## McKownville Improvement Association Public Meeting, Wednesday November 19, 2009—7 pm-9 pm Holiday Inn Express, 1442 Western Avenue

The November meeting will be an "open microphone" session. Everyone will be given the opportunity to express what the next project(s) should be for the Association. Since many improvements have been completed in McKownville in the past decade, our neighborhood has the opportunity to look forward and discuss the next focus of the Association and our neighborhood—where do we go from here to make McKownville a better neighborhood.

The dozens of improvements that have been made include sidewalks on Western Avenue and on McKown Road, the new McKownville Park, street paving, traffic lights, pedestrian crosswalk signals, completion of the McKownville Corridor Study, and the storm sewer study is underway. We are grateful beyond words for the help given to McKownville by so many---Guilderland Town elected officials, State of New York elected officials and local businesses. As we seek completion of the Western Avenue sidewalks and the storm sewer study and subsequent improvements what should we turn our attention to next?

Here are some suggestions for thought. Should we offer to do some of the gardening and trash pick-up at the new park? What about creating a program with the Guilderland Library or schools? Should the Association sponsor a neighborhood gardens contest? Alternatively, maybe the Association should organize a walking tour of "historic" McKownville. Or maybe organize a dance party or a dessert and music party? Or maybe a clean-up day for the five alleys in McKownville, or a clean-up day for the ends of our many dead end streets or possibly something once again with the McKownville Fire Department? What do we want—that is the question for discussion? What is the next step? (Once upon the time, the Association sponsored monthly card parties.)

News—The McKownville Fire Department will be receiving its new truck in the next few days and the Halloween party was a great success. The Denny's site will host a restaurant again---Five Guys—there is another Five Guys at Mohawk Mall. Sutters purchased 1210 Western—it had been the site of a palm reader service—the adjacent parking lot has been extended and resurfaced and the house will be improved and rented as a home. The contract for Fuller Road improvements by Albany County has been signed so construction work on moving the poles will begin with major construction when warm weather is here again. No word yet on where the University plans to locate its new dorms nor on when the Thruway will be installing sound barriers near McKown Road. But our McKownville Park at Stuyvesant Plaza is nearly finished.

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