

THE MCKOWNVILLE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

1968 Annual Meeting Minutes

The McKownville Improvement Association held its annual meeting on May 21, 1968, at 8:00 P.M. in the Christ Lutheran Church, corner of Highlands Drive and Western Avenue.

Forty some members and guests were greeted by President Prytherch at the opening of the meeting. This was the Association's 44th Annual Meeting. Mr. Prytherch called to the attention of the group that on May 24th and 25th the McKownville Fire Department was inviting the public to Open House to celebrate their 50th Anniversary and to show their new home. An announcement was made that an application for a building permit was pending for the property at intersection of the Northway and Western Avenue. A Nebu Stand owner has been attempting to gain the property. The Town Board also indicated that there would be a meeting to discuss Flouridation of McKownville water on June 4. On Tuesday, the 11th of June, there would be a meeting regarding use of dog leashes.

Mr. Prytherch remarked that our attempt for a post office had not been entirely successful, however, we now have a substation located at Whitney's Store in the Plaza which operates about the same hours as a post office for the service of parcel post or retail services of the post office.

The Secretary's minutes were read and approved.

Mr. John Buckhoff, Superintendent of the University Plant was then introduced by President Prytherch to give an outline of future plans, including new construction west of Fuller Road, near Washington Avenue Extension and improvements of present plant, including smoke control.

Mr. Buckhoff stated that one of the University's boilers had already been converted to natural gas and by September all three would have been converted, but, that, it had been discovered there was an increase in heating cost and it might be necessary during the winter months to use #6 heating oil for a period. It would not be necessary during the Spring and Summer.

As to the University outline, three of the four resident quadrangles are complete with approximately 1,200 students; that they are occupying and using 12 academic buildings, library, 2 lecture halls and the theater music building. Also the infirmary building is in use, the gymnasium and all the athletic fields; Three Hundred Fifty Acres of landscaped grounds; 9,500 students in head count; some are full time and some in courses. The faculty and staff workers consist of some 2,000 persons. The University Campus has become a small city with approximately 11,000 people every day. In 1968 and 1969, Mr. Buckhoff related,

the University will be completing and occupying the two remaining buildings, another 50 acres of land which will be landscaped. The bids have been submitted for the fourth quadrangle - it takes approximately 30 days for the selection of bid so probably by the end of the summer the building will be in progress and by 1971 to be occupied. A Planetarium is under study at this time. Plans of 12,000 students, 5,800 resident, 4,800 off campus, 1,000 downtown at Quail Street. A total plan of 480 acres, 58 buildings, over 3 Million square foot with 100 Million in capital investment.

Mr. Buckhoff indicated on a map the property located across Fuller Road. One Hundred acres on the west side and sixty acres at the extension of Washington Avenue and Karner Road. The residential area opposite the Cemetery along Loftus Street is excepted from the acquisition. Some portion of the cemetery is being acquired - Mr. Buckhoff thought that was taking place in accord with the proposed use of the 60 acres. Some plans can be changed, though. The University has thoughts on married student housing of 160 unit apartments, 25% one bedroom of 530 square feet, 75% two bedroom units of 650 square feet. These would be highrise apartment dwellings. There is no desire to expand any further in any residential area of McKownville. There has been no architect hired for the apartments - a cost of rent has been discussed as around \$115. for the smaller and more for the larger. A second use of the land might be a community service facility with governmental management training programs. It would be the first in New York State. Chicago University, Maryland and Notre Dame have something similar. There would be an auditorium, conference rooms, seminar rooms; participants would have resource of the entire University. The project would be self-sustaining except for the capital investment as organizations would pay the University a fee to cover their expenses. It is felt that a Community Service is needed in this area - this plan is just in the talking stage. It is hoped by 1974 that the expansion on Fuller Road and on the main campus will be complete. Plans may differ according to the affairs of finance.

By 1974 to accommodate 15,000 students - 18,000 headcount, there will be some expansion on the main campus, besides apartment dwelling the academic podium has been designed to be expanded several ways. No definite plan yet. Parking is now inadequate. Plans are being discussed for both underground and on the ground parking.

A fund-raising drive for \$500,000 to build an interfaith chapel is underway. This is not a State enterprise. A Mr. Joe Finn is on the Board of Directors.

There is a thought that perhaps electric heating will be used in the new buildings, if not the heat will have to be fed from the present heating plant. There will be improvement. A question came from the audience that when the plot on Fuller Road was developed, could the neighbors expect a great deal of sand blowing? Mr. Buckhoff felt that there would be hay laid

on the area laid bare and care would be taken.

A question was asked if there were any problems with the neighbor children, Mr. Buckhoff said some youngsters had been standing on the hill of the Washington Avenue side and pelting stones at the buses.

Concerning the Athletic plans, Dr. Collins, President of Athletic Activities at the University had told Mr. Buckhoff that plans were under study now for intercollegiate activities. There will be need for more control of traffic. The sewer system in use is the City of Albany System. Of the Auditorium facilities, the theater music building can hold 700 which is not as many as Page Hall downtown. The University Campus has no large group capacity auditorium.

President Prytherch expressed appreciation for Mr. Buckhoff giving of his time to explain the University Plans to the group. He then asked for a report from the Water Advisory Board. Mr. Fred Abele read a full report and filed a copy with the Secretary's minutes. Mr. Abele was questioned about the water meters and could not say what the rate would be nor the exact time this year they would begin to be used. He said the Board felt it would cut down on the water used as in places where metering was in use, the waste was cut down by 25%. Mention of the sewer was made and it was felt that construction should begin in September. The T sewer line on Western Avenue should be done in 1970, after that the laterals will be placed.

Mr. Prytherch asked for any proposals or suggestions. He said the Town Planners are engaged in study and are coming up with long range plans of land use; that he would receive any suggestions or that the new President Mr. Valenti would, of what the Town of Guilderland needs.

President Prytherch then called on Joseph F. Greisler, Chairman of the Nominating Committee to present the slate of officers and directors for 1967-1968. The slate presented was as follows:

Andrew Valenti	President
James J. Barber	Vice President
Donald Munn	Treasurer
Bernice E. Hamme	Secretary (Mrs. Gerald W.)

Nominees for Directors for 3 years were: James B. Webster, John E. Davis and Hugh Prytherch. Mr. Hurley nominated Mr. Joseph F. Greisler from the floor and Mr. Greisler declined. Motion was made and seconded that the Secretary cast one ballot for the slate.

President Prytherch thanked the Association for their co-operation and expressed a hope that Mr. Valenti would be given the same assistance. He then turned the meeting over to Mr. Valenti who said that he would like the neighbors and members to give suggestions for keeping McKownville pleasing and for all residents to join the Association.

The Treasurer reported to the Secretary, \$10. spent as expenses in 1967, and a balance on hand of \$288.61. At the date of the meeting, the membership was 39.

Bernice E. Hamme
Secretary.