

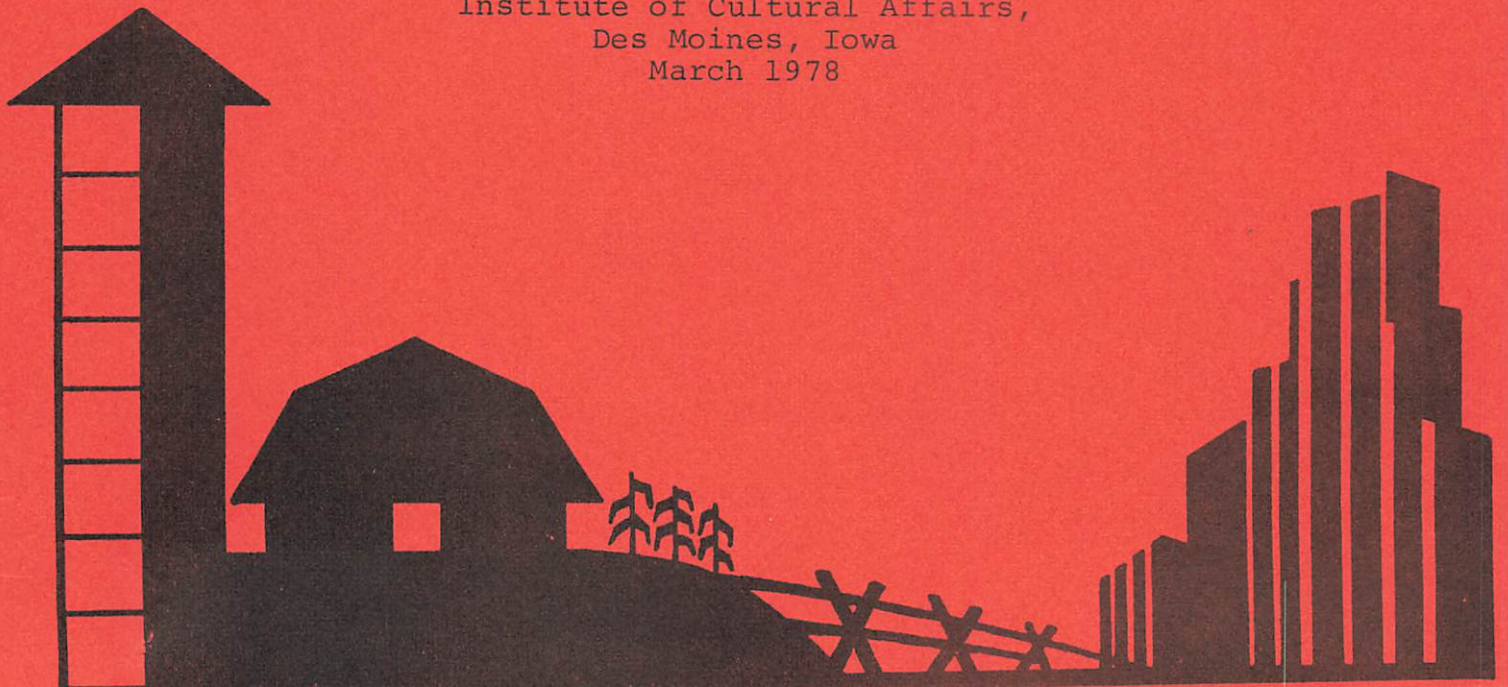


TOWN MEETING: IOWA

"TOWARD A PRACTICAL VISION OF
THE FUTURE OF SMALL RURAL
COMMUNITIES"

A composite report based on
the work of 3000 local citizens
in 80 Town Meetings held throughout Iowa
in communities with populations under
1000

Prepared by staff and volunteers of the
Institute of Cultural Affairs,
Des Moines, Iowa
March 1978



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Church, Des Moines

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Des Moines

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Council Bluffs

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D. D. S.
Cedar Rapids

Town Meeting was developed by the Institute of Cultural Affairs, a not-for-profit corporation engaged in community development around the world. In 1975, pilot Town Meetings were held in 100 communities across the United States. In 1976, 500 Town Meetings helped our nation celebrate the Bicentennial. In 1977 Iowa became one of the first states to launch a state-wide Town Meeting campaign.

Institute of Cultural Affairs
Town Meeting: Iowa
1459 Keo Way
Des Moines, Iowa 50314
515/244-8271

A QUOTE

In a real sense, problems do not exist. They are abstractions from real situations. The real situations from which they are abstracted are messes. A mess is a system of interacting problems. Planning should be concerned with messes--not problems.

The solution to a mess is not equal to the sum of the solution to its parts. The solution to its parts should be derived from a solution to the whole--not vice versa.

The question of priorities is misleading. All messes should be dealt with simultaneously and interactively.

We waste too much time trying to forecast the future. The future depends more on what we do between now and then than it does on what has happened up to now. The thing to do with the future is not to forecast it, but to create it. The objective of planning should be to design a desirable future and to invent ways of bringing it about.

--Russell Ackoff
Telegram, Council for
Urban Economic Development

March 18, 1978

GREETINGS FROM ROBERT D. RAY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF IOWA

I am pleased to extend my greetings on the occasion of this statewide Town Meeting. I only wish my schedule was such that I could personally join you for what promises to be an interesting and stimulating meeting.

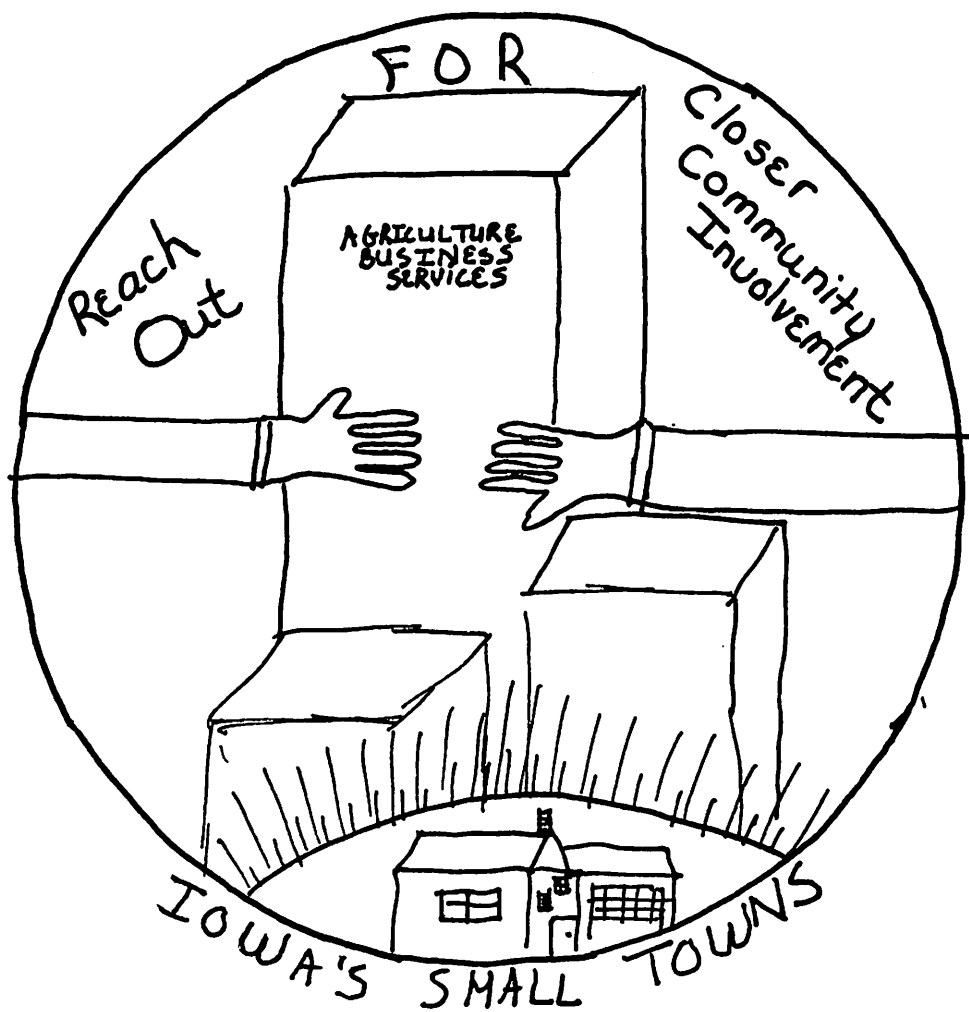
As you gather, you do so with the knowledge that you live and work in a state with a strong tradition of citizen involvement in government. For decades Iowans have fought to make meaningful contributions to the decision making process in our state. And they have. Most recently, Iowans have spurred the Iowa 2000 program through their participation in decisions related to life enhancement in the closing years of this century.

Today as you gather for this Town Meeting Assembly, you too are helping to shape the future course and direction of Iowa and its communities. I appreciate your willingness to join in this work, and I offer my best wishes for a successful assembly.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Ray
Governor

TOWN MEETING ASSEMBLY SYMBOL



TOWN MEETING ASSEMBLY STORY

The past was a time of neighborly concern for others. It was a period of creating your own diversions because transportation limited areas of activity. Local trust among small towns prevailed.

Today the development of transportation has directly caused the deterioration of small town Economy, but, the people are returning despite the hardships of commuting to Big City Employment.

The transition of people from the rural to the city in the past two decades is reversing due to the fact that they realized the 'Pot of Gold' was not in the Big City, but actually in their own back yard. Now, instead of the end, we small town people may be viewing the beginning.

TOWN MEETING ASSEMBLY SONG

SMALL TOWN IOWA
TUNE: HEY LOOK ME OVER

Hey, Look at Iowa
It's a great State to see
With all it's small towns and communities

Hey, we're from Iowa
We've a lot to give
One of those small towns in Iowa is the
place you'll want to live

We've so much to offer, don't put us down
Community and families, fun for everyone
So join together and help us grow,
we'll soon be on our way.

Oh, come on folks join us today.

CLUES TO WHAT COMMUNITY IS
Keynote Address by Kit Krauss
State Director
Institute of Cultural Affairs

A shared or common experience of:

- SPACE: created space, personal bond - Rhodes Park
- TIME: actively engaged in history - Russell, Iowa
- CARE: participate in Life Journey of others - Friendly Neighbor Clubs
- CAUSE: contribute to something larger - Iowa feeds the world
- PROFUNDITY: rehearse the profundity or greatness of who you are -
Humphrey Funeral

YOUR TOWN

If you want to live in the kind of a town,
Like the kind of a town you like;
You don't need to put your clothes in a grip
And start on a long, long hike.
For you'll only find, what you left behind,
There is really nothing new;
It's a knock at yourself, when you knock your town,
It isn't your town--it's YOU!

Real towns are not made by men afraid
lest somebody else get ahead;
When everyone works and nobody shirks,
You can raise a town from the dead.
And if while you make your personal stake,
Your neighbor can make one too;
Your town will be, what you want to see,
It isn't your town--it's YOU!

--Anonymous

A poem recited by W.P. McNeil at the close of the Town Meeting Assembly, Saturday, March 18, 1978.

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INTRODUCTION

AIM

The following is a composite report based on the work of 3000 local citizens in 80 'town meetings' held throughout Iowa in communities with population under 1000.

The aim of the report is to make the results of the small rural community town meetings practically available to communities, and anyone interested in their future and well-being.

It represents the vision of local people, their perception of the issues blocking their vision and what they see they can do to tackle these issues locally.

VITAL STATISTICS

The meetings were held on a one per county basis over a five month period, November 1977 through March 1978. Of the 80 meetings, 25 were held in communities in the under 250 population range with an average attendance of 31. The largest number of meetings, 45 were held in communities with populations between 250 and 500. For this group the average attendance was 40. The remaining 15 meetings were in communities of 500 to 1000 population with an average attendance of 44.

All of the meetings were open to both town and country people and it is felt that, overall, a good balance was achieved. In many of the meetings people talked briefly about the length of time they had lived in the community and in most cases there was a surprisingly good range of 'old timers' and 'new comers'. The fact that most of the meetings began with a pot luck supper and because there was usually a major effort at personal invitation, many of the meetings drew people outside of the "active few". However, one group which tended to be under represented was the highschool age group.

STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

The structure of this report follows exactly the flow of the town meetings themselves. Section I, The Operating Vision is based on a "Hopes and Dreams" brainstorm, which is the first major step in the workshop procedure (see Appendix D). The question which each group answered was "what would you like to see this community be like in the next 10-15 years".

Section II, The Present Challenges is based on a workshop which began with the question "Relative to your list of hopes and dreams, what are the present issues in or facing the community which would hinder or block their realization," of "If you were to try to implement these hopes and dreams what would you have to overcome to be successful." These 'blocks' were then grouped and discussed, and then summarized as a basic challenge facing the community.

Section III, The Futuric Proposals, is based on a second workshop which begins with the question "for each of the basic challenges we've identified, what are practical, doable ways which the community can respond?" These responses were then grouped and discussed, and then summarized in the form of "Practical Proposals" statements.

Section IV, The Activating Events is based on the practical proposals statements. Within each proposal statement were mentioned specific events or activities which would "activate" the proposals intent in that given community. The charts in this section were produced by workshop groups during the Town Meeting Assembly, using lists of events and activities from the original town meeting documents.

The Appendices are largely self-explanatory and are intended to give a more complete picture of the town meeting project and its impact to date.

I. THE OPERATING VISION

At the beginning of each Town Meeting, the question is asked, "What are your hopes and dreams for this community 10 or 15 years down the road?" Everyone has a chance to talk about the things they would like to see happen-- perhaps it's a new park, more places to shop or even a community festival.

It is out of these hopes for the future that the operating vision of the community emerges, and from it they decide what issues in the community need to be addressed.

The Operating Vision Chart was derived from the Hopes and Dreams conversations at the Town Meetings. The Hopes and Dreams fall into three major categories, a) toward refocusing the local economy b) toward achieving community vitality, and c) toward creating an attractive environment.

I. OPERATING VISION CHART

A summary of the existing operating vision of the people in small rural communities as indicated by the lists of Hopes and Dreams from 30 Town Meetings

A. TOWARD REFOCUSING the LOCAL ECONOMY in the arenas of				B. TOWARD ACHIEVING COMMUNITY VITALITY					C. TOWARD CREATING an ATTRACTIVE ENVIRONMENT IN the arenas of				
COMMERCIAL SERVICES		SUPPORTING INDUSTRIES		EXTERNAL RELATIONS	COMMUNITY INTERACTION	BASIC FACILITIES			AVAILABLE HOUSING	COMMUNITY APPEARANCE			
Stimulating the LOCAL market	Community Education	Keeping Agricultural Base	Transportation	Improving Public Image	Retail Heritage	Encouraging Cooperation and Planning	Public Spirit	Insuring Health and Safety	Law enforcement	Expanding number and types of Units	Senior	Encouraging Clean-Up and Beautification	Remove Eyesores
	Coordinated Advertising		Storage and Marketing		Create attractions		Common Goals		Fire		Low rent		Renovate Main Street
	Market Research		Services		Promote Advantages		Leadership Coordination		Medical		Quality and Safety Controls		Care For Public Areas
	Market Promotion			Research	broad based Involvement	Emergency	Landscape Homes						
Starting On Keeping Appropriate LOCAL Business	Restaurant And Groceries	Gaining Small manufacturing or Service Industry	Employment	Right full share from Bureacracy	Correspondence	Community Wide Programs	Varied Programs	Improved Standard of Living	Water and Sewer	Encouraging maintenance and Renovation	Zoning	Planning Land Use	Historical Sites
	Household Supplies and Services		tax base	Establishing Communication with Representatives	County		Providing More Enrichment Opportunities		Regular Events		Gas and Electric		Trash
	Leisure		new people		State	Federal	Youth	Accommodating Community Activities	Education		Improvement Incentives		
	Financial And Legal				Meetings and gatherings		Recreation for All Ages	Adult	Church			Best Use	

II. THE PRESENT CHALLENGES

The Present Challenges workshop began with the question, "Relative to your list of hopes and dreams, what are the present issues in or facing the community which would hinder or block their realization." These blocks were then grouped and discussed, and summarized as a basic challenge facing the community.

These challenges from all the communities were then grouped and ordered according to the number of times they appeared. Reading the chart from left to right, it is organized such that the most commonly expressed issues are on the left. The numbers in the boxes refer to the number of times that the issue arena appeared in a Town Meeting report.

II. Present CHALLENGES Chart

A Summary of the Issues blocking the realization of the Vision of Small Rural Communities

CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT 81	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 62	INFORMATION COMMUNICATION 59	POPULATION DILEMMA 43	LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT 37	COMMUNITY DISSENTION 36	COMMUNITY SPIRIT 36	GOVERNMENTAL INTERFACING 31	STRUCTURAL INADEQUACY 31	REFOCUSING VISION 21
No Interest in Community 23	Limited resources 20	Need Communication to Government 20	Need to increase housing and Land sites 20	No one wants Responsibility 20	NON-COOPERATION 12	Lack of Pride in Community 19	Government Systems exclude Local 12	Fixed incomes 15	Unwilling to Risk 9
CITIZEN un-involvement 16	not enough Industry or Business 14	Need Communication from Government 15	Nothing to hold youth 11	Too few leaders 13	lack of agreement 7	Need for Creative Thinking 11	Distribution of Federal Resources 9	inadequate facilities 12	Reluctant to Change 7
Door support for Local Business 14	Inadequate tax base 14	Powerless from Ignorance 9	Population too small 11	Human Resources SPREAD too thin 8	Dis-unity 7	Depreciating town image 6	Bureacracy 8	traditional problem-solving 4	
Interest Primarily in self 11	Not enough incoming money 10	Uninformed Public 7		lack of leadership skills 4	Poor Coordination of groups 6			Poor community administration 4	no competition 1
lack of motivation 11	Financing means 9	Need specific know-how 4	site limits revenue 3		conflicting interests 4		sense of Powerlessness 2		
"too busy" excuse 6		Need Community Education 4							

III. THE FUTURIC PROPOSALS

The Futuric Proposals chart on the next page represents the practical activities proposed by 3000 participants in 80 Iowa Town Meetings. These practical proposals were identified as activities that community residents could do which would begin to effectively deal with the underlying challenges identified earlier in the meetings.

The proposals grouped themselves into 5 types: Economic Development, Physical Improvements, Community Involvement, Community Identity and Basic Services. Under each type of proposal are four specific proposal areas. The heaviest weight of proposals was in Community Involvement. More than 25% of all proposals were of this type. The other four types of proposal groups were closely interrelated with each other and hinged on increased community involvement.

III THE FUTURIC PROPOSALS CHART

Community ECONOMIC + PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT		Community MOTIVATION + ENGAGEMENT	Community SERVICES + COMMUNICATION	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS	PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENTS PROPOSALS	COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROPOSALS	COMMUNITY IDENTITY PROPOSALS	BASIC SERVICES PROPOSALS
New Industry	Clean-up + Beautification	Planning + Coordination	Community Symbols	Public Utilities
Local Business Support	Business District Rehabilitation	All Community Projects	Community Resources	Law Enforcement
Business Expansion	Housing Expansion	Community Meetings	Internal Communication	Youth Opportunities
Assistance Research	Housing Rehabilitation	New Comers	Advertise Community	Senior Engagement

ACTIVATING EVENTS

The following Activating Events Charts were prepared during the State Assembly.

The specific suggestions and events used in the workshops were taken from proposals made in the Town Meetings. From these the group chose the four events they thought would most effectively activate the intent of their proposal arena. Then they created the implementing steps for these events. These charts indicate the results.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

PROPOSAL ARENA PROPOSALS

PROPOSAL TITLE: NEW INDUSTRY

IOWA ASSEMBLY March 18, 1978

INTENT SENTENCE:
(why)

- To start and maintain growth
- To enhance desirability of living in the area

(what)

ACTIVATING EVENTS

(Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Attract small Industry	Investigate loans and grants	Research possibilities thru Iowa Commerce Commission, etc.	Use existing buildings
------------------------	------------------------------	--	------------------------

(How, who, etc.)

IMPLEMENTING STEPS

1 Work and establish a zoning committee	1 Government lending	1 County Extension Service	1 Force Owner to tear down or remodel
2 Area resources - ie - transportation labor force	2 Local backing	2 Consult with Legislators	2 Remodel as a Community Project
3 Promote thru Development Committee	3	3	3
4	4	4	4

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INTENT SENTENCE:
(why)

ATTRACT MORE RETAIL BUSINESS TRAFFIC FOR TOWN

(what)

ACTIVATING EVENTS

(Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Develop publicity to gain support of community	Search for potential employers	Advertise pamphlet	Housing Task Force
--	--------------------------------	--------------------	--------------------

(How, who, etc.)

IMPLEMENTING STEPS

12

Newspaper posters 1	Develop industrial development community 1	Town meeting 1	Committee to evaluate need 1
Town Meetings 2	Advertise in newspaper 2	Develop industrial committee 2	Have council look at annexation 2
Support town council 3	Finance existing business for expansion 3	Include town organizations (churches, etc.) 3	Find developer 3
Radio 4			

INTENT SENTENCE: Fund research committee in order to become aware of the maximum assistance available for particular projects and general development.
(why)

(what) ACTIVATING EVENTS (Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Form Committees	Making Information Available to Public	Involve Public Service and Church Groups	Control Small Town Discrimination
-----------------	--	--	-----------------------------------

(How, who, etc.) IMPLEMENTING STEPS

1 Contact a cross section of the community	1 Newsletters and citizens	1 Provide knowledgeable speakers on subjects pertaining to towns	1 Work with another town to share expenses on projects we can't fund ourselves --law enforcement
2 Appoint committee members	2 Brochure to possible new businesses	2	2
3 Explore experiences of other communities	3 Media Advertising	3	3
4 Contact proper offices of federal and state governments for assistance	4	4	4

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PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENTS PROPOSALS		PROPOSAL TITLE: CLEAN-UP & BEAUTIFICATION		IOWA ASSEMBLY March 18, 1978		
PROPOSAL ARENA:						
INTENT SENTENCE: (why) To provide a good visual impression for permanent residents and travelers; to create a safer and a healthier environment and to promote community self-satisfaction.						
(what) ACTIVATING EVENTS (Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)						
Tree planting project		On-going cleanup project		Plantings for public buildings: churches, business districts, hospitals.		
Promotion of present park facilities.						
(How, who, etc.) IMPLEMENTING STEPS						
14	Develop an overall planting plan. 1		Develop overall plan with goals and objectives. 1		Develop a plan and appoint a committee. 1	
	Locate a donor, ie. local bank, FFA chapter, other local or government source 2		Enlist support of local service groups, youth, business 2		Secure permission and support of local building owners. 2	
	Find a group to do planting. 3		Explore need for local ordinances. 3		Raise funds to support projects. (ie, bake sales, etc.) 3	
	Publicize new facilities to encourage greater use. 3					
	Insure continuing care through service organizations and project green thumb. 4		As part of overall program, hold a beautification week and project awards. 4		Organize volunteers to carry out the project. 4	
Insure good ongoing maintenance. 4						

INTENT SENTENCE:
(why)

To improve the downtown appearance:

(what)

ACTIVATING EVENTS

(Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Contact building owners and town council and sell them on the idea

Contact a consulting firm to draw up a picture of what the downtown restored would look like

Visit other towns that have done it with local businessmen

Contact financial sources to discuss possible funding

(How, who, etc.)

IMPLEMENTING STEPS

1 Get a committee together

1 Find out local contact

1 Take pictures

1 Visit town council meeting

2 Visit consulting firm

2 Send committee to investigate

2 Ask how they funded

2 New Zoning ordinances

3

3

3 Get an idea cost involved

3 Visit owners of buildings

4

4

4 Find out results obtained and comments after improvements were made

4

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PROPOSAL ARENA: PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL TITLE : HOUSING EXPANSION

IOWA ASSEMBLY March 18, 1978

INTENT SENTENCE:
(why)

IN ORDER TO MAKE MORE HOUSING AVAILABLE

(what)

ACTIVATING EVENTS

(Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Form Non-Profit Organization
to Create New Housing

Develop Low Rent Property
for Low Income People

Develop New Subdivision

Restore Unoccupied Housing

(How, who, etc.)

IMPLEMENTING STEPS

Publicize Purpose of Group
1

Form Organization
1

Check Zoning Laws and
1 Purchase Land

Form Organization or Encourage
Local Organizations to Take
1 on the Project

Formation of Interested
People
2

Contact FHA
2

Hire Engineer to Plan
Subdivision
2

Identify Unoccupied
Housing
2

Pool Money
3

Secure Land, Have Access,
and Plan
3

Hire Contractors
3

Purchase Houses
3

Form Plan and Expedite
4

Raise Local Share and
Let Bids
4

Sell Lots
4

Restore by Local Help
and Contractors
4

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INTENT SENTENCE:
(why)

TO BEAUTIFY THE TOWN:

(what) ACTIVATING EVENTS (Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Available Funding	Youth Summer Jobs	Green Thumb Program	Local Groups to help elderly
-------------------	-------------------	---------------------	------------------------------

(How, who, etc.) IMPLEMENTING STEPS

Identify someone to assist with application 1	Contact Government Summer Youth Program 1	Contact City Council 1	Contact Groups 1
Locate funding alternatives (HUD, F.H.A.) 2	Contact Church Groups 2	City Council Apply for loan 2	The needs 2
Make available information 3	Contact Youth Groups 3	Take applications 3	Who to handle funding 3
Offer Assistance 4	Contact Slave Day or Rent A Kid 4	Deciding on the jobs to do 4	Chairman of the Program 4

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PROPOSAL ARENA: Community PROPOSAL TITLE Planning and coordination IOWA ASSEMBLY March 18, 1978

+/+/+/+/+/+/+ Involvement
 INTENT SENTENCE:
 (why)
 To meet the needs of the majority of the public.

(what)		ACTIVATING EVENTS	(Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)
Poll community needs	Develop community coordination group	Develop community action group	Assess needs accomplish accomplish

(How, who, etc.)		IMPLEMENTING STEPS	
door to door assessment 1	Identify leadership 1	Implement resources allocated 1	On site assessment 1
telephone 2	locate resources 2	follow-up on resources allocated 2	2
mail 3	procure resources 3	provide feedback on progress 3	3
news, TV, radio 4	allocate resources 4	consult with elected officials 4	4

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PROPOSAL ARENA: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT		PROPOSAL TITLE ALL COMMUNITY PROJECT		IOWA ASSEMBLY March 18, 1978	
INTENT SENTENCE: (why) <u>Everyone</u> in the Community Must Be Involved!					
(what) ACTIVATING EVENTS (Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)					
Open Meetings		Special Town Day (celebration)		Town Improvement Day	
				Expanded Recreation Program	
(How, who, etc.) IMPLEMENTING STEPS					
1 Form a planning committee		1 Form a planning committee		1 Form a planning committee	
2 Advertise newspaper, telephones, posters		2 Announce annual theme		2 Help your neighbor Day	
3 Schedule quarterly meetings		3 Involve businesses, organizations, private citizens.		3 Clean up community property	
4 Appoint leader and arrange meeting place		4		4 Survey Community for recreational needs	

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PROPOSAL ARENA: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROPOSAL TITLE: COMMUNITY MEETINGS IOWA ASSEMBLY March 18, 1978

INTENT SENTENCE: (why) The intent of Community Meetings is to involve all the members of the larger community in communication coordination for the planning for the future and activating present plans.

(what) ACTIVATING EVENTS (Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Community Board and Action Group	Assignment of all Organizations	Community Club	Decide Ourselves To Support
----------------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------	-----------------------------

(How, who, etc.) IMPLEMENTING STEPS

1 Contact person from every organization on rotating basis.	1 Create list of organizations	1 List who and what Benefits	1 Essay Contest
2 Create Community Calendar	2 Contact all organizations	2 Initial Open House	2 List of neighborhood priorities
3 Create Community Newsletter	3 Coordination of calendars of events	3 Announce time & Place	3 Newspaper column "Why, I Support"
4 Outside Resource Person	4 Report form common to all organizations	4 "Blow the fire whistle for Victor" - we've had our first meeting!	4 Publish and use town song, story & symbol

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INTENT SENTENCE:
(why)

Welcome people to the town in order to ease their transition, become acquainted and comfortable in the community and eventually become an active participant.

(what)

ACTIVATING EVENTS

(Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Services pamphlet Coupons Businesses, Social Events, and Civic matters	Clubs Newcomers Women for Better Community	Newcomer Tour	Map of town and Services
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(How, who, etc.)

IMPLEMENTING STEPS

1 Leader and Committee	1 Leader Identification	Leader and Committee	Leader and Committee
Solicitation of Businesses 2	Activities 2	Where, When, and What 2	Map 2
Printing -Cooperation of schools, churches, etc. 3	Place to meet 3	Transportation 3	Solicitation of Services 3
Distribution 4	Plan of action at meeting 4	4	Printing and Distribution 4

21

INTENT SENTENCE:
(why)

We need to establish community symbols to provide identity, show traditions and goals, and to promote pride and community spirit.

(what) **ACTIVATING EVENTS** (Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

1. Town logo (town meeting symbol)	2. Annual Celebration	3. Town Bulletin Board	4. New sign on highway (with new logo)
------------------------------------	-----------------------	------------------------	--

(How, who, etc.) **IMPLEMENTING STEPS**

Town Meeting Contest for symbol 1	Find sponsoring organization or organizations 1	Design suitable location 1	Design 1
Community to judge 2	Determine type, date, place 2	Raise funds for construction 2	Raise funds 2
Give prize 3	Plan and organize 3	Hire or seek volunteer labor 3	Suitable location 3
Determine usage of logo 4	Advertize and promote 4	Maintenance-Committee 4	Hire or seek volunteer labor for construction 4

INTENT SENTENCE:
(why)

IN ORDER TO CREATE A FEELING OF PRIDE AND COMMUNITY IDENTITY, WE INTEND TO EFFECTIVELY UTILIZE THE RESOURCES OF OUR COMMUNITY.

(what) **ACTIVATING EVENTS** (Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Research Local Talent	"Plug into" Outside Resources	Tap Local Organizations and Industries	Publish Community Calendar
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(How, who, etc.) **IMPLEMENTING STEPS**

Conduct Survey 1	Consult University and College Libraries 1	Interview Leadership of Groups 1	Contact Newspaper or Area Reporter 1
Creativity Fair (Talent, Hobbies, etc.) 2	Consult State Extension Service 2	Choose One Organization to Implement Activities 2	Establish Information Collection 2
Resources Fair 3	Publish and Distribute List of Resources 3		3
4	4	4	4

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PROPOSAL ARENA: COMMUNITY IDENTITY PROPOSAL TITLE INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS IOWA ASSEMBLY March 18, 1978

INTENT SENTENCE:
(why)

OUR AIM IS TO HELP THE PEOPLE OF THE COMMUNITY TO BE INFORMED AND TO HELP THEM FEEL INCLUDED IN ALL ACTIVITIES:

(what) ACTIVATING EVENTS (Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Form a Community Center	Community Bulletin Board or Community Meetings	Newsletter or Town Paper or reporting news to area papers, POSTERS	We need a local restaurant or recreation hall, need a Doctor
-------------------------	--	--	--

(How, who, etc.) IMPLEMENTING STEPS

Establish a Board of Directors 1	Voluntary Help 1	Board of Editors or news writers 1	Create a commercial club 1
Enlist voluntary help to build the buildings 2	Cooperation of the churches 2	Form telephone committees 2	Establish a recreation hall with volunteer help 2
enlist a committee to plan events for children, youth and senior citizens 3	Plan community events to involve everyone socially 3		Entice young businessmen 3
telephoning committees 4 Posters	Plan money-making projects to involve all organizations 4		

INTENT SENTENCE: To attract business plus professional people
 (why)

(what) ACTIVATING EVENTS (Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Manufacturing Recruit Dr., Vet.			
------------------------------------	--	--	--

(How, who, etc.) IMPLEMENTING STEPS

1 Bumperstickers could be sold for band boosters	1	1	1
2 Weekly Newsletters	2	2	2
3 Sign Boards	3	3	3
4 Raise cash through service organizations for ads in business papers and trade papers	4	4	4

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PROPOSAL ARENA:

Basic Services

PROPOSAL TITLE

Public Utilities

IOWA ASSEMBLY

March 18, 1978

INTENT SENTENCE:

(why) To help in the process of orderly development of the community and to assure good community health and sanitation.

(what)

ACTIVATING EVENTS

(Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Assess need.

Express/explain issues.

Research available federal and state monies.

Progress report from city or town council.

(How, who, etc.)

IMPLEMENTING STEPS

Town Meeting Newsletter

Contact newspaper to see how it can be set up. Prepare for a series.

Give the council the opportunity to find out.

Different reports from different people.

Collect gossip (listen to needs as expressed from different town groups)

Contact a newspaper reporter to get it reported as you want it.

Follow up to see who is appointed by the council.

Celebrate the progress: picnic, dance, pictures in the paper.

All age groups

Try to have placed in a visible section of paper.

If no one is appointed, have persons to suggest.

Celebrate final victory. Invite special guest.

School, business, service organizations, business/non business

Pictures of issue would help.

Monitor follow-up. Print information.

26

INTENT SENTENCE:
(why)

IN ORDER TO GIVE EQUAL AND SATISFACTORY LAW ENFORCEMENT FOR
ENTIRE COMMUNITY, WE PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING:

(what)

ACTIVATING EVENTS

(Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Volunteer Groups to aid in law enforcement	Inform public to town ordinances	Multi-Community law enforcement action	Social problem Alert System
--	----------------------------------	--	-----------------------------

(How, who, etc.)

IMPLEMENTING STEPS

1 Organize central steering committee	1 NEWSPAPER	1 Meet with area communities for protection system	1 Child Abuse Awareness System
2 Check out all legal aspects	2 Public Meeting	2 Check funding possibilities	2 Alcohol & Drug Alert System
3 Check for local resources (trans., radio, eqpt., etc.)	3 Update and create ordinances regularly	3 Check all legal aspects	3 Senior Citizens Needs
4 Coordination of time and locations with local law enforcement	4 Work with local law enforcement	4 Set up operational procedures	4 Minority Groups

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PROPOSAL ARENA: BASIC SERVICES

PROPOSAL TITLE: YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

IOWA ASSEMBLY March 18, 1978

INTENT SENTENCE:
(why)

TO PROMOTE ACTIVITIES INVOLVING ALL AGE GROUPS ALL YEAR ROUND.

(what)

ACTIVATING EVENTS

(Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Keep local grade school

Hire youth for summer jobs

All age soft ball program

News sheet to advertise
activities

(How, who, etc.)

IMPLEMENTING STEPS

1 Community support

1 Get cooperation of local
merchants

1 Service Clubs interest

1 Establish community bulletin
board

2 Demonstrate financial
justifiability

2 Create jobs and opportunities
for youth

2 Encourage parental
involvement

2 Nucleus group to stock
regular news sheet

3 Enlist cooperation of the
school board

3 Organize leadership

3 Organize leadership

3 Enlist cooperation of seniors

4

4

4 Schedule inter-community
activity

4 Local media

PROPOSAL ARENA: Basic Service

PROPOSAL TITLE Senior Engagement

IOWA ASSEMBLY March 18, 1978

INTENT SENTENCE:
(why)

To involve senior citizens in caring for themselves and the community.

(what)

ACTIVATING EVENTS

(Practical Activities which do the proposal intent)

Community Center facilities used jointly by youth and seniors.

Provide transportation to services and activities.

News sheet to advertise available programs and services.

Create a committee of senior citizens to plan regular professional visits to communities.

(How, who, etc.)

IMPLEMENTING STEPS

Check for local available facility

1

Provide bus service. Start with volunteer drivers and vehicles.

1

Someone be responsible for printing a news sheet.

1

Enlist interested elders or committees.

1

Volunteer labor to fix up.

2

Schedule of happenings

2

Ask high school class to write and type.

2

Locate space for clinic.

2

Put up inviting signs and decorations.

3

If need exists, investigate buying a van.

3

Subscriptions and/or advertising

3

Investigate mobile doctor's office -- medicmobile.

3

Rotate responsibilities for cleaning and maintenance.

4

Ask town council for help with insurance and expense.

4

Distribute through stores, churches, post office, etc.

4

Enlist local groups to expand services--as fire department

4

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APPENDIX A: TOWN MEETING ASSEMBLY PARTICIPANTS

Lawrence Baker	Ollie
Dorothy Van Epps	Libertyville
Harry E. Van Epps	Libertyville
Robert Clark	Radcliffe
Gladys Clark	Radcliffe
Craig A. Swartbaugt	Mitchellville
Colleen Cunningham	Quimby
Ila Mae Rau	Arlington
Duwain Rau	Arlington
Harley Troutman	Forest City
Marguerite Troutman	Forest City
Mr. Albert Clark	Oxford Junction
Nancy Clark	Oxford Junction
Joan Pettingill	Truro
Pat Edwards	Truro
Marrit Edwards	Truro
David H. Wagner	Truro
Dale Lytton	Truro
Al Johnson	Zearing
Mary Johnson	Zearing
Denise Willhoit	Ollie
Jolayne Wilson	Birmingham
Helen Ocheltree	Bayard
Jack Ocheltree	Bayard
Janel Gilson	Bayard
John Arrowsmith	Bayard
Mark Tjelmeland	McCallsburg
Lee Parker	Truro
Elwood J. Palmer	Truro
Kathryn Kubieleur	Blairstown
Clarence Kubieleur	Blairstown
Opal Lively	Blairstown
Wesley Lively	Blairstown
Joyce Henricks	Blairstown
Frances Zook	Swaledale
Brad Frost	Bussey
Dave Wilson	Bussey
Boyd Bonnett	Bussey
Rev. L.P. Fitzpatrick	Malcolm
Alice Hoepner	Quimby
Kenneth Hoepner	Quimby
Ken Robinson	Bayard
Gary Geltus	Mingo
Jeff Brawler	Mingo
Mary Johnson	Macedonia
Marileen Johnson	Macedonia
Earl Robbins	Cedar Falls
Lois Ruckman	Persia
Mary Cary	Persia
Delores Frieze	Persia
Robert Conz	Persia
Alice Groomes	Menlo
Dick Mark	Finchford
Peggy Mark	Finchford
Harry Smith	Iowa City

APPENDIX A: TOWN MEETING ASSEMBLY PARTICIPANTS

Paul Comer	Des Moines
Fred W. Klein	Havelock
Mrs. Fred Klein	Havelock
Rev. Harold E. Wesley	Havelock
Mrs. Cliff Stevenson	Quimby
Cliff Stevenson	Quimby
Glenn B. Eddy	Swaledale
Merlu Eddy	Swaledale
Pat Ward	Swaledale
Marie Ward	Swaledale
Al Benjamin	Blakesburg
Ralph Boone	Blakesburg
Charles McMaim	Blakesburg
Dick Crayne	Jefferson
J. Harold Sears	Des Moines
Steve Melby	Mitchellville
Mrs. Victor Vedane	Menlo
Victor Vedane	Menlo
Dwayne A. Paulsen	Emerson
Steven A. Cobuck	Emerson
Edna Parker	Truro
Jerry W. Heinrichs	Swaledale
Dale Cuspers	Swaledale
Beth Strickler	New Virginia
Gayle V. Strickler	New Virginia
Del Terry	Mediapolis
Marvin W. Roberts	Blakesburg
Sherry Roberts Reinke	Blakesburg
David Gentry	Ollie
David Gott	Ollie
Ron Leiby	LeClaire
Helen Krueger	Deloit
Duane F. Krueger	Deloit
Jan Poggemiller	LeClaire
Terry R. Poggemiller	LeClaire
Lee Boley	LeClaire
Ermine Boley	LeClaire
James Lynch	Des Moines
Arden Borgen	Webster City
Magaret Borgen	Webster City
Donald E. Cuswell	Des Moines
W. P. McNeil	Wapello
Lucille Poggemiller	Wapello
Marlys Svendsen-Roesler	Iowa City
Wm. Appelgate	Cedar Falls
Dorothy Appelgate	Cedar Falls
Rick Morain	Jefferson
Clark Cunningham	Quimby
Bessie Thompson	Arlington
Floyd R. Thompson	Arlington
Jeannette Caspers	Swaledale
Hilda J. Denly	Truro

APPENDIX A: TOWN MEETING ASSEMBLY PARTICIPANTS

Ronald Eckoff, MD	Cumming
Kathleen Haberer	Des Moines
Norman Gott	Ollie
Ruby Peterson	Washta
Peggy M. Mark	Cedar Falls, Iowa
Charles Lunn	Blakesburg
Mary Jane Henkelman	Defiance
Francis C. Henkelman	Defiance
Shirley St. John	Milwaukee
Geroge W. M. Burney	Chicago
Georgiann M. Burney	Chicago
Leo Waggoner	Des Moines
Judge L. T. Glanton, Jr.	Des Moines
Ross E. Winner	Terril
Diane Miller	Minneapolis
Debbie Ashton	Beaman
Paul Sandersen	Beaman
Phyliss Wadle	Beaman
Stan Long	Des Moines
Robert Prather	Des Moines
Barbara Prather	Des Moines
Kit Krauss	Des Moines
Margaret Krauss	Des Moines
Senator Culver	Marquette
Dedenia Nones	Des Moines
Bill Bogue	Ogden
Paul K. Carroll	Des Moines
Keith Carroll	Frederika

TOWN MEETING ASSEMBLY - ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special Guests:

Senator John C. Culver
Leo Waggoner - Iowa Farm Bureau Federation
Judge L.T. Glanton, Jr.

Community Resource Fair:

Paul Comer	Iowa Development Commission
J. Harold Sears	Small Business Administration
Jim Lynch	Office of Planning and Programming
Donald E. Criswell	Conservation Commission
Harry Smith	Institute of Public Affairs
Marlys Svendsen-Roesler	State Historical Society
Kathleen Haberer	Energy Policy Council
Barry Porter	Library Commission
Norm Riggs	I.S.U. Extension
Christine Miller	Iowa Arts Council
Lloyd Scott	Federal Housing Administration
George McBurney	Institute of Cultural Affairs
Lee Boley	Town of LeClaire, Iowa

Special Thanks:

Iowa Farm Bureau Federation	Fred Dowie Catering
Gestetner	Addressograph Multigraph
The Paper Corporation	United Methodist Iowa Area
Iowa Credit Union League	Headquarters

Town Meeting: Iowa Volunteers:

Coordination:

Kit Krauss
Margaret Krauss
Richard Mark (M.C.)

Set-up:

Bob Prather
Bill Appelgate
Dorothy Appelgate
Barbara Prather
Jolayne Wilson
Mark Tjelmeland
Marileen Johnson
Mary Johnson
Joanne McCabe
Dedinia Nones
Shirley St. John
Peggy Mark

Lee Boley
Ermine Boley
Lucille Poggemiller
Terry Poggemiller
Jan Poggemiller
Ron Leiby
Margaret Borgen
Arden Borgen
Stan Long
Mary Price

Registration:

Dorothy Appelgate
Lucille Poggemiller
Ermine Boley
Peggy Mark
Margaret Borgen
Arden Borgen
Bill Appelgate

Production:

Harry Miller
Roger (Gestetner)
Dorothy Appelgate
Margaret Borgen
Bob Prather

Workshop Leaders:

Terry Poggemiller
Jan Poggemiller
Ron Leiby
Marileen Johnson
Mirja Hanson
Bill McNeil
Dedinia Nones
Shirley St. John
Lucille Poggemiller
Mary Price
Barbara Prather
Georgiana McBurney
Joanne McCabe

APPENDIX B

PARTICIPATING COMMUNITIES BY SIZE & COUNTY
THROUGH MARCH 1978

I. TOWN POPULATION UNDER 250, (25 mtgs.)

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>COMMUNITY</u>	<u>*POPULATION</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
Allamakee	Dorchester	---	50
Audubon	Ross	---	17
Blackhawk/Butler	Finchford	120	40
Bremer	Frederika	190	40
Cerro Gordo	Swaledale	222	80
Clarke	Woodburn	222	10
Clay	Dickens	240	25
Decatur	Van Wert	244	16
Des Moines	Sperry	---	4
Franklin	Alexander	249	30
Grundy	Beaman	222	45
Hamilton	Kamrar	243	55
Henry	Mt. Union	200	25
Iowa	Parnell	175	18
Johnson	Shueyville	187	19
Lee	Houghton	120	38
Lucas	Lucas	247	10
Monroe	Melrose	192	25
O'Brien	Archer	134	75
Pocahontas	Havelock	248	23
Palo Alto	Ayrshire	243	15
Sac	Nemaha	117	35
Winnebago	Leland	223	+
Woodbury	Cushing	204	45
Wright	Woolstock	222	16
Total Attendance			756
Average per Meeting			<u>31</u>

II. TOWN POPULATION 250 - 499, (45 mtgs.)

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>COMMUNITY</u>	<u>*POPULATION</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
Adair	Orient	324	55
Adams	Prescott	305	30
Buchanan	Lamont	498	60
Buena Vista	Marathon	447	85
Carrol	Dedham	325	38
Cherokee	Quimby	395	60
Chickasaw	Alta Vista	283	30
Crawford	Deloit	279	28

*1970 census

+not held in time for inclusion

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>COMMUNITY</u>	<u>*POPULATION</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
Dallas	Minburn	378	105
Davis	Pulaski	255	9
Dickinson	Terril	397	10
Dubuque	Ashbury	410	+
Fayette	Arlington	481	55
Floyd	Rudd	429	+
Fremont	Riverton	331	25
Guthrie	Menlo	391	48
Hancock	Crystal Lake	276	88
Harrison	Persia	316	60
Ida	Arthur	273	25
Jackson	Monmouth	257	55
Jasper	Mingo	260	40
Jefferson	Libertyville	329	28
Keokuk	Ollie	268	60
Kossuth	Fenton	403	25
Madison	Truro	359	30
Mahaska	Beacon	431	20
Marion	Bussey	498	30
Marshall	Rhodes	347	9
Mills	Emerson	484	70
Montgomery	Elliot	423	4
Muscatine	Nichols	396	15
Osceola	Melvin	325	10
Page	College Springs	295	80
Plymouth	Hinton	488	+
Poweshiek	Malcom	388	45
Ringgold	Diagonal	327	25
Shelby	Defiance	392	92
Story	McCallsburg	307	25
Taylor	Gravity	286	30
Union	Lorimor	377	17
Van Burren	Birmingham	452	11
Wapello	Blakesburg	403	45
Warren	New Virginia	452	40
Wayne	Lineville	385	4
Worth	Kensett	361	+
	Total Attendance	- - - - -	<u>1621</u>
	Average per meeting	- - - - -	<u>40</u>

III. TOWN POPULATION 500-1000, (14 meetings)

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>COMMUNITY</u>	<u>*POPULATION</u>	<u>*ATTENDANCE</u>
Appanoose	Moravia	699	65
Benton	Blairstown	612	30
Cass	Lewis	526	25
Cedar	Stanwood	642	65
Clayton/Delaware	Edgewood	796	70
Guthrie/Greene	Bayard	628	45

*1970 census

+not held in time for inclusion

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>COMMUNITY</u>	<u>*POPULATION</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
Hardin	Radcliffe	548	75
Humbolt	Livermore	510	13
Jones	Oxford Junction	666	40
Lyon	Inwood	644	25
Monona	Ute	512	35
Tama	Garwin	563	30
Washington	Riverside	794	90
Webster	Otho	581	<u>7</u>
	Total Attendance	- - - - -	<u>615</u>
	Average per meeting	- - - - -	<u>44</u>

IV. CITIES AND TOWNS OVER 1000 POPULATION
WHICH HAVE HELD A TOWN MEETING, (15 mtgs)

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>CITY OR TOWN</u>	<u>*POPULATION</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
Blackhawk	Cedar Falls	32,964	50
Calhoun	Lake City	1,910	125
Clinton	Clinton	34,719	50
Emmet	Armstrong	1,061	10
Howard	Cresco	3,927	50
Louisa	Wapello	1,873	100
Lynn	Cedar Rapids	110,642	200
Polk	South Des		
	Moines	25,000 (est.)	120
Pottawattamie	Carter Lake	3,200	60
Scott	LeClaire ('77 &		
	'78)	2,520	250
Scott	Eldridge	1,535	200
Scott	N.W. Davenport	25,000 (est.)	35
Sioux	Rock Valley	2,205	20
Winneshiek	Decorah	7,458	<u>150</u>
	Total Attendance	- - - - -	<u>1360</u>

Note: Most of Group IV were all day Town Meetings in larger communities. The work of these meetings was not included in preparing this report.

APPENDIX C
COMMUNITY RESPONSE QUESTIONNAIRE REPORT

These responses are typical of those on the 25 questionnaires returned of the 50 sent out. Most responses to question 3 were "We haven't had time to tell, yet."

Q. 1. What were typical comments you heard after the Town Meeting?

R. "wish more had attended"
"talked to town council about the main issues"
"great town I live in!"
"we know problems, but solutions are difficult and complicated".
"nice to have outside help with the meeting".
"a way to find a starting point of accomplishing new projects and to shape up run-down programs".
"couldn't believe there wasn't a catch to it, cost etc."
"liked the printed document."
"councilmen not attending the meeting were quite disturbed."
"I wish I would have come".

Q. 2. What direct action (if any) has been taken on any specific ideas or suggestions which were made at the Town Meeting?

R. Emblem made for Mt. Union and displayed with help of Booster Club.
4 committees formed to pursue each proposal further in Inwood.
A Cub Scout Pack with 3 dens started in College Spring and a tree planting program underway for Spring.
Defiance organized a community club to work on park improvement and equipment. (They had no active organization before this.)
Emerson is in planning stage for multi-purpose building.
"to prove that this meeting was not to do away with, put down, take over any of the present community programs."
Community recreation program on Sundays for grade 4-12 in school gym at Prescott.
Bussey "organized something on the order of a Chamber of Commerce."
Blairstown purchased 16 mm projector for use in library.
Helped Nemaha begin the project of a new fire house.
"A Quimby placemat using the symbol designed at Town Meeting: Iowa is being planned."
An action club was formed in Marathon.
In Libertyville "progress on sewer project. Going to get a cost on street signs and possibly buy".

Q. 3. Has the Town Meeting had an indirect affect on any projects, programs, or organizations which were already in existence before the Town Meeting took place?

R. Opened up new possibilities for several community clubs.
Houghton's plans for a tennis court are moving ahead.
Increased in Phase II of Low Rent Housing apartments in Blairstown.
Brought boosters together clean-up vacant lots.

Q. 4. What would you say was the greatest value of the Town Meeting for the community?

Community input

cooperative communication

awareness of needs of elders and youth

larger exposure of people to the problems

seeing that a large group of people care

strengthened community spirit

better understanding of each other and the ideas of each group
in the community

just knowing you can get people together if you try

one organization wanting to help another

"It gave us a 'commonness' of knowing what we do have which we like... and also what we don't have-- and to my surprise, the thoughts were quite unanimous."

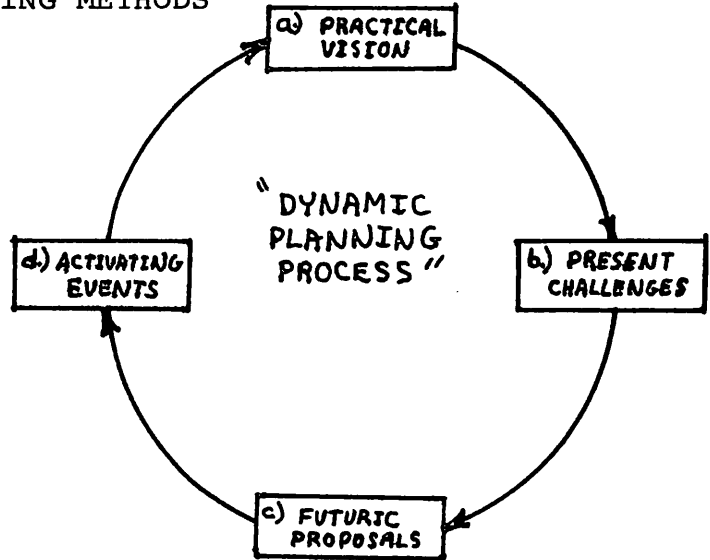
It made us conscious that the town is capable of doing some things, many things for itself.

APPENDIX D

THE TOWN MEETING METHODS

I. THE DYNAMIC PLANNING PROCESS

- a) Practical Vision
- b) Present challenges
- c) Futuric Proposals
- d) Activating Events
- e) New Situation - New Practical Vision



II. BRAINSTORM - GESTALT (WORKSHOP PROCEDURES)

- a) Brainstorm
- b) Group Similar Ideas (Gestalt)
- c) Small Group Discussion
- d) Report and Reflect

* Key to these procedures is the role of the workshop leader. His basic job is to insure that everyone can participate and that the procedures are followed within available time.

THE TOWN MEETING FORMAT			
VISION	CHALLENGES	PROPOSALS	REPORT
Hopes & Dreams Brainstorm	a) Blocks Brainstorm	a) Response Brainstorm	Proposal Reports
	b) Group Similar Ideas, Δ O □ *	b) Group Similar Ideas, Δ O □ *	
	c) Discuss & write Challenges	c) Discuss & write Proposals	Song Story Symbol Report
	d) Report & Reflect	d) Report & Reflect	
Song, Story, Symbol Workshop		Document Production	Next Steps Discussion

III. COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND IDENTITY CREATORS

- a) Community Gatherings
- b) Community Story
- c) Community Song
- d) Community Symbols



APPENDIX E :
PROPOSAL PRIORITY CHART

APPENDIX F: Sample ACTIVATING EVENT PLANNING SHEET

EVENT TITLE						
DESCRIPTION (what & why)						
IMPLEMENT- ING STEPS (How) (Who) (where)						
TIMELINE						
When						

APPENDIX G: IOWA TOWN MEETING SONGS

BEAUTIFUL CUSHING

Tune: Beautiful Dreamer

Beautiful Cushing, home of my dreams
Westward in Iowa, with hills and a stream
Broad rolling acres lie at her feet
Where birds in the springtime sing songs, oh, so sweet.

Everyone's friendly, helpful and kind
Helping his neighbor if he's in a bind
When trouble comes and a friend is in need
Cushing is 'OUR TOWN'. Oh, yes, yes, indeed!

Beautiful Cushing, home of my heart
Where love abounds and cares all depart
Where everyone's happy, happy as can be
Oh wonderful Cushing
You're the home for me!

HEY LOOK AT MINGO

Tune: Hey Look Me Over

Hey, look at Mingo
Hey, watch it grow
Named for the Indians
Their tribe was called Mingo.

Wealth, fame & fortune
Is not our lot
But we will do the best we can
Using all we've got.

Hopes for the future
Build up our town
Take pride in expanding
Beautify down town.

So whatever our plans & hopes may be
Can not be done by one
So look out world here we come!

IOWA TOWN MEETING SONGS

HIGHWAY ROADS (New Virginia)

Tune: Country Road

Almost Heaven, New Virginia
Great big farms
Depot pond
Life is good here
Better than New York
Twice as good as California
Growing like the corn.

Highway roads, take me home
To the place I belong
New Virginia, water tower
Take me home, highway roads.

OUR TOWN (Lewis)

Tune: Roll Out the Barrell

Our Town is Lewis
We have a very rich past
We will keep going
With pride and spirit to last

Our town is Lewis
We have a long way to go
Take a look at our way
We have a whole lot to show

Our town is Lewis
The future depends on us all
If we pull together
We'll have a place to stand tall

Our town is Lewis
We have a vision that's true
Here We'd like to build a future
That's for me and you

THIS TOWN IS MY TOWN, (Lucas)
THIS TOWN IS YOUR TOWN

Tune: This Land Is My Land

In 1868, our town was founded
The coal mine gave us
Jobs for our men folks
The railroad brought more
good people our way
This town was made for you and me.

In 1968, a celebration
Invited people
from other places
We all decided
to build the future
This town is made for you and me.

MARATHON SONG

Tune: She'll be Coming Round the Mountain

Marathon is Greek to me, it sure is
Marathon is Greek to me, it sure is
Marathon is Greek to me, Look at all the streets,
You'll see.
Marathon is Greek to me, it sure is.

Marathon's a friendly place, Yes it is
Marathon's a friendly place, Yes it is
Marathon's a friendly place - With a smile on every face
Marathon's a friendly place, Yes it is.

Marathon's a place to play, Come one and all
Marathon's a place to play, Come one and all
Marathon's a place to play, Come to the park and stay
all day
Marathon's a place to play, Come one and all.

Marathon's a place to grow, Join in and help
Marathon's a place to grow, Join in the help
Marathon's a place to grow, Work with us and we'll go
Marathon's a place to grow, Join in and help.

BLAIRSTOWN IS MY TOWN, BLAIRSTOWN IS YOUR TOWN

Tune: This Land Is My Land, This Land Is Your Land

(CHORUS)

Blairstown is your town
Blairstown is my town
From Prairie Creek to the bridge at thunder
With friendly people
And four big churches
This town is made for you and me

From the Hardware store to
The New Library
From the bank on the corner
To the bumpy railroad
From the Fire Department
To the Rescue Unit
This town is made for you and me.

And for the future, We'll have recreation
And communication for young and old
Doctors, more merchants, and flood controllers
Will come to us as a pot of gold! (Repeat Chorus)

IOWA TOWN MEETING SONGS

GARWIN IS A GREAT TOWN

Tune: He's Got the Whole World In His Hands

We've got a great town in this land
We've got friendly people in Iowa
We've got a good future in Garwin
Garwin is a great town.

It's got good neighbors to be proud of
It's got cooperation by the ton
It's a peaceful town under the sun.
Garwin is a great town.

It has a pretty park to play in
It has business houses for shopping
And three churches for praying
Garwin is a great town.

It's a great place to view the stars
A progressive school to teach the young
A place to grow and be proud of
Garwin is a great town.

It has senior citizens and the young,
Working together for progress
It has organizations which makes it fun
Garwin is our great town.

HAVELOCK IS HERE TO STAY

Tune: Happy Days are Here Again

Helping hands are all around
They helped us build our pretty town
Trains brought us here from everywhere
Havelock is here to stay.

Hopeful, friendly people here
Living lives all filled with cheer
Young families, farmers, old folks too
Havelock is here to stay.

Our new chance has come again
A wholesome homestead it has been
To look ahead with hearts of hope
Havelock is here to stay.

A MIGHTY TOWN (Nemaha)

Tune: Iowa

We're from Nemaha, Nemaha
A mighty small town, farms all around
We're from Nemaha, Nemaha
Where friendly folks are found.

We're from Nemaha, Nemaha
Problems all around, solutions to be found
We're from Nemaha, Nemaha
Buckle down, improve our town.

MORAVIA IS OUR TOWN

Tune: Jingle Bells

Moravia is our town
We've lived here a long time
We pull together like a team
Because it's so serene.

Chorus:

Oh joyous town! Joyous town!
Joy for everyone
We welcome each and all of you
To come our way and stay.

Oh joyous town! Joyous town!
Joy for everyone
We welcome each and all of you
to come our way and stay.

Living on the divide
Surrounded by valley and stream
Our children are our pride
They will fulfill our dreams.

BUSSEY HAS A CELEBRATION

Tune: I've Been Working On The Railroad

Bussey has a celebration
Honoring our town
Bussey has a celebration
People come from all around
Young and old a like we cherish
We are a very small town
Young and old a like we cherish
We'd like to have you around

People won't you come, People won't you come
Everybody come on down
People won't you come, People won't you come
When the "4th of July" comes round!!!

GRAVITY TOWN SONG

Take off your old Gray Bonnett
With the Blue ribbon on it,
And we'll see where Gravity is today.
Hit it's highs in the twenty's and it's
Low's in the sixties and look where it is today.

If we all stick together in all sorts of weather
We may be surprised what we can do.
Put all our heads together and work for better.
Like they did in good old days.

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