

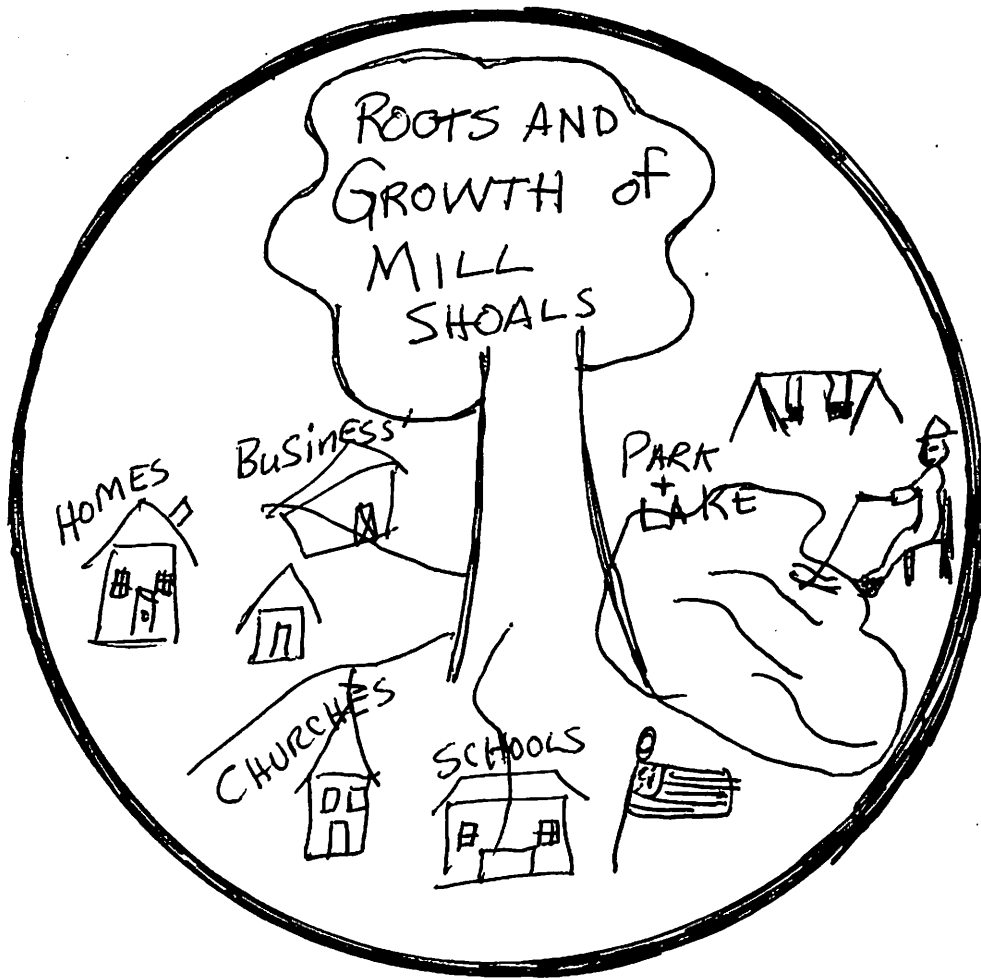
MILL SHOALS TOWN
ILL.

White County

ILLINOIS

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MILL SHOALS, ILL.



TOWN MEETING

April 4, 1978

The Fast

The Story

Fire Dept.
Water
Sidewalks
Highway
Trees Planted
Indian Community
Only a trail through the woods
Stave Mill
Tile Factory
Canning Factory
7 Schools in Township 1907
R. R. B& O built 1870
Fodder Town
William Tweek 1st Settler
Built Flour Mill on the Skillet Fork River
Hardware Store - Burned
Wind Mill 1899
Sawmill Town
Ties and Mine Props
Trading Center
Reas - 1937

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The New Story

"Mill Shoals Community"

The Old Mill fell,
The people came to tell,
To find what they will.

Mill Shoals Town Meeting

April 4, 1978

The Future

The Song

Sewage System
Improved & Upgraded Housing
Small Industries
Grocery Store
School System
Upgraded Public Facilities
Utilize Coal & Oil
Keep the Wealth Here

A community where people like to live
Make it more attractive
Schools
Develop Natural Resources

The Song

"The Fire"

Tune: "Old Mother Leary"

1858, smoke signals marked the town,
1928, it burned to the ground,

1978, you turn and look around--

It's burning, It's burning,

Mill Shoals!

The Social Process

1. Need for sewage system
2. Upgrade water system, pressure & volume
3. Need housing
4. Get rid of some present housing
5. Inadequate medical care in area
6. Limited activities for elderly
7. Limited activities for teenagers
8. Not many young people go to church
9. Politicians not aware of needs of community
10. People not showing up to talk to politicians
11. Flooding yearly occurrence
12. Isolation from county or other aid in case of emergency
13. No police protection
14. Personal finances
15. Little children playing in big sewer ditch
16. Local school situation unsatisfactory
17. Not enough students to support school

I. DEVELOPMENT, ADVANCEMENT, AND MOTIVATION AROUND THE COMMUNITY

In the arena of community care, these blocks exist, Inadequate facilities, lack of publicity for a congressman's visit, lack of facilities for young people, and inadequate educational facilities and plant. This indicates that the underlying contradiction is lack of unity and motivation, and the people being focused on family and work to the exclusion of community concerns. This is illustrated by Civil Defense problems and the local High School.

II. COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

In the arena of community depreciation these blocks exist: lack of money, disinterest, location and lack of concern, state legislation, and small population. This indicates that the underlying contradiction is too many people on fixed income, a second group on welfare, and a third group that is disinterested. The first group won't vote on bond issues, the second just don't care, and the third are getting tired of putting up with and paying for the other two. This is illustrated by the present conditions of people loafing, not working, a lack of pride and the run-down condition of property.

III. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND CONCERN

In the arena of economic inadequacies, these blocks exist: there is no participation in community efforts by the people. This indicates that the underlying contradiction is lack of community concern and know-how. This is illustrated by numerous surveys taken with minimal response.

Getting the People Working Together

- Start talking to people, ask for suggestions
- Invite people to work on committees
- Visit your neighbor
- Elders work on community project
- Communicate the value of a small town to the people
- Involve the parents through involvement of the children

Communicate Information about the Community

- Start a community debating committee
- Hold public meetings
- Organize a community-oriented club or organization
- Form a PTA

Stimulate Community Interest

- Men play the women in baseball
- A small group get excited about community activity
so others will see it and get interested
- Have a square dance
- Build a park as a community activity

PROPOSAL UNITY THROUGH UNITED EFFORT

We the Citizens of Mill Shoals, in order to get the people working together propose to make a community event of adding equipment to the school playground through:

- 1) Door to door visiting to arouse interest,
- 2) Hold an initiating meeting to decide the details and assignments of the project, for example, decide to put in trees and benches for elders.
- 3) Ask for money and donations of equipment.
- 4) Publicize the day,
- 5) Have home talent as entertainment during the day.

Town Meeting Demonstration

Mill Shoals, Illinois 62862

April 4, 1978

White County

Participants

Margaret A. Boucherie
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Mill Shoals

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Buddie Young
Mill Shoals

Patsy Young
Mill Shoals

Verniece Harris
Mill Shoals

Wildon R. Harris
Mill Shoals

William N. Adams
Mill Shoals

~~Alice Koontz~~