

1964 Annual Meeting
Minutes

The McKownville Improvement Association held its annual meeting on May 18, 1964 at 8:00 P.M. in the Christ Lutheran Church, corner of Highlands Drive and Western Avenue.

The meeting was called to order by Gerald W. Hamme, President. Mr. Hamme mentioned that this was the 40th Annual Meeting of the Association. In order to clarify eligibility for membership, he read a pertinent section from the By-Laws. Article 1, Section 2: "All persons shall be eligible for membership who are freeholders or householders within the territory hereinafter described and who are qualified voters at general elections."

A roll call of officers was made and a record of attendance as follows:

Gerald W. Hamme, Pres.	Present
Charles Maneri, Vice Pres.	Present
Florence Choules, Sec.	Absent
Verla McCarville, Treas.	Present
Harry Reynders, Past Pres.	Present
George Hurley, Director 1964	Present
James Choules, Director "	Present
Harold Van Heusen, Director "	Absent
Dorothy Maneri, Director, 1965	Present
Martin Lanahan, Director, 1965	Absent
Hugh Prytherch, Director, 1965	Present
J. Francis Purdy, Director, 1966	Absent
John Feldmann, Director, 1966	Present
Robert Quackenbush, Director, 1966	Absent

The minutes of the 1963 Annual Meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was read and approved, with a balance on hand of \$153.14.

President Hamme reported three bills on hand to be paid: \$15 to Mrs. Zyniecki for distribution of annual meeting notices; \$10 to Mr. Freeman for the Boy Scouts' assistance in distributing the Association's Neighborhood Week notices; \$10 contribution to the Christ Lutheran Church for use of the meeting room. Motion was made, seconded and approved for each of these bills.

President Hamme then presented the President's report in which he reviewed the work of the Association for the past year. He mentioned specifically storm drainage, traffic control, water resources, zoning, sidewalks, rotation of watering nights and McKownville Water Advisory Board. The Guilderland Town Board has appointed a new Water Advisory Board for McKownville, whose members are as follows: Charles Maneri, Chairman; Fred Abele, John Feldmann, Gerald Hamme and Francis Purdy. Mr. Hamme thanked the officers and directors for their cooperation during the past year and expressed his appreciation and pleasure in having served as President.

Mr. Maneri was asked to report on the work of the new McKownville Water Advisory Board. He reported that the Board was hard at work in trying to suggest improvements to the McKownville water supply. The Board met with Supervisor Gordon Robinson and Kenneth Fraser, Engineer, and the entire water problem with relation to McKownville was reviewed. Another meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 28 at Town Hall.

Mr. Hamme then distributed a sketch of the New Campus of the State University of New York at Albany. A letter of reply from Col. Walter Tisdale, Office of Planning and Development for the State University, was read. In the discussion that followed, it was noted that 7,000 students are expected to be in attendance by 1966 and 10,000 students expected by 1970. The total cost of all structures at the new campus is expected to be \$70,000,000. Fence locations are still to be determined, but it is anticipated that fences would be erected along the south boundary. Present plans of the University do not call for expansion into McKownville residential areas bordering the University campus.

President Hamme then introduced Supervisor Gordon Robinson and the Town Planning Board Chairman, Ward Wells.

Mr. Robinson spoke of the work of the Guilderland Town Board with the NYS Traffic Commission in relation to the traffic problem in McKownville and the Town of Guilderland. He mentioned specifically the Board's request to lower the speed limit on Route 20, traffic light at Johnson Rd. and Rte 20, left turn signal at Schoolhouse Road, right turn signal at Western and Fuller, and traffic light at Western Ave. and McKown's Road. The State Traffic Commission is again studying this entire traffic problem and it is hoped that action will be forthcoming soon.

Mr. Robinson mentioned that a no parking ordinance is now in effect on Fuller Road and streets off Fuller. This was brought about because of complaints from McKownville residents that parking of construction workers at the new campus created a traffic hazard. The parking ordinance may be extended to any street where it becomes a problem. Mr. Robinson also reported that Councilman James Choules is working with the Town Attorney with relation to a traffic problem on Elmwood Street, created by motorists who use this street as a short-cut to avoid the traffic light at Fuller and Western.

Mr. Robinson announced the holding of a public hearing at Town Hall on June 9 for the purpose of making amendments to the Zoning law. With these amendments greater control will be exercised over junk yard classification, swimming pool ordinance, and all local business will be placed under a special use permit. Also on June 9 a public hearing will be held for the purpose of adopting an ordinance requiring the licensing of hawkers, peddlers and vendors of goods.

On May 25 a public hearing will be held with regard to the licensing of all trash and garbage collectors, Mr. Robinson said.

Mr. Robinson ^{mentioned} ~~then spoke of~~ the Youth Commission program for this year. There will not be a playground in McKownville, the closest one being at the Westmere Elementary School.

Mr. Robinson then spoke of the work being done by the McKownville Water Advisory Board and commended the members for their interest in this problem. He mentioned the meeting held with them recently and the meeting scheduled for May 28.

A question and answer period followed Mr. Robinson's presentation. The question was asked if Elmwood Street was made a dead end street at Western Avenue, who would have jurisdiction to do this. It was Mr. Robinson's opinion that the State Traffic Commission would have this jurisdiction. He said that he would look into the possibility of making Elmwood Street one-way going North.

A question was asked regarding the present status of the arterial connecting with the Northway at Western Ave. He reported nothing new.

A question was asked about the problem of rats along the creek area between Western Ave. and Highlands Drive. Mr. Robinson reported that the Assistant Zoning Officer had walked the area with a Highlands Drive resident. Trash collection containers in two instances were found open, reported and telephone calls in both instances by the Supervisor corrected this situation. If it is thought that sewage is drawing rats, the Albany County Health Dept. would be notified and they would investigate immediately. Mr. Robinson recognized that sewage was a problem in McKownville and he mentioned the Albany County Sewer study, in which the Town of Guilderland is included, which would be completed in approximately six months. With regard to the rat situation, Mr. Robinson said that this was the first complaint the Town Board had received from McKownville and he suggested that if the problem persisted, that he be notified immediately.

Mr. Wells, Chairman of the Town Planning Board, then spoke of the work that the Planning Board is doing. He mentioned specifically the question of sidewalks and asked whether this should be a town, state or individual assessment. The Planning Board had discussed this. He mentioned also the traffic problem and the impact that the State University would have upon McKownville. He said that services for the students would be provided on campus, i.e., barbershops, entertainment, etc.

Mr. Maneri asked Mr. Wells if there was a possibility of change in the character of the Town of Guilderland because of re-zoning. Mr. Wells replied that the Town was following the master plan which had been done in 1959 by Mr. Burdis of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He reported that the south side of the town might change.

Mr. Roberts of Roberts Real Estate reported that he and Mr. Swyer were studying this. They had been thinking of building high-rise apartments that would meet market price and had thought of the area behind Stuyvesant Plaza. However, because of a drainage problem in this area, they had come back to Western Avenue. The present sewer study had made it necessary for them to bide their time with regard to the building of high-rise apartments.

Mr. Roberts also mentioned that he had many requests for the building of drive-ins on the Western Ave. property between Tom Sawyer and Aunt Jemima, but this would not come to pass. Mr. Swyer and he were primarily interested in upgrading the quality of the area.

Mr. Wells said that he felt the development of the town would be westward, since this is where there is most room for new development. Mr. Hamme and Mr. Choules both commented that water is the problem of major importance at the present and our work should be in that direction. Mr. Wells promised to send the McKownville Improvement Assoc. a copy of the ~~report~~ ^{report} as soon as it is given to the Planning Board and the Town Board. *Aut. Committee traffic*

A question was asked whether any plans were being made to rehabilitate the present McKownville water system. Mr. Hamme replied that the McKownville Water Advisory Board is studying this.

The question was asked of Mr. Wells if the Town of Guilderland had any published zoning plan for the town. Mr. Wells replied that the town does have a study made by Mr. Burdis in 1959, which is projected for 30 years. ^{This may be seen at Town Hall} The question was also asked how town ordinances are enforced, and Mr. Robinson replied that the Chief Zoning Administrator has the power to enforce such ordinances. A brief discussion ensued regarding the establishment of a police department. Mr. Robinson did not feel that the Town could afford to establish a police department at the present time, the cost being prohibitive, such cost being given as \$100,000 per year. It was felt, however, that eventually the Town would have to establish a police department.

Mr. Robinson and Mr. Wells both thanked the McKownville Improvement Association for having invited them and given them an opportunity to speak to the group.

President Hamme then called on Harry Reynders, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, to present the slate of officers and directors for 1964-1965. The slate presented was as follows:

Charles Maneri	President	
Hugh Prytherch	Vice President	
Anna Gold	Secretary	(Mrs. Ralph)
Verla McCarville	Treasurer	(Mrs. Floyd)

Nominees for Board of Directors were: George Hurley, Julian LeVine, William Peer, Martin Barry, Michael Hannan, Robert Hall. Pres. Hamme appointed Mrs. Van Pragg, Mr. Foland and Mr. Cohan as tellers and a written ballot was made. The slate of officers was elected and the following were elected as Directors: George Hurley, Michael Hannan and William Peer, each for a term of three years; Martin Barry was elected a Director to fill the vacancy of Mr. Prytherch, for the remainder of his term, which is one year.

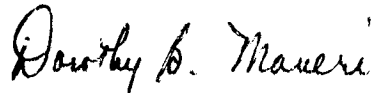
President Hamme again thanked the Association for its support during his term of office. He then introduced and turned the chair over to the new President, Charles Maneri.

Mr. Maneri thanked the Association for their vote of confidence in him by electing him President. He asked for each member's support in making the McKownville Improvement Association an active and worthwhile group.

Mr. John Feldmann then asked the Association to stand for a moment of silent prayer in memory of Mr. Guy Rising, who had recently passed away and who had been a staunch supporter and active member of the Association for many years.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Dorothy B. Maneri
Acting Secretary