

Notes Concerning the McKownville Improvement Association Meeting held January 26, 2005, Holiday Inn Express.

The McKownville Improvement Association meeting January 26, 2005 heard from Mike Franchini, Albany County Highway Department Commissioner, who informed us that there are four road improvement projects scheduled in our neighborhood. In 2005/2006 it will be Schoolhouse/Russell/Krumkill county road (County Route 204). It will be repaved, with sidewalks and wider shoulders added along with a possible "round-about" at the Krumkill/Russell intersection. Then in 2006 the bridge on Grant Hill rad will be replaced. In 2007 Fuller Road will be rebuilt. There were numerous ideas put forth by the audience, and noted by Mike, but essentially they were to get better pedestrian cross walks and better sidewalks. Lastly there is Johnson Road for 2008 and sidewalks will be added there also. Mike reported that he had spoken with the Thruway about the flyover. Preliminary plans for the repaving of the Thruway from Exit 23 to Exit 24 will likely be released sometime in February/March. No

Tom Ellis of Citizen's Environmental Coalition spoke about the NL (National Lead) plant that had been located near the underpass on Central Avenue and how its manufacturing processes using spent uranium created a health hazard for a very large region, as far away as Knolls Labs in Niskayuna. A public health assessment for the affected population, presumably including McKownville residents, is being requested now and he invited everyone to join in writing letters to the State Health Department to get this done. A class action suit against NL was discussed also.

The coffee shop request re-zoning request for 1436 Western--corner of McKown Road--has been withdrawn by the applicant. The Starbucks coffee shop proposed for 1206 Western--the palm reader house near Sutters--had a hearing by the Planning Board and another hearing will be scheduled. Thirdly, the empty lot next to the Christ Lutheran Church is being looked at by Prime Care for construction of a medical imaging facility. The L'Ecole property on Fuller is again active but what this really means is not yet known. Our new property tax assessments should be mailed about February 1, 2005. The transfer of the "Blue House" property--1257 Western--from the Town to the McKownville Fire Department has occurred and a party with the McKownville Fire Department celebrating such will be held in the Spring.

Board member Laura Whalen suggested that the Association a farmer's market be located at Stuyvesant during the warmer months--possibly using the parking lot owned by the Town near the liquor store. Laura would like persons interested in getting a farmer's market to locate in McKownville to contact her at 482-2531. Her email is lswhalen@aol.com. We did not have time for reports from the other committees of the Association--Trees, Paths and Sidewalks, Storm Sewers, Western Avenue, Treasury.

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