

Editorial page-

It's your opinion

Halfway house gets support

Readers of the Advance should not be misled by a recent news article in which the leader of a "coalition of civic groups" claims the community opposes the half-way house for mildly retarded adults, located on Tysen St. in West Brighton.

There is no doubt that the immediate neighbors resent, perhaps rightfully, the manner in which the house was purchased. But, a more accurate view of the feeling of the entire community can be gouged from the following:

Concerned over a possible threat to the school children at neighboring PS 40, to submit its views, the fifteen members of the Executive Board of the PTA voted unanimously to approve the project and their vote was reported to the Community Board.

At the November meeting of

the Livingston Community Association the State Mental Hygiene Department was strongly criticized for not properly consulting the community before purchasing the house. However, there seemed to be general agreement that the half-way house had value, and there was no motion to oppose it or prevent its occupation.

At various community meetings there has been a strong expression of opposition to the huge institutional facility now being erected across the street from PS 40, which may be used for discharged mental patients. But, this opposition should not be confused with a widespread acceptance of a small house for a dozen people who deserve whatever help we can provide.

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