

SUNY Opposes NEBA Store

4/15/66

The State University at Albany sent a letter to the Guilderland Zoning Board of Appeals requesting that a special use permit for a NEBA roast beef sandwich store at Myers Red Schoolhouse not be granted.

The letter was read at a public hearing last Friday. Colonel Walter M. Tisdale wrote that the University "joined in wishing to up-grade rather than downgrade the area."

Frederick R. Edmunds, attorney for Michael Davis Associates, operators of NEBA, expressed surprise at the university's stand. He explained to the zoning board that a small building would be constructed in front of the present schoolhouse for the preparation and sale of roast beef sandwiches, coffee and soft drinks. The present Myers store might be used for offices by Michael Davis.

There would be no curb service or in the store consumption of food but there would be parking spaces for eating in cars. Mr. Edmunds said that New York State had given approval to the widening of the access from Western Avenue.

Florence Garramone of Fliegel Avenue deplored the traffic problems and litter that might result if the NEBA building were approved. She said she had lived in the area for 31 years and told the board that she believed the deed to the property at the Schoolhouse Rd. corner forbade an entrance or exit on Western Ave.

A petition signed by 214 persons opposing the proposed building was submitted by attorney Edward McMahon who lives on Marjorie Drive.

Also speaking on opposition were: Robert Miller whose mother owns the property next to the schoolhouse, Hugh Prytherch of Glenwood Street and J. Francis Purdy of Western Avenue. Mr. Prytherch and Mr. Miller indicated that they thought the corner could be put to more intensive use as a tax producing property.

A taste for roast beef sandwiches was confessed by Ray Springer of Pine Knob Drive who favored the granting of the permit. He said NEBA locations have impressed him as being clean and uncluttered. Mr. Springer claimed that the State University was opposed because it, too, is in the business of feeding students in its cafeterias.