BEAUTIFUL BELMONT

GATEWAY
to the
BAY SPRINGS
LOCK

HOTEL

BELMONT TOWN MEETING
BELMONT CITY HALL
MAY 21, 1979

THE NEW SONG

BEAUTIFUL BELMONT
Tune: Yankey Doodle Dandy

We're the gateway to the Bay Springs,
Natural springs our call to fame.
Beauty of our rocks and rolling hills
Still lingers on today.
Come on and spend some time in Belmont.
We'll show off our favorite town.
We've got parks, and lakes and trails,
Just waiting for your pleasure.
Beilmont, so beautiful, our home.

B E A U T I F U L   H I L L S

The town of Belmont was named for beautiful hills. It was settled in the 1850's.
It was primarily a farming and sawmill town with cotton being the chief crop until
the 1930's. The railroad came through B elmont, creating new experiences in that
local people were used to build the road beds with mules.

In the 1940's the first industry moved to our area, Blue Bell, making garments.
Industry has grown with more garment factories, furniture, metal dinette suites,
remodeled and rebuilt piano factories and others that furnish parts for mobile
home industry and furniture assembly plants.

Belmont has in recent years realized how important it is to keep their young people
at home so parks and facilities for recreation have been upgraded. We hope that
with the completion of both the Natchez Trace and the Tenn-Tom WAterway that Belmont
will see improved roads, schools, and town improvements that have not been here
before. We can make Belmont the true Gateway to the Baysprings and Northeast Miss.
areas. Pride in our own community can make for a better tomorrow for our children
and other people to be proud of.

In the area of zoning, the following conditions exist: 1) people are afraid of it,
2) officials are reluctant toenact zonigg codes because of fear that city couldn't
or wouldn't enforce them. This indicates the underlying challenge of making public
aware of what zoning codes mean and how they could be beneficial. This is illustrated
by no zoning codes and no building codes.

In the area of downtown redevelopment the following conditions exist: 1) lack
of local capital, 2) people who rent stores don't want to fix-up somebody elses
property and thelandlords have no incentive, 3) lack of agreement on how to
implement town plan for facellift. This indicates the underlying challenge of
getting public to show their support and interest in backing the town project.
This is illustrated by storefronts and sidewalks need improvement, congestion
in traffic downtown, courtsquare needs renovation.

Inthe area of city services the following conditions exist: 1) lack of money'
2) lack of interest by policemen, 3) no charge for garbage pick-up. This
indicates the underlying challenge of beginning to charge for existing and
expanded services in order to an adequate job. This is illustrated by no
regular pick-up of large rubbish,security and upkeep of new park and no full-
time police dispatcher which leaves no backup in crucial situations such as
last year's tradegy.

In the area of full time promotion the following conditions exist: 1) Chamber
of Commerce not active, 2) Lack of funds, 3) Those who are able to do long
range promotion don't have time. This indicates the underlying challenge of
getting community cooperation between existing businesses, industries, officials
and citizens. This is illustrated by no organized effort to attract industry,
need of full time city manager and no one working on highway to Baysprings.

We the citizens of Belmont in order to gain and build support for our
townlift program, propose to have a "City Hall Beautication Month".
Thru:
    1) Have Board mak decision,
    2) Business men calls and invitation,
    3) Planning meeting,
    4) Publicize results.

We the citizens of Belmont in order to inform people as to the benefits
of zoning codes, we propose to have a three pronged communication effort
on zoning. Thru:
    1) Club presentations, letters and set scheldule,
    2) Newspaper series - write and publish,
    3) Public hearing in October.

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