

To: The McKownville Improvement Association Board  
From: Don Reeb  
Subject: Board Minutes  
Date: January 27, 2008

At the January Board meeting on Thursday January 24, 2008 the topics discussed were as follows.

1. The Fuller Road planning by the County of Albany is progressing but there are as yet no plans to review and Mike Franchini said he would be glad to meet with us when there are plans to review. I reminded Mike that we of course desire sidewalks on both sides from Western to Central, no widening of the roadway (keep the curbs where they are) and create a safe pedestrian crossing zone with walk lights near the Shabbos House/Mercer Street intersections. Insofar as bushes and trees need be removed to build the sidewalks, replace them with like plants. Mike indicated that he is aware of our hopes for this area.

2. The engineering for the continuation of the Western Avenue sidewalk on the south side from McKown to the City line is taking place but no sketches or plans are as yet available for review.

3. I called Roger Stone, the Town enforcement officer, about the Hansen property on Western where construction appears to be proceeding on the second floor as if it is to be rented. As you may remember the Special Use Permit for the building does not permit a third tenant, only the two, the Hansen flooring showroom and the bathroom showroom. Hansen, at the zoning hearing, put forth a proposal for a third tenant and then withdrew it when it became obvious that the Zoning Board was not going to permit that to happen—historically the property had but one tenant and that was the position of the Association—one tenant.

4. There are rumors that Mangia's is moving from its present site to that formerly occupied by L'Ecole. No indication that it is more than rumor. When the ZBA granted permission for a larger restaurant on that site, after L'Ecole was demolished, it put into its Special Use Permit requirements statements about lighting, parking, protective barriers for the Providence residences and other changes. To those we should add a sidewalk from Western Avenue to the Plaza on both sides of the entrance, a better walking surface for the path from Stuyvesant to Providence, a better quality sidewalk

along Fuller, better plantings in the same area along with changes in the traffic light and walk lights at Executive Drive, if and when the Mangia/L'Ecole construction comes to pass..

5. There have been announcements about changes in the bus route within Stuyvesant Plaza—entering at Executive Drive and circling behind the shops and stopping at the Post office and exiting from the Plaza as done at present. This will be more burdensome for older persons using the bus to get to the Plaza for their shopping. Calls will be made to CDTA concerning this.

6. A bus passenger waiting pavilion has been installed at the corner of McKown Road and Western Avenue.

7. There has been a rumor that Germano's Garage would expand into the remaining portion of the garage on the corner of McKown Road. The removal of the tanks and replacing of much of the dirt and the p [pumping out of much water and its treatment at a special filtering station located on the premises appears to have been completed.

8. National Grid has been in contact with me concerning the construction at the corner of Highland and Western. More on this should be forthcoming including the methods to be used to file for reimbursement for damages done by the steel plates in the road.

9. The one family home at 1420 Western is for sale—its price has been reduced from around \$260,000 to about \$190,000. The home on the corner of Fuller and Mercer was sold for more than the asking price, recently.

10. Senator Breslin has put together a "Naturally Aging Neighborhood" concept and it has been implemented in the White Hall Road neighborhood in Albany. It might be of interest to McKownville and I will be investigating it some more.

11. The next board meeting will be in February and in March we will hold a public meeting.