

Viewpoints on the News

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McKownville Rezoning Opposed

To the Editor: My wife and I, along with most other people in the surrounding area in McKownville, have become quite concerned with the proposed rezoning of the following properties from residential to commercial by the Guilderland Town Board: 1245 Western Ave., 1257 Western Ave., 1451 Western Ave., 1461 Western Ave. and 1 Parkwood St.

The owner of the first two properties, Mr. Quadrini, wishes these rezoned for purposes of building a motel or other type of commercial venture. 1257 Western Ave. goes back from Western approximately 300 feet and adjoins the backyards of all residents on Knowles Terrace. Therefore this proposal creates a very unpleasant situation for a peaceful street.

Residents in this area recently learned that 1451 Western Ave. (Dr. Rissacher's office) and 1461 Western Ave. (Dr. Mastrianni's office) have not been in compliance with zoning regulations, which require that professional offices which are zoned residential be occupied by their owner of some member of the owner's family. The town government either didn't know of this fact, or else chose not to notice, until residents near 1 Parkwood St. opposed Dr. Harff's buying the property to be used as a dental office.

In late July, I and other residents called Town Hall and were told that a hearing on 1

Parkwood St. would not be held until September and that all people in the area would be notified of it. We expressed concern that a hearing would be held in August, when many people would be on vacation and were assured that the hearing would be held in September. Coming back from vacation in the middle of August, we discovered that the hearing on 1 Parkwood St. had already been held, and hearings on the other properties would be on Sept. 12.

Meetings have been held since that time by residents in the area and the consensus is that spot rezoning on the north side of Western Ave. is inconsistent with the town's master plan, for which a considerable amount of the taxpayers' money was spent. It is also inconsistent with the deed restrictions of the Country Club Highlands.

It is important that the Town Board refuse rezoning of the north side of Western Avenue and keep it residential.

It is extremely important that all concerned residents call Carl Walters, town supervisor, to protest against this rezoning, and that they be at the town meeting Sept. 12 at 8 p.m. at Guilderland Town Hall.

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