

1963 Annual Meeting
Minutes.

5/21/63
Annual mtg

The Mc Kownville Improvement Association held its annual meeting on May 21, 1963 at 8:00 P.M. in the Mc Kownville Fire Hall, with good attendance.

The meeting was called to order by Harry W. Reynders, President. The Minutes of the annual meeting for 1962 were read and approved, with the report of the Treasurer read and approved. The correction was made that the Postal Sub-Station is expected to be located at the State Campus, instead of the University Campus as quoted.

The regular order of the meeting was then interrupted when the speaker of the evening appeared. Colonel Walter M. Tisdale, Assistant to the President of the State University of New York for Planning and Development, was introduced to the audience by Mr. Gerald Hamme. Colonel Tisdale's subject was- "The New York State University and its impact on the Community". He showed slides of the proposed new University Buildings and Campus which were most interesting, after which, there was a question and answer period during which Colonel Tisdale gave residents of the community replies to questions they sought to have answered.

The pictures shown were of buildings to be completed by 1966 to house some 10,000 students. He spoke of the problems as well as the joys this new enterprise would bring to the area. The new University is expected to have on the under-graduate level every course you would want with the exception of Medicine and Law. The latter two courses excepted because Albany already has facilities for them.

In addition to all the planned uses for the buildings shown it was pointed out there would also be some efficiency apartments built to house young married students,

Impacts on the community would be many, including the need for sidewalks and bicycle paths for pedestrians and bicycles; there would be bars and many more cars which will have to be properly handled; the further need for Churches and cultural events in the neighborhood to cover all religions; transportation and, particularly bus transportation needs; the traffic flow back and forth from the dormitories in the city; entertainment such as movie theatres, etc. Fire and ambulance facilities would be handled by the college which would have its own fire-fighting equipment; ambulance would serve their own needs and would not be a drag on any local ambulance service such as the Western Turnpike Rescue Squad; a small infirmary on campus to take care of minor injuries, etc. major ones would go to hospitals in Albany.

There would be 5 dining halls for the serving of food, each to serve 500 students at one sitting, with each meal served twice.

There are three entrances planned; 1 at Western Ave. near the old Country Club entrance, one on Fuller Road and one on Washington Ave. Sewerage and water needs are being handled through the City of Albany.

Col. Tisdale felt that rather than acquire present homes, that the trend would be to expand to lands not yet developed for housing of faculty, which might number 1,000 Professors, teachers, etc. Sorority and Fraternity housed on Campus (by their own choice.)

Summer of 1964 there should be 524 beds provided in the low-rise section buildings and the balance planned by the 15th of Jan., 1965.

There will be three (3) service buildings on Fuller Road.

It is anticipated there will be 3 Academic Buildings by 1965 and classes will start in the fall of 1965 with the entire thing built by the fall 1966 semester.

Less than half the enrollment today live on campus; the others commute from home.

After the question and answer period, Colonel Tisdale was thanked by Harry Reynders, Pres. after which the regular annual meeting continued.

The Treasurer's report was read and accepted. The balance on hand on Jan. 1, 1963 was \$217.24 and May 20, 1963 (after expenses); the balance stood at \$153.30 to which would be added additional dues which were paid at this meeting tonight.

President Harry Reynders then gave a progress report for the year. Highlights of which were:-

1. Water District and Stuyvesant PLAZA- He reviewed this situation stating that prior to the Meeting last year the Town Board had a public hearing which was designed to decide on the request of Stuyvesant Plaza to buy the strip of land, belonging to the Water District, for further expansion. Mr. Pipito, a lawyer, appeared on the scene, and although out of order, made another offer by his unnamed client. This confused the issue. The majority of the people were in favor of selling the property, if possible, to Stuyvesant for expansion since they planned to erect a building for a Department Store on which the tax return would be good, etc. The matter went back and forth between the Town Board and the Mc Kownville Improvement Association. However, the quiet attitude of Stuyvesant Plaza led the Town Board to believe they were no longer interested, and eventually, through constant pressure from him, the Town Board voted 3 to 2 to sell the land to Pipito providing he could get ingress and egress to the property. The Mc Kownville Improvement went on record against this move and agreed to have an appraiser value the land, with the final cost of \$100.00 paid to J. Ainsworth Scott. (Appraised Oct. 29, 1962). There was another public hearing held in the Fire Hall and the majority of the people still felt the sale to Stuyvesant Plaza was the best one. However, the Town Board now rests on the action of Mr. Pipito who is trying to get the Courts to say whether the sale agreed on to him is valid. There is where the issue stands and nothing can be done until it is resolved.

It was pointed out also that the Fire District expressed a desire for a piece of land on Western Ave. for a new fire house to be built in that vicinity.

Both Messrs Maneri and Reynders have made visits to the Water Resources commission to try and find out if they would approve the sale of the property, it being so near the Water Shed area, and an off-the-cuff opinion is that it is doubtful because of the close proximity to the Reservoir. (The land must be sold; its definite purpose or use stated, before the Water Resources Commission will pass on it, and then it may be turned down by them.)

Mr. John Feldmann made a motion that a vote of confidence be given to the President and the Officers of the Association for the past year. Those present rendered a standing vote of thanks.

The slate of Officers was then introduced as follows:- 1963-1964

Gerald Hamme, President
Charles Maneri, Vice-Pres.
Florence Choules, Secretary
Verla McCarville, Treasurer.

Also, inasmuch as the terms of three Directors expires at this time the following names were offered, with their qualifications listed:

For Re-election: J. Francis Purdy
John Feldmann

New: Donald S. Munn of Parkwood St. West
Malcolm Pitkin
Robert Quackenbush of Highlands Drive

After voting was conducted the following were elected as Directors:

J. Francis Purdy
John Feldmann
Robert Quackenbush

Mr. Gerald Hamme, the newly elected President of the Association was introduced by Harry Reynders and asked to speak. He thanked the members for electing him and stated his home at 30 Norwood St., McKownville, was open to all and expressed the wish that the members feel free to contact him on any problems or suggestions which might be offered for the good of the community.

In regard to Lawn Sprinkling, several members mentioned the fact that they felt a change of nights or a rotation of nights for watering in different sections should be made each year so that certain ones would not always have Saturday night which seemed to be the least desirable night to water the lawns. All present were in favor of this and it will be noted for suggestion to the Town Board with the request that the Water Superintendent so oblige.

There being no further business, John Feldmann motioned to adjourn; seconded by James Choules.

The Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Florence Choules,
Secretary.