need to be present on that day.

The Education Task Force proposes:

1. That Uptown 5 sponsor the regular, quarterly LENS in week 4, April 25, 26 and 27. This seminar will focus on inviting participants from the Uptown area especially, as well as residents from the other 4 proto parishes. We also propose that supplementary scholarships be sought for Uptown 5 residents and that a committee be formed to secure a rent-free resident location for the seminar.
2. That experimental education programs continue to be explored and tested in Uptown 5 this coming quarter. Therefore, we propose the continued systematic teaching of the LENS course to elders, but with a new format which shortens the 5-session course. We propose, also, that participation be intensified so that 500 elders attend this spring quarter.
3. That we begin training a LENS faculty composed of Uptown 5 LENS graduates. Therefore, we propose the Guild establish pedagogy training opportunities, and that 20 Guilders begin attending the weekend and elders' LENS seminars in the role of "participant observers".

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4. That University 13 decide on a location for the course and complete the extension discussions with YMCA Central College.
5. That the Uptown preschool begin in the Fall of 1975. Therefore, that the faculty be chosen and assignments made for teachers to take the Imaginal Education course for preschool teachers before the start of the school. That funding be established in connection with the businessmen's task force.

The Symbol Task Force proposes:

1. That a great celebrative event be held in Uptown 5 this Spring, which would be a community-wide event. This celebration would take place in late June and would be modeled after the "Intercultural Festival" of last June. Uptown 5 churches, community organizations, and clubs, businesses and entertainment groups would be invited to participate. The theme could be "Uptown 5, Unity in Our Diversity". It should be held in an outdoor location, with easy public access and much public visibility.
2. That a large copy of the Uptown grid be distributed to every household in Uptown 5 suitable for home decor. This should be prepared for community-wide distribution in April.
3. That a revised version of the Uptown 5 story be published for community distribution and spiritization. The story should include: a) what Uptown 5 is, b) what Uptown 5 has done, c) why Uptown 5 is being done, d) what is the future of Uptown 5.
4. That the Uptown 5 Galaxy Miracles planned by the galaxy be pursued together with people from the guild and the churches. The miracle events for the quarter include intensified RS-1 participation, a 5th City visit event for the churches and the guild, and a series of ice cream socials. This will also include plans for Quarter 1 miracles of Town Meeting, Clean Up Week and a full galaxy of churches in both Uptown 5 and Uptown 2.

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The Style Task Force proposes:

1. That the ward care network be expanded to the stake level. This can happen with the launching of a pilot stake experiment in each ward during May. The wards will expand their working lists of contacts to 100 names, and increase the Ward meeting attendance to 25 people. By April, each ward will have chosen the stake in which to do its pilot experiment in May.
2. That the Community Care Services League undertake a community-wide tree planting event within the boundaries of Uptown 5. Working with the City of Chicago, trees will be secured for 600 sites in Uptown 5. A weekend, or several week day afternoons, in late March or early April will be scheduled, and the ward leaderships will be contacted about details and troops to do the planting in each ward.

3. That the Uptown 5 community have an all-day clean-up day. In June, before the Intercultural Festival, a weekend can be set aside to clean all the streets, sidewalks and alleys in Uptown 5. Windows can be cleaned, flowers planted and buildings spruced up, generally. Fifty people from each ward will be involved, with special attention paid to the symbols of care, the ward mini-parks.
4. That the Uptown 5 youth program be developed. A task group should be set up to research youth recreational and extra curricular activities in Uptown and the greater Chicago area. Transportation, funding and adult leadership would also be the concern of this work group.

The Political Task Force proposes:

1. That the "Voice of Uptown 5" be expanded from four to eight pages in Quarter IV. This is to be seen as another phase in our experiment in a community newspaper. Funding of the paper shall be pursued so that expenses can be met. In addition, by the end of the Summer Quarter, September, a recommendation should be presented to the guild as to whether the "Voice of Uptown 5" should appear monthly rather than quarterly.
2. That a Town Meeting be held in Uptown 5 focusing on the Bi-Centennial celebration. A PSU should be held in April to think through what it might mean to participate in this national celebration. This PSU would build the initial models and propose a date for the Town Meeting.
3. That the bi-weekly problem-solving sessions be continued this coming quarter. The guild will review its brooding list of critical issues, the proposals of this Congress, and the guild battleplan to discern the thrust of the PSU's this quarter. It will then produce a handout brochure for distribution by March 29th.