PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF AUGUSTA JUNE 8, 2022

Public Hearing to discuss the special use variance application as submitted by Boulder Meadows, Inc. (Mr. Ron Acee) to construct 20 camp sites for members and guests of Vernon National Shooting Preserve located at 3291 Burns Road, Oriskany Falls, NY. This would include separate electricity lines, a bath house and water accessibility.

Attendees: Zoning Board: Paul Sykes, Chair, Anne Brown, Ernest Staelens; Mr. Allen Yaeger, representing Mr. Acee and the following residents that signed in:

Tricia Coon, Dale Coon, Peter Burns, Sue Collins, Nicholas Rizzo, Travis Wright, David M. Coon, Alex Wilson.

Mr. Yaeger gave a presentation on the proposed project describing the proposed action and associated utilities that were being considered.

Sue Collins asked several questions concerning the use of electricity and where it would be obtained from. Mr. Yaeger responded that all codes for electricity, sewage, access, and environmental concerns would be adhered to and enforcement by the Town of Augusta Zoning Officer would be expected.

Several attendees expressed concerns about the placement of the access driveway as they felt it was not a safe place for it.

Several attendees also expressed concerns about the amount of shooting that was being done close to their homes, making them concerned about the safety of their families and their vehicles and homes. They felt the proximity of this campsite would enhance the current situation and that previous discussions with Mr. Acee about these concerns had not been addressed satisfactorily. They also were concerned with the disruption of their homes by campers both by trespassing onto their property and by the noise factor. If the campsites got out of hand, who would be policing the area.

They also asked what would the procedure be if, in the future, more campsites needed to be added. The Board responded that a special use variance permit would need to be applied for again.

It was also brought up that the preserve, which is made up of hundreds of acres and the campsites encompassed several towns, such as Town of Augusta, Town of Stockbridge and Town of Vernon. If there was any sales tax revenues, who would receive them.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Staelens

Secretary, Zoning Board of Appeals Town of Augusta Cc: Town Supervisor Town Clerk Codes Officer