

Second Starbucks proposed for Guilderland

By Jo E. Prout

GUILDERLAND — Starbucks coffee lovers will be happy if the proposed drive-through shop on Western Avenue is approved.

The proposal is only blocks away from the Starbucks in Stuyvesant Plaza, and across from the southern entrance to the University at Albany. If approved, the proposal would correct access problems and reduce curb cuts on busy Western Avenue, according to town planner Jan Weston.

Developer Dennis Quadrini came before the planning board last week with his proposal to lease his property to the coffee-shop chain. He must first settle questions about parking leases with neighboring businesses, and whether or not the proposal also meets requirements for the City of Albany before he receives Guilderland Planning Board approval. The rear portion of the parcel is in Albany.

The proposed site is between the Best Western hotel and the Sutter's Mill and Mining Co. restaurant, and consists of two parcels,

1206 and 1210 Western Avenue. They are owned by Quadrini and his brother and sister. A house at the rear of the site would be demolished.

Quadrini has a long-time lease with Sutter's that allows shared parking.

"We have to provide them parking because we're moving the parking lot that is there now," he told *The Enterprise*.

The drive-through Starbucks, at 1,650 square feet, would need 40 parking spaces. William Mafri, of Hershberg and Hershberg engineers, said that the site has 51 spaces, but some of them are for Sutter's also. There are no designated spots according to the lease, Mafri said.

"I certainly would like to see the lease. It's a private arrangement, but the lot's encumbered," said planning board Chairman Stephen Feeney. "Surely, shared parking is something that we encourage," he added.

Feeney said that the town has grant money to improve the area's sidewalks, and that the

Starbucks and sidewalk projects could be coordinated. He said that the town-designated engineering firm Barton and Loguidice has examined the area.

"The timing is right," Feeney said.

Mafri said that up to 16 cars can "stack" around the drive-through loop without affecting entering or exiting traffic.

Melvin Rushing, a construction manager with Starbucks in Long Island, said that the proposal offers more than enough parking. "Our parking lots don't really fill up that way," he said.

Other business

In other business, the planning board:

— Voted to allow a two-lot subdivision of a .95 acre parcel on the corner of Old State Road and Carman Road. An existing building with a shop and a residence is on one parcel. The owner, Rolando DiCoco, wants to build a similar structure on the second parcel.

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