



# KILMICHAEL TOWN MEETING

APRIL 19, 1979

## THE NEW STORY

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In the year of 1840, the town of Kilmichael was established and incorporated in the year of 1890. The name was changed from Leesville to Rutherford, and finally changed to Kilmichael because of the Post Office Mix-up. It was changed to Kilmichael through the suggestion of a traveling salesman from Scotland. In the early 1900's, Kilmichael was proud of its banks, agricultural high school, and the railroad. 1955 was the year that our hospital was built., and 1976 marked the beginning of the annual arts and crafts festival.

At the present time Kilmichael residents are enjoying the water and sewer system, the Christmas Parade, and the arts and crafts festival. We are in need of new industry and housing to attract newcomers.

For the future, we are hoping for growth and expansion in many areas. We hope to have a county vo-tech center, a state park, recreational facilities, and expansion in many areas. ~~NONNNNNNNN~~ ~~MMMMMMMMMM~~ ~~VVVVVVVVVVVV~~ We are proud of our accomplishments and are looking to the future with great anticipations.

### KILMICHAEL SONG (Tune: Dixie)

On the Big Black River, in North Mississippi,

Kilmichael started about 1840

Cotton Land, Planer mills, garden spot, railroad town.

Now we are blessed with water and sewer

We have problems but they're gettin' fewer,

Plan ahead, workin' hard, pull together, watch us grow.

Kilmichael has its arts and crafts, big day in May,

At Christmas time we have our parade,

with all our people in itn.

Hooray, Hooray. Its a lovely town to live in.

## CHALLENGES

In the area of Education Facilities, the fact that there is a lack of concern, there are not enough funds locally, older residents forget about the schools, there is a low tax base, and people do not cooperate, indicates that the underlying challenge is creating jobs to bring young people. This is illustrated by the fact that there is no technical facility.

In the area of Annexation Transition, the fact that the streets are unpaved, there is no sewer service, there is a lack of communication on what is being done, indicates that the underlying challenge is lobbying at the federal level by small towns such as ours.

In the area of Employment Opportunities, the fact that there is too much welfare, there is a lack of jobs, and a lack of concern, indicates that the underlying challenge is placing priority on getting more jobs in the community. This is illustrated by the Mississippi Health Systems Agency having poor attendance at meetings, more welfare families moving to the area, and businesses closing.

In the area of Law Enforcement, the fact that there is leniency on the part of law enforcers, there is too much speeding, and there are loose dogs, indicates the underlying challenge is creating stricter and more equal law enforcement procedures, mature actions by law enforcers, and an ordinance to keep stray dogs tied.

In the area of junk and no recreational facilities, the fact that there is a lack of concern, there is a lack of funds, and there is a lack of cooperation, indicates that the underlying challenge is bringing our problems out in the open and stimulating interest getting our fair share of the tax dollar, and getting back to the annual spring cleanup campaign. This is illustrated by no city, park, no swimming pool, no tennis court, and old and poor appearance of the town.

In the area of lack of church impact, the fact that there is a lack of interdenominational activities, there is no family counseling, there is a lack of concern for the elderly, and a lack of denominations in the community and family life and fellowship is breaking down, indicates that the underlying challenge is creating more concern for our fellow man.. This is illustrated by many things(?).

## PROPOSALS

We the Citizens of Kilmichael, in order to make the Town more attractive and a more pleasant place to work and to trade, propose to paint up- fix up- clean up the town., through painting, cleaning up, moving , removing, junk cars, etc.

We the Citizens of Kilmichael, in order to provide farmers with a place to sell, and consumers with a place to purchase fresh produce, propose to establish a farmers market, through securing a location.

We the Citizens of Kilmichael, in order to inform the public, propose to have a community bulletin board, and a newsletter, through using left over bicentennial funds, getting industrial arts to build the board, appointing civic and special community activities reporters, and finding a volunteer editor.

We the citizens of Kilmichael, in order to keep the people informed of local activities to support the issues and obtain local representation, propose to organize community meetings and go to the Health Systems agency meetings in May, through word of mouth and the news media which will inform the people of the meetings.

PARTICIPANTS

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## TOWN MEETING: MISSISSIPPI

The Town Meeting Program was designed during the bicentennial year by the Institute of Cultural Affairs, a not-for-profit organization working with offices in over 100 locations in the United States and throughout the world, concerned with the human factor in world development.

During the period from November 1978 to June 1979, the Town Meeting is being offered to 200 communities throughout the State of Mississippi under the sponsorship of the Governor's Office of Citizen Participation.

There will be an assembly of representatives of participating towns on June 23, 1979 at the Ramo Inn Coliseum, in Jackson, Mississippi, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Town Meeting: Mississippi

a program of: The Institute of Cultural Affairs  
Box 269  
Jackson, Mississippi 39201-0269

Sponsored by: The Governor's Office of Citizen Participation  
Carter Sellers Building  
Jackson, Mississippi