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LENA TOWN MEETING  
School Cafeteria  
September 17th 1979

## LENA

*(To the tune of "WHEN JOHNNY COMES MARCHING HOME".)*

THE TOWN OF LENA WE'RE MOVING ON, JOIN IN, JOIN IN.  
WE'VE CAUGHT A NEW VISION TO BLOOM AGAIN, JOIN IN, JOIN IN.  
THE FOURTH OF JULY HOW WE LIGHT UP THE NIGHT.  
THE DAY IS FILLED WITH SHEER DELIGHT.  
WITH FOOD, GAMES, CONTESTS AND BOY WHAT A DAY IT IS.

OUR VISION INCLUDES MORE INDUSTRY, JOIN IN, JOIN IN.  
BUSINESS IS GROWING BUT WE NEED MORE, JOIN IN, JOIN IN.  
A RECREATIONAL PARK WILL KEEP US STRONG.  
A MEDICAL CLINIC LIFE WILL PROLONG.  
WE'RE NOT THROUGH YET WE'VE STILL GOING TO MORE ALONG.

THERE'S MORE WE CAN DO AS YOU WILL SEE, JOIN IN, JOIN IN.  
OUR YOUNG THEY NEED A DAY CARE CENTER, JOIN IN, JOIN IN.  
A SEWER SYSTEM, A FIRE STATION,  
DOWNTOWN NEEDS SOME RENNOVATION.  
WE ARE PROUD AND WE ARE GOING TO GET IT DONE.

## LENA

Our town is proud of its past and positive about a bright future. Lena was founded in the 1800's. It was a busy town with Saw Mills, a Plain Mill, and a Brick Kiln that furnished most of the material that the town was built from. The railroad came through in 1925 and kept the town booming.

The town has been a proud people who have wanted to keep on moving. The Fire Department is adequately equiped and most dependable. New business has been a high light with small town people willing to invest in the future.

All the people were happy to join in to make a Merry Christmas with town decorations. The Fourth of July was an even bigger achievement with games and fun for everyone. The fireworks could be seen for miles. The future is looking good. New industry is being worked for. Recreation for the young and a larger shopping area for everyone.

## CHALLENGES

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In the arena of Community Involvement the following conditions exist: 1) park is run down, 2) the attitude, "everybody is too busy working to help", 3) need leadership, 4) no full time person to work for town. This indicates the underlying challenge is getting people together regularly to decide what directions we want to go.

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In the arena, Isolation stiffling Growth, the following conditions exist: 1) Lena is off the beaten track 2) poor access by major highways, 3) Railroad is leaving. This indicates the underlying challenge is taking our resources and making the most of them by positive publicity.

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In the arena of an attitude of "were too small", the following conditions exist: 1) town is too small to issue bonds to build facility, 2) complicated specifications for medical facility, 3) defeatist attitude of "were too small" 4) lack of facility for industry, 5) lack of housing. This indicates th underlying challenge is adjusting our attitude to positive thinking about what a small town can do.

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## PROPOSALS

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We the citizens of Lena, in order to inform the people of what's going on, motivate people to take part and exchange ideas, we propose to get people together with a Bar-B-Q thru: 1) have a gospel singing, 2) present work of town meeting, 3) inform everyone of regular events.

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We the citizens of Lena in order to, improve the attitude, motivate and inform the people, propose printing a news paper bi-monthly through enlisting an editor and writers and purchase equipment and supplies, financed through advertising. Starting AUGUST 4, 1979.

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We the citizens of Lena in order to provide jobs, propose to start an industrial committee to; work with the Mid-Miss Development Corporation, get officials involved and use the "small town story" to get our share of the county projects.

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We the citizens of Lena, in order to promote a spirit of community involvement, propose to have a trades day complete with; horse races, arts and crafts displays, games for all ages and a main event yet to be chosen.

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We the citizens of Lena, in order to attract industry, housing and facilities, propose to form a community development association to; attract business, inform officials and set time and place.

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ROSTER

NAME	PHONE
1. Bennett Malone	267-7295
2. Betty Fitzhugh	654-3338
3. W. J. Johnson	654-3305
4. W. Jimmie Davis	654-3656
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11. Callie McDonald	654-3468
12. Roger Westcott	654-3575
13. Elry Halford	654-3355
14. Dennis H. Smith	654-3379
15. Clydia Milner	654-8828
16. James D. Milner	654-8828
17. R. L. Mass	
18. Billy Tom Ward	