

1966 Annual Meeting  
Minutes

The McKownville Improvement Association held its annual meeting on May 17th, 1966 at 8:00 P.M. in the Christ Lutheran Church, corner of Highlands Drive and Western Avenue.

President Prytherch welcomed the members and the new residents. He also expressed appreciation for the use of Christ Lutheran Church.

The minutes of the 1965 Annual Meeting were read and approved. Mr. Thomas F. Keenan, Treasurer, read his report with a balance of \$202.41. This report was approved.

Mr. Joseph Rose, head of the Planning Board of the Town of Guilderland (Assistant Attorney General) was introduced. Mr. Rose explained that the Planning Board advises the Town Board with respect to changes in zoning, however the Town Board is not bound by their advice. The Planning Board has been considering new subdivisions. The Board feels that this is very important and time consuming. In the planning all utilities will be underground. Consideration is being given to "vest pocket" parks with picnic tables and places for children to play; that State aid is available to pay for the parks; that the time to acquire the land is now; that 3/4 of the cost of acquisition would be paid by the State. Thought had been given to a "middle school" perhaps built along with a park. Mr. Rose also pointed out that the site and buildings of the Voorheesville Depot were in discussion for future business. That the Town of Guilderland needs business to reduce its taxes. Any government agency, State or Federal has first opportunity to acquire part or parts of the depot, then plans should and are being made to interest large companies in acquiring the site.

Mr. Rose discussed the advantages of "Heritage Village". This "village" will be located on 52 acres, south of route 20 and on the east side of State Farm Road. The Zoning Board has met once a month officially and many times unofficially to discuss these plans. This is a suburban planning contract.

A question was asked if there was any way to stop a business that residents objecting to from moving in the area. Mr. Rose said it would take 20% or more of the property owners to protest to the Zoning Board and 4 or more members of the Zoning Board to disapprove it.

Mr. Prytherch asked for a report from the fire department. Mr. Casatelli, a representative of the department gave his report. The new fire house will be started some time this summer on the site chosen by the department as suitable, i.e., 1248-1250 Western Avenue. He estimated a price of \$67,000.

Mr. Havern asked for the floor and requested that the matter of reduction of assessments of all residential property fronting on Western Avenue be given high priority among those matters to be taken up by the Association and the Town of Guilderland. He felt that the Town Board was contributing to the hodgepodge of zoning. Mr. Havern filed a letter giving his reasoning.

There was a reply that the property owners' deeds are their protection against rezoning as far as Fuller Road from the City line.

Mr. Prytherch asked for a report from the Water Advisory Board. Mr. Abele gave a full report of activities and filed a copy.

President Prytherch then asked for a report from the nominating committee Mr. George B. Hurley and Mr. Gerald W. Hamme. The Officers were Mr. Hugh Prytherch for President  
Mr. Thomas F. Keenan for Treasurer  
Mrs. G. W. Hamme for Secretary

Motion was made and seconded for the secretary to cast one ballot for these officers.

Nominees for the Board of Directors were: John F. Feldman, J. Francis Purdy, Robert B. Quackenbush, James W. Shaughnessy and John C. Siegrist. The President appointed tellers and a written ballot was made. The following Directors were elected: John F. Feldman, J. Francis Purdy and James W. Shaughnessy.

Mr. Prytherch discussed the State campus. In answer to questions that had been asked of Mr. Prytherch, he said that Mr. Buckoff had stated that the State had all the land they needed for their plans to 1970 and it was not the State's policy to pick up land with homes on it. Several have been acquired for faculty homes, but they are not an official part of the State University. There is a shortage of renting homes at the present time. The campus roadway is zoned at 30 mph. now. No children are allowed to play there. There are 3 kinds of police patrolling; State, Campus and Albany City. There will be 4,000 students by September, 2,400 will live there. Some administrative offices will continue down town.

There was a motion that the Association go on record as favoring fencing the South boundary to all streets. It was carried, though 5 opposed.

Previous correspondence on this matter was mentioned and Mr. Prytherch stated he would look into the situation.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 P.M., there being no further business.

*Bernice E. Hamme*

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Acting Secretary.