

TOWN MEETING ILLINOIS



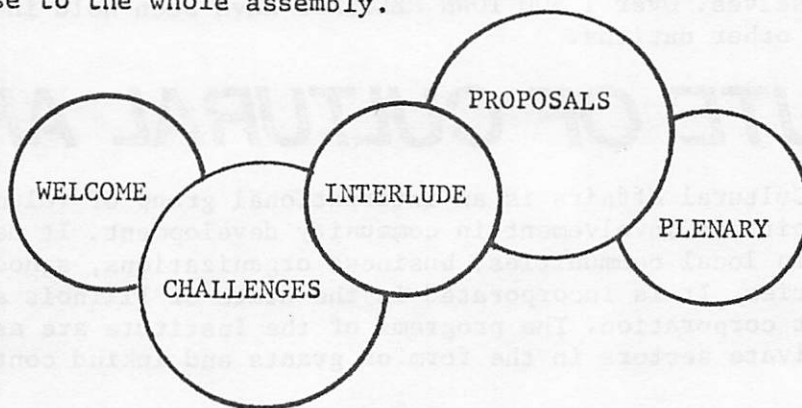
PEOPLE WORKING TOGETHER

TOWN MEETING provides a unique opportunity for community residents to take practical responsibility for their community's future.

There are two workshop sessions in TOWN MEETING. The first one looks at the deep concerns of the community. The dreams of the community about its future are discussed. Then the issues the community sees are listed and grouped. For each group of concerns, the underlying contradiction is named. These insights are written into sentences that are statements of the community's present challenges.

The second workshop focuses on the creation of practical proposals for meeting the challenges of the community. Each person writes down practical responses to the challenges. Selected responses are then re-organized. The result forms the basis for individual thinking and team discussion. Finally, the teams write their practical proposals for the community into sentences.

A separate workshop creates a story, song, symbol and slogan for the community and presents these to the whole assembly.

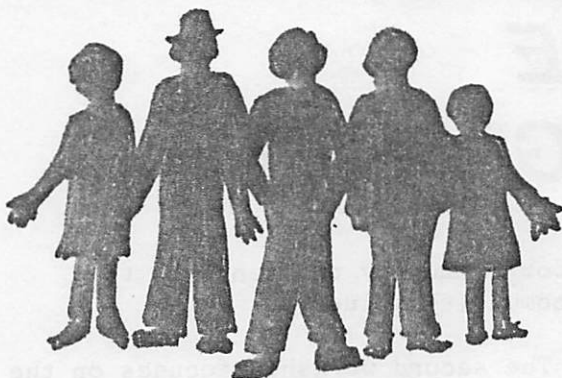


TOWN MEETING

TOWN MEETING is a community event for all ages. It provides citizens with a new way to involve themselves in caring for their community. The workshops include a serious look at the needs of the community, and then develop practical proposals for the future of the town. At the close of the TOWN MEETING each participant receives a copy of the results of the work.

TOWN MEETING ASSEMBLY

A regional assembly is held for delegates from local TOWN MEETINGS. This provides a forum for sharing common concerns and presents methods for implementing proposals.



*a time
to decide
together*

HISTORY OF THE PROGRAM

In recent years there has been a growing desire among concerned citizens to help promote community spirit and to express their voice in town affairs. "TOWN MEETING" was developed by the Institute of Cultural Affairs in response to requests for ways to engage town citizens in caring for their communities. The "Town Meeting '76" program was a Horizons program endorsed by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration. The program has continued through the encouragement of TOWN MEETING participants themselves. Over 1,500 TOWN MEETINGS have been held in the United States and 350 in other nations.

INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The Institute of Cultural Affairs is an international group of volunteers concerned with responsible citizen involvement in community development. It designs practical programs for use in local communities, business organizations, schools, social and governmental agencies. It is incorporated in the state of Illinois as a not-for-profit, tax-exempt corporation. The programs of the Institute are assisted by both the public and private sectors in the form of grants and in-kind contributions.

TOWN

7/6

MEETING



RECOGNIZED BY
AMERICAN REVOLUTION
BICENTENNIAL
ADMINISTRATION

SATURDAY: JUNE 7TH

9:00 TO 4:30

MORGAN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
110th and Longwood

"A National Town Meeting Held In 5,000 Communities"

LOCAL PEOPLE CREATING A PRACTICAL VISION FOR THEIR
COMMUNITY AND NATION

ALL MORGAN PARK RESIDENTS INVITED

SPONSORED BY

Beverly Area Planning Association
Southwest Morgan Park Civic Association
Northwest Morgan Park Civic Association
Citizens Action for Morgan Park
Chicago Urban League

Contributors: Beverly Bank - Concordia Savings Bank

Beverly Unitarian Church

A Bi-Centennial Program

Senior Citizens needing Transportation call 239-7050

THE VILLAGE OF MAYWOOD
and
THE MAYWOOD BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

cordially invite you to attend

TOWN MEETING '76

January 17, 1976

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

MAYWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER
(formerly A & P building)
(Fourth Avenue & St. Charles Road)

For the Purpose of
Meeting the Challenges of our Future
Through Direct Citizen Participation
in Identifying Community Problems,
and Formulating Objectives
to be Met and Conquered in
MAYWOOD
for the coming years

Noon-Time Entertainment

Lunch will be Served

OAK PARK

"Wherever public spirit prevails, liberty is secure."
Noah Webster, 1764



TOWN



7/6

MEETING

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24
9AM-5PM

Sacramento High School 34th & W Street

*** Lunch * Entertainment * Free Child Care ***

Sponsored by:
Kyle's Temple AME Church
United Christian Centers
Oak Park Athletic Center
Greater Light Baptist Church
Oak Park United Church of Christ
Sacramento High School

**Donations
Appreciated**

Endorsed by:
Sacramento Redevelopment Agency
Oak Park Project Area Committee
Women's Civic Improvement Center
Oak Park Senior Citizens

For Further Information Call 440-7389

NEWS RELEASE

June 23, 1975

"Town Meeting '76"

"Town Meeting '76" is an imaginative one-day community forum, being offered to approximately two million people in 5,000 American communities during the Bicentennial Era. It is a program which has recently been accorded official recognition by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration. The first Town Meeting in Illinois was held in Morgan Park on June 7 with approximately 200 people in attendance.

"Town Meeting '76" was developed by the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA), a not-for-profit group concerned with the human factor in world development. ICA was chartered by the state of Illinois and is headquartered in Chicago. As part of the national project, "Town Meeting '76" is proposed for a minimum of 555 communities throughout Illinois.

A carefully tested format has been put together for the Bicentennial town meetings. In each community, several hundred participants will come together to reflect upon the nation's future directions by creating 15 - 20 proposals per meeting. The thousands of resulting proposals will be summarized by computer or through representative assemblies into an inclusive vision of the future of America in the new world of the next two hundred years.

The town meeting is a six-hour think tank using techniques such as brain-storming, consensus-building, and group writing. The meetings

include two workshops, a celebrative lunch, two brief talks on the New World and the New Human, song, story and symbol creation for the future, and a closing plenary.

The meetings are sponsored locally by community and municipal organizations and agencies.

ICA will act as a research and program consultant in the project -- helping local sponsoring groups by producing materials, providing operational designs, training local leadership and participating in the major task of summarizing the resulting proposals for publication.

For further information contact the Illinois State Bicentennial Commission or the Institute of Cultural Affairs, 4750 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, Illinois 60640; 312-769-6363, or 312-722-3344.