



City of Cambridge

77.

IN CITY COUNCIL

September 9, 1996

COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU
 VICE MAYOR BORN
 COUNCILLOR DAVIS
 COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
 COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
 COUNCILLOR REEVES
 MAYOR RUSSELL
 COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
 COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: Robert McClellan, Johnn Prince, Susan Teshu, Phyllis Reichart, Noah Testiu, Corina Teshuand and Lila Yun Reichart are celebrating their one year anniversary at 86 Harvey Street, where they live in and as an intentional community; and

WHEREAS: The Harvey Street community has serious concerns and commitment regarding sharing resources, building intentional community and supporting each other's personal growth, work for progressive social change, and spiritual diversity; and

WHEREAS: This committed household of people operates as a consciously functional, chosen family, and intends to put down its roots in its North Cambridge neighborhood; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record wishing Robert, Johnn, Susan, Phyllis, Noah, Corina and Lila a very happy first anniversary in their house on Harvey Street, and many, many more; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the community at 86 Harvey Street on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council September 9, 1996

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- *D. Margaret Drury*
 D. Margaret Drury
 City Clerk

KJ

77. 9/9

Whereas: Robert McClellan, Johnny Prince,
Susan ~~Teshu~~ Teshu, Phyllis Reichart
Noah Teshu and Crina ^{Teshu and} Lila Yun' Reichart
are celebrating their one year
anniversary at 86 Harvey Street, where
they live ^{in and} as an intentional community;
and

Whereas: The ~~86~~ Harvey Street Community ^{has}
seems concerned and committed ~~to~~
~~is part of a network of people,~~
Common Unity, ~~who share concerns~~
~~concerns about~~ sharing resources, building intentional
community, and supporting each other's personal
growth, work for progressive social change,
and ~~spiritual~~ spiritual diversity; and

Whereas: This committed household of people
operates as a consciously functional, chosen
family, and ~~has chosen the diverse neighborhood~~
~~of North Cambridge as a~~ intends to
put down its roots in its North Cambridge
neighborhood; now therefore be it

Resolved: That the City Council go on
record recognizing Robert, Johnny, Susan,

Phyllis, Noah and China a very happy
first anniversary in their home on Harvey
Street, and many, many more; and
be it further

Resolved: That the City Clerk forward a suitably
engraved copy of this resolution to the
community at 86 Harvey Street on behalf
of the entire C-C-

OPEN HOUSE

**ROBERT, JOHNN, SUSAN, PHYLLIS,
NOAH, AND CORINA**

**INVITE YOU TO
CELEBRATE WITH US
ON OUR ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY
AT 86 HARVEY ST**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3rd, 4PM TO 8 PM,

(AT THE CORNER OF HARVEY AND MONTGOMERY)

- COME AT ANY POINT
 - MEET THE FOLKS WHO LIVE HERE
- YOU'RE WELCOME TO BRING FOOD
OR MUNCHIES (NO MEAT, POULTRY,
OR FISH IN ANYTHING, PLEASE)
 - NOSH
- GET A HOUSE TOUR
 - TALK WITH US ABOUT WHAT
WE'RE DOING HERE
- HELP US CELEBRATE THE FIRST OF MANY,
MANY YEARS AT OUR HOUSE IN NORTH CAMBRIDGE

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CALL US AT 576-6878**

HI, JOYCE + KATHARINE,
WE'D LOVE TO HAVE
YOU COME TO THIS!
(WE'RE THE folks
whose bumper stickers
you liked.)

WE BELIEVE, then, that community can be a place where real security is made through our actions and shared beliefs, where we can begin to discover what our real needs are. It can be a place where individual needs are respected and supported in the context of the needs of the community and in relation to the larger groups of people in our neighborhood, city, and the world. In community we can search for that balance which will give us the energy to think so well about ourselves that we will have the ability and the desire to think well about others, too. We will not need to be afraid of giving of ourselves too much because we will be taking care of ourselves and will be able to trust the other members of our community to be looking out for our welfare as much as we look out for theirs. It is in this context of true interdependence that we find ourselves sufficiently free to share our resources— personal, spiritual, material—with each other.

THEREFORE, we have formed a long-term, intentional community, a household of people who plan to live together well into the foreseeable future. This household exists as a place to support and strategize about our work in social change and a place to explore and celebrate our spiritual directions. We begin each day with meditation, led in turn by each one of us. We also celebrate natural and historical “seasonal” events with rituals and time for sharing. We support and challenge individual social change work and personal growth. We stimulate collective discussion of political issues and possible actions that we could take to effect them. And we are working toward the eventual sharing of all our resources. We operate as a consciously functional, chosen family.

WE CHERISH our children and try to provide them with clear, fair, consistent expectations. Parenting is a shared responsibility among the adult members of our community. We meet regularly to discuss parenting issues. Our children are loved and respected; they are included in the work and the decision making of the community in ways appropriate to their respective development.

WE LIVE IN A MULTI-RACIAL NEIGHBORHOOD, by choice. We would love to have our household be as multi-racial as it is multi-cultural, but it seems more important to us to be doing things that directly combat racism than to spend our time working to “recruit” people of color into our household. One direct approach to doing this is to make ourselves available to the leadership of people of color in our neighborhood. In fact, it is entirely possible that through such a situation a multi-racial community might emerge in a much more organic fashion. We see our involvement at the multicultural, public school some of our children attend as a major avenue for our participation in the neighborhood.

OUR COMMUNITY is part of a network of people, **Common Unity**, who share our concerns about personal growth, spiritual diversity and social change. We are members of the Fellowship for Intentional Communities, and expect to become a member in dialogue with the Federation of Egalitarian Communities as well.

OUR HOUSEHOLD SEEKS people willing to explore making a long-term commitment to our community. We seek people who can think well about themselves, every other person in the household, and the group as a whole. We seek people who can think clearly about what we as individuals and as a group can do to transform the world into a better place; for whom liberation and healing are personal as well as political issues; who value the practice of spiritual diversity; people who are willing to engage in a **process** that will eventually result in a situation where we will share all income, assets, and resources.

COMMON THREADS

P.O.BOX 441713

SOMERVILLE, MA 02144-0014

(617)576-6878

COMMON THREADS:

A MANIFESTO FOR COMMUNITY

~social change, spiritual diversity, personal growth, shared resources~

WE BELIEVE that there is a **need** for community. We need community because it can foster our spiritual growth and commitment, our ability to work for a more just world, and our courage to grow and change in our personal life. In a community where we live, work, pray, strategize, celebrate, laugh, cry, challenge, and support each other **together**, we are able to free ourselves from the crippling fear of always being alone in all our decisions, mistakes, commitments, and plans.

WE BELIEVE that as we live in community we can each become more whole. We can nurture the energy, security, and great compassion that it takes to face the barriers within ourselves with enough energy left to help others do the same. There are many paths to personal growth, some of which we must take alone, but many more which we can only pursue through our interactions with others.

WE BELIEVE that in community we can create the time and the space to celebrate and explore not only our own spiritual heritages and paths but the spiritual diversity that surrounds us, both in the world, and most importantly, within our community. On a daily basis, both collectively and as individuals, we can rekindle and feed the flame that allows our inner quest to make itself manifest in the world. We can discover more and more deeply the connections between our spiritual experience and our desire for social change. Like personal growth, spiritual awareness requires regular practice; we are creating community routines that set aside time to honor our spiritual needs.

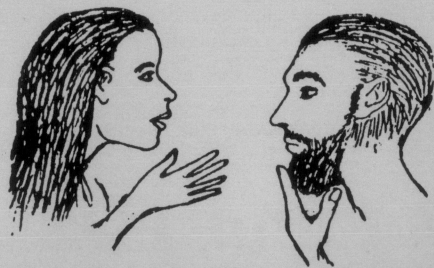
WE BELIEVE that through community we can make a difference in the many ills that afflict our world. The grinding poverty that leads to hunger, homelessness, and disease; the injustices that occur because someone is not in the dominant race, religion, class, gender, or sexual orientation; the exclusion of people with disabilities; the wars and the murders of entire populations; and the ecological devastation of the planet, are but some of these. While community cannot address all of these issues, it can help its members to see how each one of us (and perhaps the group as a whole) can address some of these issues in particular ways. Together we can look at such questions as: In what ways are these issues interconnected? What is most needed at this place and at this time? What skills do we have with which to address these issues? Which issues touch our hearts? What will enable us to keep going when the going gets hardest? How can we remember to think globally when we are caught up in acting locally? How do we apply social awareness to our daily personal interactions? How do we remember that neither the oppressed nor the oppressors are our enemies? We believe in treating each other with respect and being mindful of the diversities within our group as we grow in awareness of the breadth of human experience.

WE BELIEVE that sharing our material resources and talents allows us to live simpler and less cluttered lives. We believe that this is a model for how we will all have to live if we want economic justice in the world.

WE BELIEVE that everything we do (**and do not do**) is a political/spiritual/personal act. We can use all of our actions to transform oppression of every sort and to stop the destruction of the earth. What stops us from acting is the memory of hurt and the fear of being hurt again. As our personal growth allows us to move through that hurt and our spiritual sharing and community support nurtures us, we become more capable of acting in ways that can create social change.

Common Unity is a group of people interested in building intentional community together. We support each other in personal growth, work for progressive social change, and celebrate and learn from our spiritual diversity. We have many ideas of what community might be and want to share our resources in a variety of ways.

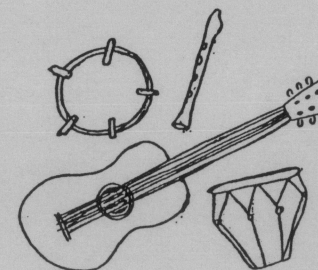
PERSONAL GROWTH: We think creatively about each other's needs and support each other in addressing our personal challenges effectively. We want to develop our individual listening skills and believe that our skills at supporting one another are one of our many resources to be shared.



SOCIAL CHANGE: We want a world which is in balance: peaceful, fair, and just. Many movements for liberation have influenced us — feminism, multiculturalism, lesbian/gay/bisexual liberation, class awareness, and ecology. Raising children is also a social change activity and we are committed to fostering respect for young people. We pay attention to our interactions with each other because we want our lives to be consistent with our beliefs. We support each other in our social change activities in the world.

SPIRITUAL DIVERSITY: Our spirituality is consistent with our politics, open to any path that is not dogmatic or exclusionary. We individually follow many different spiritual paths but try to honor and learn from these differences. We try to find ways to celebrate our various traditions together.

COMMUNITY: We have many visions of what long-range community might be like. Some of us want to live together under "one roof"; some of us would prefer to live in separate households which are close to one another; some of us enjoy community as a social network that meets regularly for support and enjoyment; and some of us are still exploring and forming our ideas. These options are both compatible and overlapping. As a result, we practice community in many different ways. Some of us live in group households and some do not. We have regular gatherings that include potluck dinners, a monthly evening of relaxing together modeled informally on the Jewish Sabbath, celebrations of the seasons, and discussions of topics that relate to our other concerns of personal growth, social change, and community.



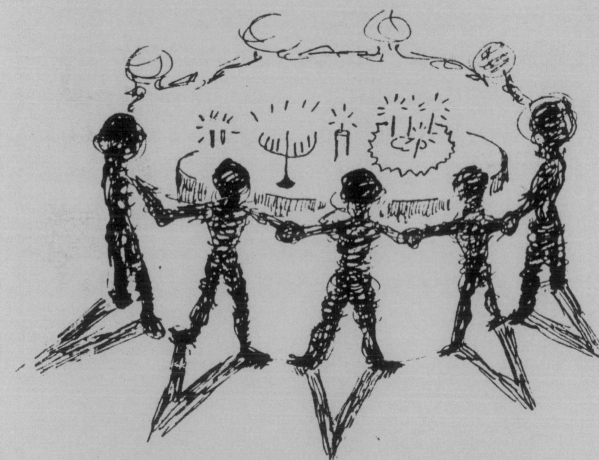
RESOURCE SHARING: We each have differing notions of what this means, but we all acknowledge the importance of some level of resource sharing. Ideas, feelings, time, energy, interpersonal skills, material possessions, income, and personal assets are all resources. We have a Common Unity library, and have frequently shared our cars, computers, and the care of our children. Perhaps most important is the support and caring that we share among ourselves.



OUR FUTURE: We value our diversity as a group of people: women and men from various class and religious backgrounds, many sexual orientations, with a wide age range. We would like to increase our ethnic and racial diversity and we are open to people with various abilities and disabilities as well. We are actively searching for people to join us, particularly people who are interested in building long-term community.

COMMON UNITY
P.O. BOX 441713
SOMERVILLE, MA
02144-0014

COMMON UNITY



STATEMENT OF PURPOSE



City of Cambridge

77.

IN CITY COUNCIL

September 9, 1996

COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: Robert McClellan, Johnn Prince, Susan Teshu, Phyllis Reichart, Noah Testiu, Corina Teshuand and Lila Yun Reichart are celebrating their one year anniversary at 86 Harvey Street, where they live in and as an intentional community; and

WHEREAS: The Harvey Street community has serious concerns and commitment regarding sharing resources, building intentional community and supporting each other's personal growth, work for progressive social change, and spiritual diversity; and

WHEREAS: This committed household of people operates as a consciously functional, chosen family, and intends to put down its roots in its North Cambridge neighborhood; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record wishing Robert, Johnn, Susan, Phyllis, Noah, Corina and Lila a very happy first anniversary in their house on Harvey Street, and many, many more; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the community at 86 Harvey Street on behalf of the entire City Council.

KT- Born Day Huey Gallucci
Consent Order #77

Russell Sullivan Rooney

A very happy first anniversary in their house on Harvey Street to Robert McClellan, John Prince, Susan Teshu, Phyllis Reichart, Noah Testiu, Corina Teshuand and Lila Yun Reichart.

R-881

In City Council September 9, 1996

ORDER ADOPTED