

McKownville Fights Restaurant

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By Arlene Bigos

Having gone without a meeting for over a year, the McKownville Improvement Association is again beginning to meet as a strong neighborhood group in the Town of Guilderland.

Having won one victory—the town will require physicians in the McKownville

area to comply with zoning regulations for residence and parking—the group is now planning to fend off a Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant, assess the traffic problem of Western Avenue and possibly request sidewalks, go after the State University for pulling the neighborhood with its heating plant and generally make the association a cohesive unit with power.

ABOUT 40 residents of the area met last night at Christ

Lutheran Church to learn more about McKownville.

Most of the residents were immediately concerned about the request from Kentucky Fried Chicken for a special use permit which would allow them to erect a 36-seat restaurant at 1244 Western Avenue.

After it was determined that no one wanted the restaurant, battle plans were drawn to lay before the Zoning Board tonight when the case of Kentucky Fried Chicken will be heard.

Since the zoning for the area would allow the restaurant, resident plan to attack it on the "garish" design, possibility that the traffic would interfere with the fire house next door, and the potential odor of fried chicken.

JOHN ESSLER, treasurer of the organization, pointed out that McKownville already is

assailed by odors from Howare Johnson's and L'Ecole and fried chicken would be too much.

Fred Abele made a report on the condition of the water in McKownville ("When you turn on the tap, you get coffee without growing it.") A member of the McKownville Water Advisory Board, Mr. Abele explained the history of why the quality of the water has been going down, but added that there was little the residents could do about it.

The group made plans to meet again soon to continue its strategy to keep McKownville free of too much commercialism.

John Burdy, president, pointed out that in years back the McKownville Improvement Association was a force to be reckoned with.

"We plan to be that way again," he said.

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