



Town Meeting '76

Assembly

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

May 15, 1976

1. LINN COUNTY

In '76 we began an experiment
To become a people to be free,
To become a land of opportunity
Where every person is the key.

Where all are invested in the future,
Caring, caring as we never have before;
In Linn County with all nature's bounty,
We build tomorrow's community.

(Tune: 76 Trombones)
Cedar Rapids, Iowa, May 31, 1975

2. SALINE COUNTY

It isn't easy to carve the future
Built on the rich past of our history;
But there's something special in Saline County,
Salty county get together and live your dream,

Chorus:

This land is your home, this land is my home
From the Shawnee Forest with its Garden of Gods,
From the Ozark foothills to the corn and coal fields,
This county is the place to build your dreams

We cleared the land, we built towns and levees;
We let the coal mines and the corn fields feed us,
But the future calls us to get it together
Creating a new land for you and me.

(Tune: This Land Is Your Land)
Saline County, Harrisburg, Ill., Feb. 14, 1976

3. HELLO CLINTON

My City, this is my city!
I'm so proud a Clinton citizen to be,
The nation's wide gateway,
It's a real great way,
To live here in peace, both young & old, in harmony

The arts and parks thrive here
Friendships alive here

4. ST. CHARLES HO

Can't you see us pull together
in our community,
We're working from a firm foundation—
full of history;
We are a friendly people
with growth identity,
As were our St Charles fathers
throughout our history.

Chorus: St. Charles Mo; onward Ho,
You're the town that
will surely grow;
St. Charles Mo; onward grow,
on through history.

Working from a firm foundation,
Older than our nation;
We're working for a new generation,
Like a small community.

Repeat Chorus:

(Tune: I've Been Working
On the Railroad)
St. Charles, Mo., May 8, 1976

Old Man River's always knockin'
on our door...
So, lift your hat, neighbor
This is where it's at, neighbor,
Clinton makes all our dreams reality.

(Tune: Hello Dolly)
Clinton, Iowa, March 20, 1976

5. QUINCY

Chorus

In the good old river town
It's our home that we have found
The bluffs were near, they drew us here
To the rolling plains abound.

The dogwood tree, the industry,
Our fields are standing tall;
Our colleges and friendships here
Are calling to us all,

Chorus

Beneath the sky the warm sunshine,
Four seasons bring us joys;
It's time again, let's build this land
For our future girls and boys.

Final Chorus

In this good old Quincy town,
It's our home that we have found.
The river's near, we love it here
Where the rolling plains abound!

(Tune: In the Good Old Summer Time)
Quincy, Illinois, March 27, 1976

6. THIS TOWN IS OUR TOWN

Chorus

This town is your town, this town is my home,
From Whitegate Village to Rothwell Heights,
From Biscayne Mall to the Parkade Plaza,
This town is built by you and me.

As I was driving that ribbon of Broadway
I saw beside me some nifty people,
I saw around me a whole community,
This town is built by you and me.

Chorus

(Tune: This Land Is Your Land)
Columbia, Missouri, April 24, 1976

7. THIS TOWN IS OUR TOWN

Chorus

This town is struggling, this town is
dreaming
From the coal mines, to the man-made lakes,
From the farm lands, to the university,
This town was made for you and me.

As I was driving, I saw beyond me
An endless line of polluting cars;
I saw beside me the blossoming trees,
This town was made for you and me.

Chorus

If we work together for understanding
For family cohesion & crime prevention;
Withstreet improvement & spirituality
We'll have a solvent community.

Chorus

(Tune: This Land Is Your Land)
Carbondale, Ill., March 27, 1976

8. HELP SAVE OUR COMMUNITY

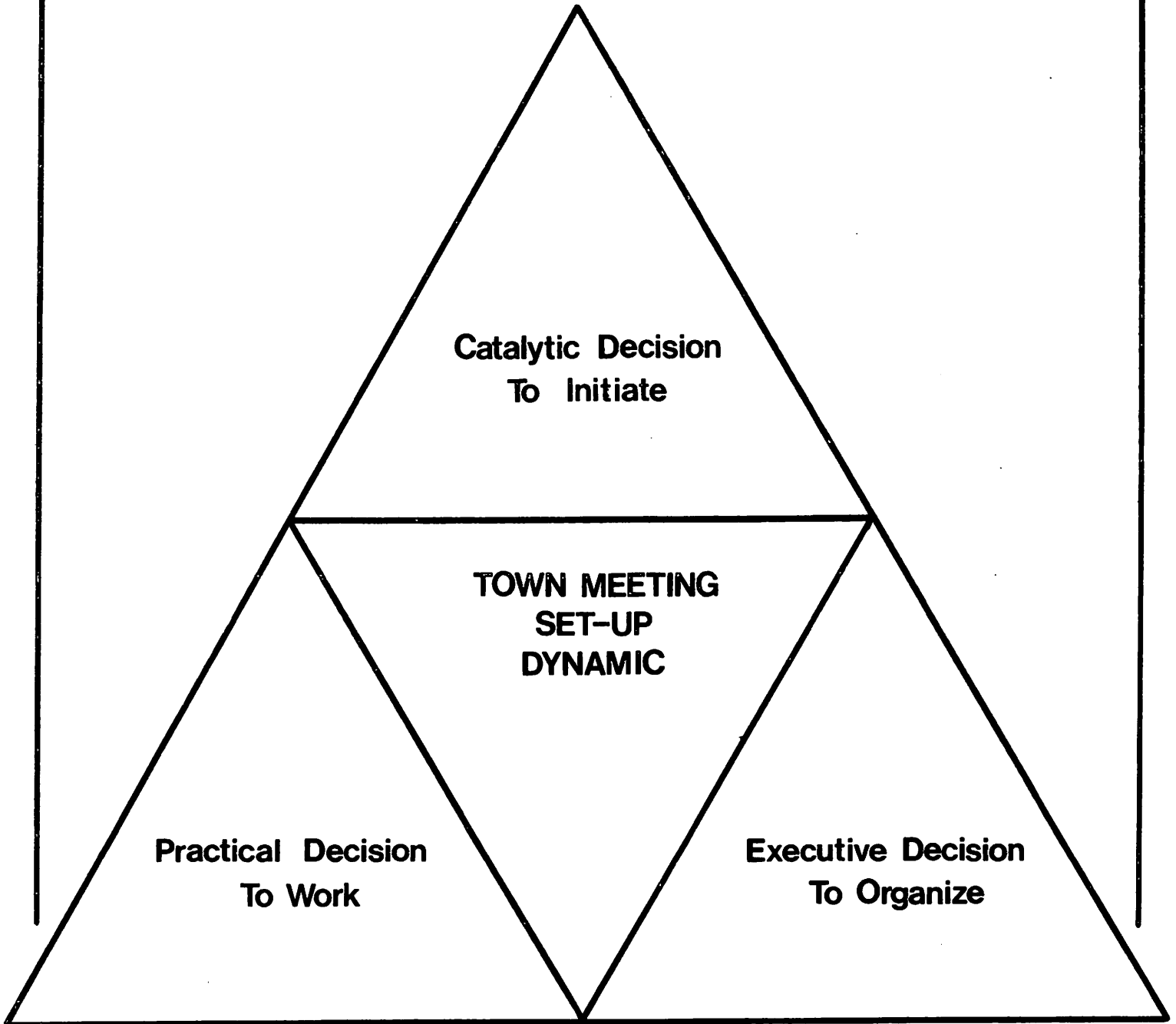
Help save our community
We'll strive to keep our unity
For Freedom to All;
Think of your fellow man
He needs a helping hand
To make you understand, the way of man.

Think of your need to live
And all the things you give
Toward things you feel;
March with your head up high
For a day has passed by
To make us understand, the way of man.

(Tune: My Country 'Tis of Thee)
St. Louis, Soldan H.S., CIF, May 5, 76

To see it in our power to make a world happy—to teach mankind the art of being so—to exhibit, on the theatre of the universe, a character hitherto unknown—and to have, as it were, a new creation entrusted to our hands, are honors that command reflection, and can neither be too highly estimated, nor too gratefully received.

Thomas Paine, 1783



Implementing Town Meeting '76

STEERING COMMITTEE

- A. Create a Steering Committee of 6-10 people—minimum of 6, 2 co-chairmen and 4 task force leaders—see *Sponsor Committee Task Brief*.*

DATE & LOCATION

- B. Set a tentative date and location for the Town Meeting in consideration of other major community events. (This is confirmed at first Organization Meeting of larger sponsors group.)

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- C. Invite interested members of other community groups to attend an Organization Meeting to brainstorm creative ideas of everyone on how to do the 12 Sponsor Tasks. An ICA consultant is available for this workshop to tell the Town Meeting '76 story and to demonstrate the workshop method—see *Invitation Letter* * and *Town Meeting '76 Questionnaire*.*

TASK FORCE WORK

- D. Meet as a Steering Committee often enough to coordinate the task forces. The key initiating actions are:
- publish a Town Meeting '76 *letterhead*;*
 - print a simple *brochure* * with registration form attached;
 - create a *community organization roster* * on a wall chart and establish attendance quotas by obtaining commitments from each group;
 - obtain an *official proclamation* * of Town Meeting Day from the Mayor, showing date, time, place, etc.;
 - write a *news release* * for the media;
 - establish a Town Meeting '76 checking account and mail \$100 initiating commitment to ICA, along with endorsement letters and items above as completed.

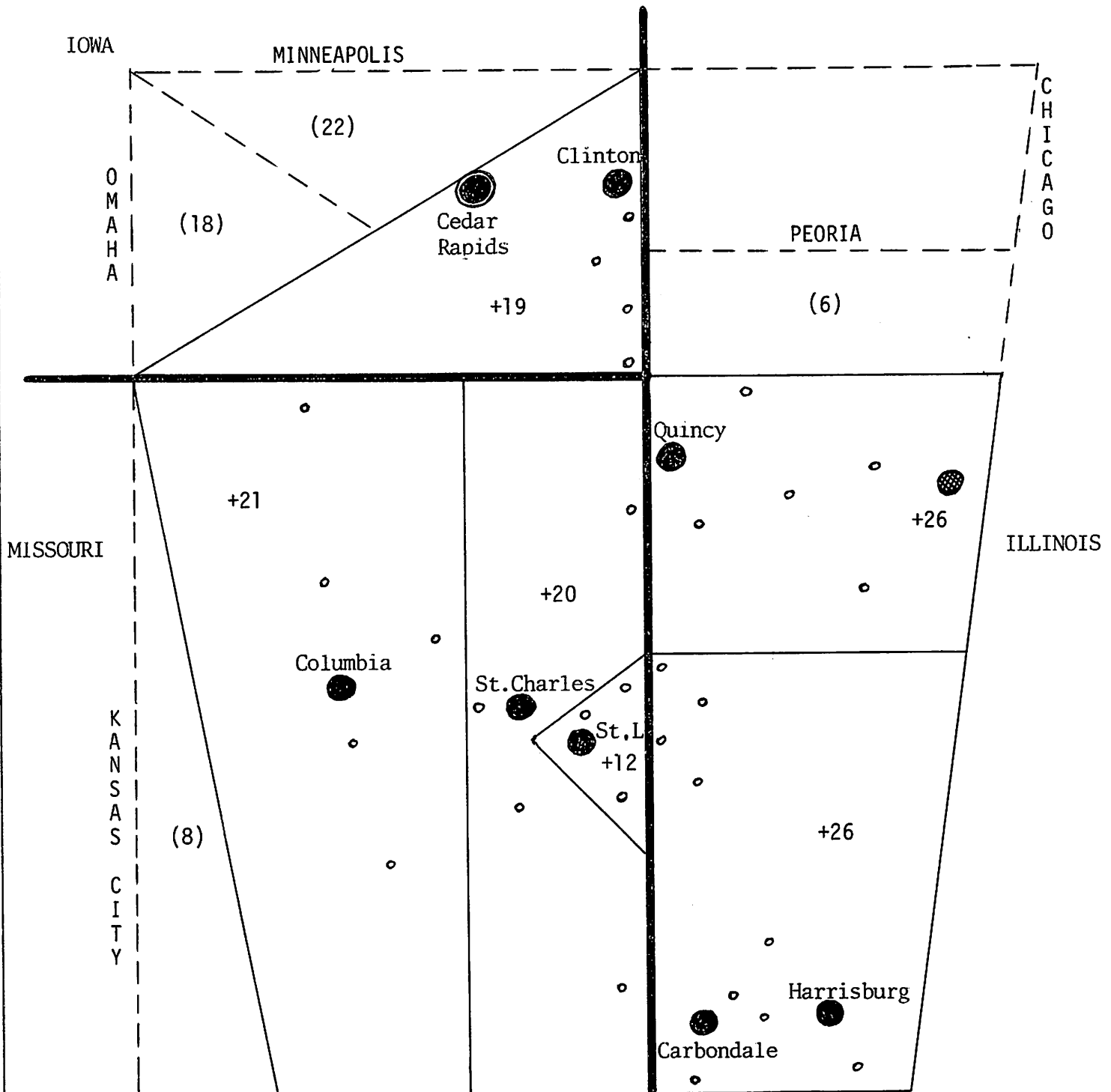
PROMOTION & PARTICIPATION

- E. Coordinate and schedule speaking engagements for community groups to obtain more co-sponsors to help with manpower support, attendance commitments for the Town Meeting day, and financial or in-kind contributions to the project.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

- F. Schedule a leadership session to train sponsors in local leadership roles of Town Meeting '76. See *Town Meeting '76 Leadership Roles*.* (The ICA provides two leaders for the Town Meeting event itself and assumes responsibility for training, or providing, workshop leaders—see *Leader Training Session Announcement & Registration*.* The ICA staff will meet with the Steering Committee, and other workers, the night before the Town Meeting to coordinate set-up and to complete workshop leader training. ICA consultants are also available for visits in the community during the implementation process.)

* see attached sample materials



KEY:

St.L House 162 TMs
Ext'l Supp. 54 TMs
Reg'l Total 216 TMs

- Demonstration Phase, 1975
- Replication Phase, Winter-Spring 1976
- Acceleration Phase, Summer-Fall 1976
- +19 Actuation Phase, Winter-Spring 1977
- Arthur, Illinois
- (8) External Support

Area Chicago
St. Louis Region

REGIONAL CIRCUITS
Schedule

TM 76 Assembly
May 15, 1976

TIME TURF		SPRING OTR. IV--1976											SUMMER OTR. I--1976										
		MAY			JUNE				JULY				AUGUST				SEPT						
		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11				
		17 23	24 30	31 6	7 13	14 20	21 27	28 4	5 11	12 18	19 25	26 1	2 8	9 15	16 22	23 29	30 5	6 12	13 19				
MISSOURI	Central	A		*		hse		*		hse		*		hse		*		hse		*			
	Eastern	B	hse		*		hse		*		hse		*		hse		*		hse				
	St. Louis	C	*		hse		*		hse		*		hse		*		hse		*				
ILLINOIS	Southern	D	cont		cont		cont		cont		cont		cont		cont		cont		cont		cont		
	Central	E		hse		*		hse		*		hse		*		hse		*		hse		hse	
IOWA	Eastern	F		WK I			WK I				WK I				WK I				WK I				
			cont		cont		cont		cont		cont		cont		cont		cont		cont		cont		

Reflections (by individual paragraphs) on the Profoundity of Town Meeting '76:

Decision to deal with community image and stance (relation with other communities)
Decision to deal globally
More TMs centering on corporate leaders

Decision of Clinton Town Meeting: (Iowa)

"It's possible to do something in this town again."

I attended a Murphy-Blair town meeting a couple of years ago, and the major significance for me was a new awareness of Murphy Blair's history. (I worked on the myth guild.)

It is difficult to remember because it was a couple years ago, and little follow-up was done. In fact, present staff do not seem to have records of that meeting.

(in relation to impact of Town Meeting).....no difference immediately, but by presentations and discussion presented to various participating governmental representatives will result in better face-to-face communications between at least two of the representatives and the people they serve.

TM Columbia was a starting point for future meetings, hopefully to take community problems to the city council; problem: timing.

Effect—has stimulated a nucleus that will probably initiate future Town Meetings type of ongoing community involvement and participation.

Better communication between ICA & Town Meeting Committee as a whole,
More student participation.

previous attempts to have town meetings (not ICA current format) gave bad impressions so community found out it could be effectively done, Impact: people discovering that they can communicate with each other.

Reflections continued:

We as citizens can effectively take part in our future through our community and build an even better community.
The city government is concerned and open to a creative forum for talking about the challenges and proposals about the community,

Impact: aware people who did not take part were made aware that people can be heard.

1. Expose people to all of the problems, not just their own,
 2. People became aware of the difficulties in finding solutions,
 3. Refine your own timeline for your workshops,
-

I believe the T.M. brought a combination of people together who otherwise might not have ever gotten together to discuss their own community, its problems, and possible solutions. However, I think everybody who shows up for a TM is already concerned and involved in their community through one or several organizations, and I think it's an unfortunate indication of a general feeling of "apathy" in America today, that it takes such an expensive "promotion" such as TM 76 to get people to do what they can and should do on their own every day of the year.

Town Meeting '76 is an event which creates fresh consciousness in local people about the actual vacuum and fragmentation which exists in American society at the present time, but goes beyond this awareness through a format to a way for citizens to move in relation to all the issues which lie beneath the present situation in 1976.

Highlights:

1. Bob Runnels, new guardian, leaped to the front of the room to tell people how to do Town Meeting '76 in a town.
2. Social Demonstration slides at Interlude gave profound context to the Assembly.
3. Hector Mahady, new workshop leader, shot rabbits; brought group back to question of implementing Town Meetings.
4. Four new families into what we're doing.
5. Unarticulated concensus present to move it on TM76 project in the Region.

Accomplishments:

1. First meeting of the Regional cadre.
2. No one had any problem with the corporate living arrangement of the House.
3. Demonstration of methods that honor the expertise of every man.
4. People saw themselves going to the GSDCs.
5. Suddenly understood what Town Meeting is all about.
6. Runnels explosion image related to acceleration and actuation--getting people from other towns to town meetings.
7. Movement nurture = do more Town Meetings.
8. Dept of afternoon spin: moved people into their own lives; secular RS-1 offense delivered.
9. Context for action was done a) concrete sharing of implementation insights addressed with actual style of doing TM set-up and b) offered national and local plug-in possibilities and engagement.
10. Regional strategy was clearly articulated.
11. Everyone is ready to move, House included.
12. House broken loose across three states.
13. New catalytic role for Region as a whole.

Issues:

1. Tension between moving and bringing colleagues along to do it.
2. This thing is not easy--hard for people to sort out the dimensions of actually doing it.

Issues, cont.

3. Cadre meetings--getting them together to create their model--should we replicate the assembly in six places? What are the strategy meetings now necessary in six places? Tension between giving a form and stillbirth.
4. Practical forms of engagement of mobilizing the House: Week II travel plans; set-up of co-calls (House/Region teams); phoning model--4x4, rational, periodic, rhythmic; whole house care for whole region in a new way has bearing on weekly pattern of House meetings; long-range forms of contact for Regional people--Daily Office dynamic for Regional colleagues.
5. Teaching of trans-rational thinking.
6. How to turn any contact into a Town Meeting:
 - Finding someone who will say yes. Whatever happened to Ribison, Johnston?
 - Convenor dynamic Framing charts--helping people pick the "right" people
 - Framing struggle The 9 characters on the steering committee
 - Going "back" to the Foray Two kinds of people: symbolic/practical
 - Pre-sponsor's meeting Roles in the triangle: being clear who you're talking to
 - Hagen picked the "right" people Finding Boeher's troika
7. Focusing time on the new colleagues rather than setting up TMs a danger.
8. Regional colleagues have no corporate structures to sustain themselves.

Next Steps:

1. Create a Framing Chart--one piece of paper, for simplicity.
2. Fill in the cards on warboard for Week 7.
3. Write every Regional Staff person to articulate the consensus of the Assembly.
4. Call every staff person to set up the local meeting.
5. Replicate the Assembly dynamic in the 6 places.
6. Nurture along each situation.
7. Phasing old and new cities--refinement of shotgun approach; initiation/nurture.
8. Raise \$5000 by July 31--"76 Days". How, by when, what context.
9. Five towns for each of the six turfs.
10. Write up this document for the sake of the continent.
11. Meet with Kielty, Hagen, Mahady--Central Missouri--B
12. Redesign own collegium and night work construct in relation to Week II work.
13. Faulkner, Lutz, Remick in Columbia--A
14. Amos, Scott, Coz, Greer--St. Louis--C
15. Casey, Parrish, Canfield--So. Illinois--D
16. Runnels, Bibb, Mary Jane Farr--Central Illinois--E
17. Nell Brown, Ernie Svenson, Carolyn Grimes--Iowa--F
18. Decide how to use Implementation Brief in the strategy meeting.
19. Create vehicles through which colleagues can move.
20. Lay out the Runnels explosion model relative to four phases of project.
21. Long range decision on forms of contact and communication: letters, phone calls, mailings, regional meetings, local meetings, Chicago Area events--These are "putting yourself in the way of your reminders," or Daily Office for the Regional Staff.

Practical Vision

To move transrationally and with dispatch to break loose an operating weekly rhythm which engages the House across the entire geography of the Region, thereby launching the entire expansion of the GCF project to the 5000 level. This means a simultaneous doing of the Acceleration and Actuation Phases, where in the case of St. Louis Region the end of the Replication Phase occurred in the TM 76 Assembly, May 15, 1976.

1975	1976		1977
	Jan. 1 thru May 15	May 15 thru Dec.31	Jan. thru July
DEMONSTRATION	REPLICATION	ACCELERATION	ACTUATION
1	7	30	178

This indicates 30 Town Meetings across the Region for late summer and fall which are the "showpieces" for all remaining Town Meetings. The practical vision therefore involves setting up 30 Town Meetings to which all other targeted towns are invited, and thereby broken loose to possibility of Town Meeting in their own locale.

Contradiction

There is a tendency to continue to operate from "behind" the project, which involves doing tactics focused on random, signal Town Meetings, rather than walking out "beyond" the project as a whole (the 5000 level) and yanking (or pulling) her into victory. The primary concomitant illusion is that something like a "town meeting movement" should be occurring throughout the nation's populace that might somehow have the spiritual strength to take the risk and to do the catalytic work of having 5000 Town Meetings. The primary imaginal block is the refusal to behold and to live out of the literally infinite possibility which exists in the well-spring of people (resources and motivity) which exists from every Town Meeting held in the Replication Phase. The practical manifestation of this block is the refusal to invent ways to "run for daylight" to the 5000 level through Town Meetings already held in the Replication Phase.

(Note: A "Demonstration" Town Meeting is one which showed that Town Meetings could be done in particular places. A Replication Town Meeting is one, among others, which resulted from a transrational implementation model done across a completely circuited geography. The people of the Replication Phase Town Meetings, who have experienced themselves through the transrational, catalytic presence of the House are now ready to replicate themselves in what for us is the Acceleration Phase. TM 76 Assembly: St. Louis, May 15, 1976, in which steering committee people from all four socio-political communities participated (inner city, suburbs, small city and small town), articulated the consensus to expand the project to other towns. The delimitation of the project (by walking out "beyond" her) to the 5000 level is now necessary for building tactics which can be comprehended by everyday people within the timeframes and constraints of everyday life.)

Phone pitch for calling grads from each Town Meeting:

"This is _____ with the ICA, working with _____ on Town Meetings.
You probably remember the Town Meeting in _____ on _____ (or a few weeks ago)."

We've been getting inquiries and suggestions for other places to do Town Meetings like _____, and _____, and _____ (mention a few surrounding towns).

Anyway, we thought people who were at the Town Meeting might know of people in these towns, or other places, who could help in getting a Town Meeting started.

Is there anyone, perhaps an acquaintance of yours, you would recommend we might talk to.....?

The key is to call all the participants of a Town Meeting in order to obtain every conceivable possibility for access to new towns,

Core sponsors of the Town Meeting, and other contributors, would be a second list of contacts to make,

CONSULTANT'S FRAMING CHART

Questions to ask your contact about his town:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Who do people check with? | Who is the president of Rotary? |
| Who knows what's going on here? | Who would be interested in Town Meeting? |
| Where are the community nodes? | What relationship are these folks to you? |
| Who really cares about this town? | Major industry? Who in upper management |
| Who do people respect here? | is being groomed for top leadership? |
| A prominent person from each phase? | Key religious figures with authority and |
| How do decisions get made here? | credibility? |
| Which groups have been successful at | Where do people go to talk things over? |
| getting people out? | Main flow of traffic travelled daily or |
| Who is the town gossip? | weekly? |
| What woman is a doer? | Political movers in town? elected & volunteer |
| Who is the most responsive political | Young Turks who make things happen? the |
| leader? | constructively dissatisfied; |
| Where is the center of town? | Major service clubs and when they meet? |
| Where do people go to have good time? | Most powerful, active women's clubs? |
| What restaurant serves a top notch meal? | Who has traveled widely? |
| What has happened that people are | Who is your informal leadership? the movers? |
| talking about? | Who is not jaded and cynical? |
| Most influential group? and person? | Which businessman does the mayor check with |
| Who sets the community's calendar? | when he makes a decision? |
| Who runs the school board? | Which groups have been most successful in |
| Who is the mayor? | getting people out to large events? |

Questions to ask your contact about his town:

Who active in statewide politics, clubs?
Board of the United Way?
Most colorful characters?
Who is your local character-millionaire?
Most significant community development event?
Last time the town had a good time together,
everybody came out?
How do decisions get made in this town?

Do Not Form to enable contact to refine the list:

Who gets things done?
Who would come to a meeting?
Who can you get to a meeting?
Who would you see?
Mayor
Newspaper editor
League of Women Voters
Business & Prof Women
Chamber of Commerce
Most popular clergymen
Jaycee head
YMCA Board
A banker
School Superintendent
Service Clubs...
Jaycees, Kiwanis

Guidelines:

Out to set up presponsor's meeting as product
of questioning.
Older phases can "get away" with asking more
direct questions.
Use indirect methods, nonchalant stance.
Be careful of someone setting up a failure
of a meeting when he has little faith in
his town or the program.

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