



IT'S HOME

CHESTER TOWN MEETING-
APRIL 16, 1979
CHOCTAW COUNTY, MS.

Chester of the past, was the hub of all the county activities including politics and posterit . Chester was the county seat until the train passed the town by. We lost the county seat and finally in 1978 our last store. A lot of us went to school here until we lost our school in the 0s.

1979 sees Chester with an active Baptist church and little else for families to do together, through from the input tonight people are interested in building our community. The people in the Chester area are concerned with wholesome recreation, especially for young people.

The future of Chester sees us with our families in our community center. A nice center built for the enjoyment of all ages and a center that will help teach our children through our involvement and influence. We see Chester as alive and vital as the communities around us. Our young people happy an occupied in our own community.

"THE WAY WE WERE AND HOPE TO BE"

Tune: Yankee Doodle

Chester used to be a town that lots of people lived 'round,
Until the railroad passed us by,
And the new gymnasium fell down.

Most all people moved away in the early 19 hundreds.
It's left us with a church and folks
That's made a lot of blunders.

We've lost the school and sold the stores,
But in spite of all this,
We'll work all spring and summer and winter
"And build this community center."

CHALLENGES

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In the arena of recreation the following blocks exist: nobody has ever tried, no available funding and not very many young people live in Chester. This indicates that the underlying contradiction facing us is people are not willing to build a recreational facility.

In the arena of a community center the following blocks exist: no money and a need to organize. This indicates that the underlying challenge facing us is tearing down the old school house to build a community center.

In the arena of community beautification the following blocks exist: unconcern, carelessness, and passing the buck. This indicates that the underlying challenge facing us is building community pride.

In the arena of community togetherness the following blocks exist: women work during the day, no leadership and unconcern. This indicates that the underlying challenge facing us is a need for leadership. Illustrations of this challenge are people don't get together to discuss community concerns.

In the arena of more jobs the following blocks exist: not enough people for labor market, and transportation of products is limited. This indicates that the underlying challenge facing us is getting a factory to come to Chester.

In the arena of childrens needs the following blocks exist: unconcern and a lack of leadership. This indicates that the underlying challenge facing us is more community involvement. Illustration of this challenge are a lack of interest and a lack of community action.

THE PROPOSALS

We the citizens of Chester in order to plan and make decisions about a community center propose to form a committee and start membership drive through 1) set date, 2) advertise, 3) announce in churches, 4) set a place.

We the citizens of Chester in order to build community pride propose to hold a Community Clean-Up Day through 1) advertise, 2) leadership for day, 3) set a date, 4) pot luck supper.

We the citizens of Chester in order to design a building to suit the majority propose to elect a committee to select the final design through 1) big meeting, 2) nominate design committee, 3) uneven number, 4) chairperson, 5) date deadline.

We the citizens of Chester in order to get people involved in community propose regular meetings through 1) ladies club help, 2) advertise, 3) 1st Tuesday in May, 4) organize and decide intent of club, 5) elect committees.

PARTICIPANTS

CHESTER TOWN MEETING

APRIL 16, 1979

Clara Bell Crowder
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Rt 3 Box 32

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Rt 3, Box 82

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Rt 3, Box 82

Margaret Stevens
Rt 3, Box 82

Nancy Brasher
Rt 3, Box 82

Mrs. Haywad Perry
Rt. 2, Box 23A

Wiley Collier
Rt 3

Mrs. Wiley Collier

Mrs. Mary Show
Rt. 3

Mrs. Billy Joe Box
Rt 3, Box 125

Billy Joe Box
Rt. 3, Box 125

Mark Box
Rt 3, Box 125

Mike Brasher
Rt 3, Box 82

Mae King
Rt 2

Red King
Rt 2

Doyle Crowder
Rt 3, Box 124

James Collier
Rt 2, Box 32A

Mrs. James Collier
Rt 2, Box 32A

Mary Andrews
Rt 3, Box 19

Lura McCullock
Rt. 3

Daisy Hodges
Rt. 3

Floyd Hodges
Rt 3

Ray McCullock
Rt 3

Annie Lee Crenn
Rt 3

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Rt 3

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TOWN MEETING STAFF

Francis Roper
Sandy Birky

TOWN MEETING: MISSISSIPPI

Certificate of Recognition

This certificate is given in recognition to

the community of

CHESTER

*which has participated in the progress and renewal
of the State of MISSISSIPPI*

by holding a TOWN MEETING on April 16, 1979.

Ruth D. Wilson

Cliff Finch
CLIFF FINCH, Governor