

DuPage County

Itasca

Town Meeting '76 Committee

presents

TOWN

76

MEETING

May 1, 1976



Itasca Holiday Inn

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness . . .

We, therefore, the representatives of the United States of America, in general Congress assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by the authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these united colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that, as free and independent states, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do. And, for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honour.

Declaration of Independence, 1776

**CONSTITUTION
OF THE
UNITED STATES
1787**

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Preamble

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right to the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

First Amendment [1791]

I must study politics and war, that my sons may have liberty to study mathematics and philosophy, geography, natural history and naval architecture, navigation, commerce, and agriculture, in order to give their children a right to study painting, poetry, music, architecture, statuary, tapestry, and porcelain.

John Adams

I wish the bald eagle had not been chosen as the representative of our country; he is a bird of bad moral character; like those among men who live by sharpening and robbing, he is generally poor, and often very lousy.

The turkey is a much more respectable bird, and withal a true original native of America.

Benjamin Franklin

It is vain, sir, to extenuate the matter. The gentlemen may cry, Peace, peace! but there is no peace. The war has actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand here idle? What is it that the gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God. I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!

Patrick Henry

What country before ever existed a century and a half without a rebellion? ...The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants.

Thomas Jefferson

CASH CONTRIBUTORS

Itasca State Bank
Bachi, Inc.
Itasca Country Club
Dick Wickstrom Chevrolet
The Klip Joint
Brite Spot Coffee Shop
Arthur Neil & Co.
Cragin Federal Savings & Loan
American Heritage Savings & Loan
Itasca Pharmacy
R & M Clock Repair
Itasca One Hour Cleaners
Peacock Engineering
Lovely Lady Beauty Salon
D. C. Auto
Westlake Press
Itasca Processing Co.
Two Eagles Restaurant
Roselle Building Material
The Hair Den
Wood Dale Bowl
Lyons Instrument
Mid City Beauty Supply
Packaging Systems, Inc.
Frank's Shell Service
Lake Park Garden Center

COOPERATING ORGANIZATIONS

JUNIOR WOMENS CLUB OF ITASCA:

- A) Telephone Campaign
- B) Workers

C. C. W.:

Telephone Campaign

LIONS OF ITASCA:

- A) Telephone Campaign
- B) Marquee

PATRICIA RYAN and her GIRL SCOUTS:

Handling the "free baby sitting service" at Washington School and making the day a pleasant one for the children of our participants.

SCHOOL BOARD, PRINCIPALS & TEACHERS:

Arnold Rusche for allowing the use of Washington School for the children of participants. Also, the principals and teachers who allowed and distributed leaflets through the following schools: Washington, Franzen, Peacock School, Lake Park High School, and St. Peters Catholic School and St. Lukes Lutheran School.

VILLAGE OF ITASCA:

For their support and proclamation.

SPECIAL THANKS
FOR
TIME AND SERVICE DONATIONS

HOLIDAY INN OF ITASCA

Donated the space and hours of set-up work and allowing us to advertise on their marquee.

J. THOMAS HAGAN and NORMA HAGAN

Hours of printing on last minute notice—plus creative artwork, composition, and their time all day on May 1, 1976 for this book. They are professionals!

B. L. H. REALTORS, INC.

Their office and phones were used for the Jaycees' telephone campaigns for two weeks prior to May 1, 1976. Potential customers that got a busy signal, please call back!

SCHUMANN'S BAKERY

All of those fantastic doughnuts, rolls and coffee cakes eaten this morning were donated by Mr. Schumann. (He even took out the calories!)

DAN ERICKSON and HORSE

Riding through town advertising our town meeting must have been an experience. Don't worry about looking foolish, Dan—everyone was looking at your lovely horse!

CARL ROBACK—KWIK-PRINT, INC.

For allowing us to use his space and assisting us in the completion of this book.

The Present Challenges

Session One

CULTURAL CHALLENGES

Itasca



May 1, 1976

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (Group A)

In the arena of *cultural concerns*, the following block is the fact that there is a lack of commitment or involvement. The fact that people flout authority is the underlying contradiction. This is illustrated by people's unwillingness to become involved in decision making.

NOT REVISIONING PRIORITIES (Group A)

In the arena of *accumulated knowledge*, the following blocks are commuting community, disinterest, lack of communication and economic burden. Not revisioning priorities is the underlying contradiction. This is illustrated by working away from the community, home responsibilities, and T.V.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION (Group C)

In the arena of *communal wisdom* (newspaper, high school, driving program, paramedics), the following block is that the town is so small, that prospective profitability of and demand for newspapers are uncertain. Itasca's planned smallness, resistance to growth and small town ideals are the underlying contradictions. This is illustrated by Itasca's blocking (in 1970) of a proposed shopping and condominium complex, on the grounds that it would increase population, population density, demands on police and fire departments, and on the schools.

INTEGRATION OF COMMUNITY GROUPS (Group C)

In the arena of *social structures and common religion*, the following blocks are existing private group interests, leadership, and funds. Failure to integrate on community level and insufficient revenue for preschool institutions are the underlying contradictions. This is illustrated by self-interest groups (churches, youth organizations, adult organizations).

**VILLAGE
ECONOMIC
STABILITY
RESULTS IN
VILLAGE APATHY
(Group A)**

In the arena of *economic commonality*, the following blocks are village apathy, village uniqueness, and no drastic needs. The fact that the majority of people are content and do not feel real issues, is the underlying contradiction. This is illustrated by poor turnout at local meetings, people can travel long distances to fulfill needs (shopping, entertainment, etc.), throw away local papers, and people do not respond to personal calls.

**COMMUNITY
NEEDS
(Group C)**

In the arena of *economic commonality*, the following blocks are community apathy, preservation of rural atmosphere, no retail businesses and lack of communication. Community support, population base, cooperation, and wanting to avoid responsibilities are underlying contradictions. They are illustrated by the holes in George Street, the pollution in Spring Brook, no summer jobs for Steve Smith, Jon Thomas and others, no major food store, and the minerals in and odor of the water.

**PARTICIPATION
IN COMMUNITY
AFFAIRS**
(Group A)

In the arena of *community welfare*, the following block is that no action is taken. Lack of organization and leadership are the underlying contradictions. This is illustrated by the lack of attendance at community events where personal involvement is required.

**FIGHT
APATHY**
(Group C)

In the arena of *community political and political action*, the following block is that there is no reflection of the people's needs. The populations' feelings of ineffectiveness, frustration, "let the other guy do it," and refusal to accept realities are the underlying contradictions. They are illustrated by lack of attendance at village board meetings, quality of education, lack of play equipment, and vandalism.

ADULT
PARTICIPANTS

Itasca



May 1, 1976

Sandy Anchor
Mrs. Walter Hanck
Walter Hanck
Audrey Mensching
Nancy Vinson
Audrey Ayres
Peter Suber
Ray Polzin
Franklin P. Rouleau
Bruce Rouleau
Margery Rouleau
William Hermsoth
Mrs. William Sloan
Jeff Runnion
Jean A. Runnion
Pamela Teeman
Fred Teeman
Elmer H. Franzen
Roseanne Flynn
Joseph Heagney
Stella Heagney
George Witt
Carol Janusek
John Flynn
Gertrude Bencivenga
Theresa Krynski
Harry Krynski
Andrew Rouleau
Scott Elsberg
Samuel Boardman
Dorothy Boardman
Karl Schmidt
Nina Thomas
Harlan Thomas
Dale A. Dlugos
Nancy Fedor
Robert J. Blair
Carole Schreiber
Mrs. Ruth Rusche

Dan Townsend
Robert Adamik
Patricia Adamik
Tony Fedor
Mrs. Betty Blair
Leda McLennan
Marge Risser
Elmer F. Scott, Jr.
Mrs. Dorothy Scott
Burt Dyson
Shirley Anderson
Duncan Rouleau
Dan Erickson
Jeannine Erickson
Barbara Smith
Diana G. Wagner
Richard H. Paul
Harold Ollmann
Lawrence E. Saar
William G. Elsberg
Fred Hess
Shirley H. Ketter
Ruth H. Gilbert
Sue Townsend
Mary Piasecki
Stanley P. Piasecki
Bertha Keller
Mrs. Elmer F. Tonne
J. Gerard Sitter
William H. Madden
Dorothy Bochenko
Dale Dlugos
Richard Vieau
Mrs. Sophie Honk
Donna Madden
Patty Szerlong
Clare Sgarbossa
Ella C. Broker

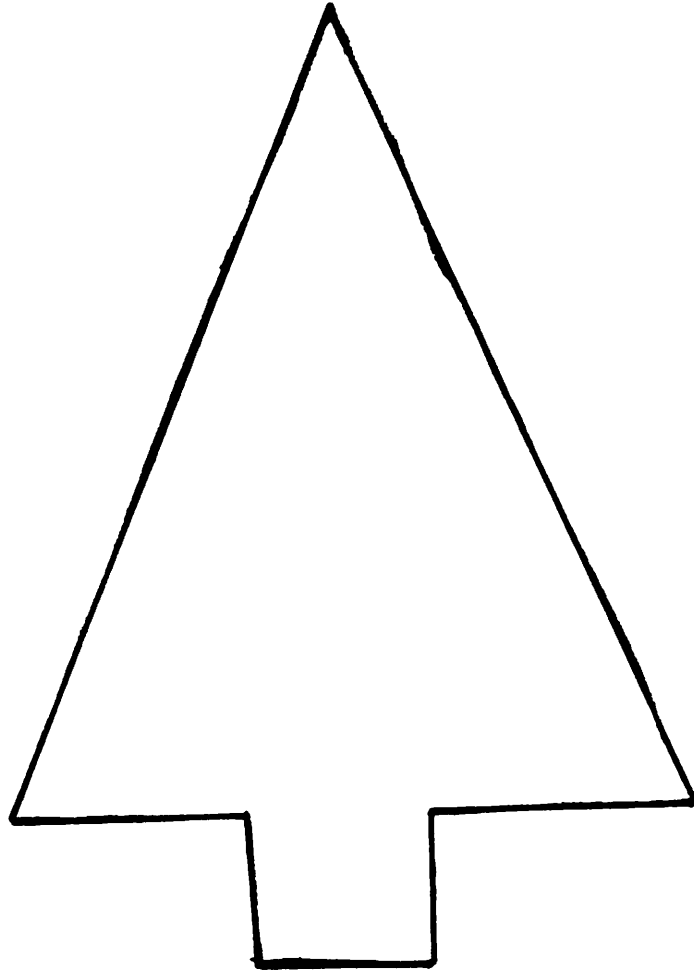
PARTICIPANTS

Chris Fedor
Colleen Ryan
Gary Adamik
Dina Drust
Patrick Adamik
Curtis Ryan
Pat Anchor
Bob Adamik, Jr.
Lisa Krynski
David Krynski
Darci Erickson
Russ Anchor
Shawn Ryan
Darrin Erickson
Tony Fedor, Jr.
Wendy Fedor
Tracy M. Madden

LEADERS

Laura Bellgart
Kelly Ryan
Kerry Lahner
Romelle Drust
Renee Drust
Kerry Ryan
Jeane Craven
Sue Nowak
Lisa Reed

PERSEVERANCE



GROWING TO A NEW LIFE

The Practical Proposals

Session Two

**COMMUNITY
FORUM**

We the citizens of Itasca in order to develop working relations between schools and organizations, propose delegating one member from each organization and group to get together, to correlate all activities in the community by publishing a newsletter through contacting all organizations and schools and having them send a representative at a set time and place, with their agenda, to discuss the publication and cost of a monthly newsletter.

**COMMUNICATION
VERIFICATION**

We the citizens of Itasca in order to relate community activities, propose a community calender, newsletter, bulletin boards and posting of village board meetings through our community organized groups such as Jaycees, Lions Club, Jr. Woman's Club, Garden Club, Historical Society, to sponsor bulletin boards in designated areas of Itasca and maintain updated information consolidated by a committee from above groups. The minutes of the village board meetings are to be posted on these bulletin boards.

**VILLAGE
PRIDE &
COMMITMENT**

We the citizens of Itasca in order to generate village pride and commitment, propose to conduct civic responsibility in adult educational classes, community rap sessions and get the community to resolve village problems thru commitment such as: calling committee, appoint block captains to generate petitions and improve board meeting attendance.

ECONOMIC PROPOSALS



May 1, 1976

**YOUTH
EMPLOYMENT**

We the citizens of Itasca in order to employ the youth of Itasca in available jobs, propose to coordinate the youth needs and available jobs through the hiring of a person by the village for coordinating all youth activities in Itasca.

**GIVE US THE
BUSINESS**

We the citizens of Itasca in order to bring business into the community which fit its needs, propose studying rezoning to incorporate an architectural image which fits our community through surveying the population, contacting a development organization about bringing businesses in which fit the desired image and establishing a long range traffic control plan.

Itasca



POLITICAL PROPOSALS

May 1, 1976

**BETTER
VILLAGE
GOVERNMENT**

We the citizens of Itasca in order to obtain qualified village officials, responsive to needs of the townspeople, propose to elect a larger board and employ a village administrator through amendment of the Village By-laws, by petition, referendum and election.

The New Story

We were Indians—we were immigrants—we were suburbanites, and now we are striving to be Itascans.

In 1843, the original charter from the government was given to Dr. Elijah Smith, other New Englanders moved into the area. The next 30 years saw the great German migration—people seeking political and religious freedoms.

We officially became a Village in 1890. WWI brought people from Chicago seeking a quieter, slower, ideal suburban life style, with easy access to the City via the train.

WWII brought an influx of the middle class masses from Chicago wanting to escape the pressures and financial burdens of the City to a place where they could exercise their individual responsibilities and have a voice in the town's development.

Today we are in the process of preserving our cultural heritage by relocating the 100 year old railroad depot for a museum, building a Gazebo for a center for our cultural expression, and developing Spring Brook Nature Center to preserve our natural environment.

ITASCA, WE LOVE YOU

To be sung to the tune of: Climb Every Mountain

Itasca, we love you,
all of your charm, steepled chruches and Iris,
sheltered all around

German farmers started, planted values here,
We in new suburbia,
hold those values dear.

The quiets in Itasca,
the roar is in the sky,
We will live together
as the years go bye.