SP-12-07 – Schroeder Manatee, Inc./Ancient Oak Gun Club

Request: Approval of a Special Permit for operation of an outdoor firing range in the A (General Agriculture) zoning district. The site is located on the east side of Uihlein Road approximately 3/4 mile south of State Road 64 (±78 acres).

Application Received: October 30, 2011

## PROJECT SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CASE#:</th>
<th>SP-12-07 – DTS #20120381</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PROJECT NAME:</td>
<td>Ancient Oak Gun Club (Sport Shooting Complex for skeet and trap shotgun shooting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPLICANT(S):</td>
<td>Mr. Robert Lombardo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REQUEST:</td>
<td>Special Permit for an outdoor shotgun trap and skeet firing range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASE PLANNER:</td>
<td>Bernard Salmon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECOMMENDATION:</td>
<td>APPROVAL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SITE CHARACTERISTICS AND SURROUNDING AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDRESS:</th>
<th>16800 State Road 64 East</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GENERAL LOCATION:</td>
<td>East side of Uihlein Road; approximately 3/4 mile south of State Road 64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIZE:</td>
<td>± 78 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXISTING USE(S):</td>
<td>Sod farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PREVIOUS APPROVAL(S):</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZONING:</td>
<td>A (General Agriculture)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FUTURE LAND USE CATEGORY:</td>
<td>MU-C (Mixed Use Community)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SURROUNDING USES & ZONING

| NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST | A - General Agriculture (sod farms) |

## POSITIVE ASPECTS

- Closest residential structure is more than 2,000 feet away
- No additional pavement
- Low Impact Development (LID) concepts proposed - grass parking
- The site is surrounded on all sides by A zoning and used for agriculture, primarily sod farming
- Guns fire shotgun pellets that fall to the ground within 300 feet.
- No new access proposed
- The 78 acres is a part of the larger sod farm covering a total +532 acres

NEGATIVE ASPECTS

- Noise associated with gun firing

MITIGATING MEASURES

- Limit hours of operation
- The majority of shooting stands and the range are positioned away from residences

STAFF SUMMARY

_Update from December 19, 2012 Hearing Officer_

On December 19, 2012, a request to allow a gun range on a 75 acre site at 16800 State Road 64 East was presented in front of the Hearing Officer, in Chambers to Ms. Lori M. Dorman. A Notice of Intent (NOI) was issued on January 8, 2013 regarding the Special Permit on behalf of Schroeder Manatee Inc. / Ancient Oak Gun Club along with a copy of the Draft Order. The Notice of Intent proposed was to grant the request for the Special Permit with certain conditions. The NOI was sent to all interested parties on January 9, 2113 requiring a response to the Proposed Final Order no later than January 16, 2013. Comment letters from parties supporting and against the gun range were received during this time. An Order to re-open the public hearing was issued January 23, 2013 for the following reason:

- “The proposed site plan may not satisfy the screening requirements under the Land Development Code, particularly with regard to noise factors. Even if the plan does not violate the Code, additional impact mitigation factors should be considered to ensure the health, safety and welfare of those in proximity of the proposed outdoor firing range.”

The Hearing Officer will re-open the case on February 25, 2013.

_History_

The land for the proposed outdoor firing range is part of Schroeder-Manatee's larger sod farm. There is only one other outdoor firing range in Manatee County and it is located on Logue Road in Myakka City: the Manatee Gun and Archery Club. This proposed facility will allow residents in Manatee County more access to an outdoor firing range. Two types of shooting styles are proposed; trap and skeet.

_Request_

The request is for an outdoor firing range within the boundary of SMR. The ± 78 acre site fronts on the east side of Uihlein Road; approximately 3/4 of a mile south of State Road 64. Uihlein Road is private and composed of shell. LDC Section 704.71 (Trapshooting, Skeet or Outdoor Firing Range) requires a minimum of 70 acres. The 78 acres is part of a larger parcel used for sod farming consisting of approximately 532 acres.
An outdoor firing range requires a Special Permit based on the zoning district matrix table found in Chapter 6, Figure 6-1. There are no other requests for an outdoor firing range in this area.

Three structures are proposed on the site. They include a 1,440 square foot office; a 3,200 square foot pavilion pole structure and two 8'x40' storage trailers which will house various shooting equipment.

50 parking spaces are proposed for the facility. All parking and drive aisles will be grass. The gun range will operate 7 days a week. Uihlein Road will remain shell and will be the primary access to the shooting range. The closest residential structure is ±.38 miles from the shooting range. The trap shooting area is ±265 feet east, off Uihlein Road. Along the perimeter of this 78 acre site, there are 24 shooting stations. The shooting stations are evenly distributed and wrap around the facility along the entire perimeter of the site. There are two types of shotgun shooting styles available trap and skeet. Skeet is located along the perimeter while Trap will be closer to the parking and the pole barn. The skeet shooting stations are mobile.

Trap is the oldest of the shot-gunning games. Its name comes from the fact that live pigeons (the game's original target) were held in box-like "traps". A standard Trap field (as defined by the Amateur Trapshooting Association, the game's sanctioning organization) is laid out like five spokes radiating from the hub of a wheel. The trap machine is located at the "hub." Each of the five shooting stations is located on a "spoke" 16 yards from the hub.

The trap machine, located in a partially buried trap-house at the "hub" of this wheel-like layout, launches standard clay targets anywhere within 22-degrees to the right or left of the machine's center. The machine oscillates at random, so the shooter never knows whether the target will fly to the right, left, or center. It is calibrated to launch the targets at approximately 41 miles-per-hour, with a trajectory that places them between 8 and 12 feet above the ground at a distance of 10 feet downrange of the trap and no less than 48 nor more than 52 yards out.

This trap machine is located in the southern portion of the site, close to parking and the pole barn.

"Skeet" is name of a specific shot-gunning game created after the turn of the 20th century by three hunters: C.E. Davies; his son, Henry Davies; and William H. Foster (then editor of the National Sportsman magazine). Originally called "Round The Clock," the field was laid out in a circle 50 yards in diameter, with shooting stations at each "hour" position. The trap was placed at 12 o'clock and threw its targets toward the 6 o'clock position. Each shooter fired two rounds from each of the twelve "hour" stations around the circle. Then a final shot from the center of the circle at a target overhead.

Needless to say, this field arrangement used up a substantial amount of land. Then there was the problem of falling shot...everywhere (on spectators, on automobiles, on livestock, etc.). The Davies and Mr. Foster soon revised the field layout to a semicircle, and incorporated two traps: one located at 3 o'clock (called the Low House trap because its targets are launched from three feet above the ground) and the other at 9 o'clock (called the High House trap because its targets are launched from 10 feet above the ground). They also went to eight shooting stations. Station One is directly under the High House; Station Seven is directly under the Low House; Stations Two through Six are on the arc of the semi-circle at the eight o'clock through four o'clock positions. Now draw a straight line between the High and Low Houses; Station Eight is located at its
Each shooter starts at Station One. At Stations One, Two, Six, and Seven the shooter is presented with four targets: singles from the High House and Low House (respectively), and a pair of doubles launched simultaneously from the High and Low Houses. At Stations Three, Four, and Five the shooter is presented with single targets, first from the High House, then the Low House. At Station Eight singles are again presented, first from the High House, then the Low.

Incidently, the name "Skeet" was coined by Mrs. Gertrude Hurbutt of Dayton, Montana, and is derived from the Scandanavian word for "shoot."

Access to the skeet stations is from a proposed 8 foot wide stabilized shell path. Only golf cart type vehicles will be permitted on this path, while personal vehicles will be restricted to Uihlein Road and parking area only.

Because of the nature of gun ranges, gun ranges have noise associated with them. The distance gun fire can be heard depends on many variables. They include, but not limited too; wind direction, topography, temperature, pressure differences, and type of guns and ammunition used at the range. There is an interesting description that during the Battle of Gettysburg, some towns over 100 miles way heard cannon fire. General Mead, ten miles to the south did not hear any cannon fire. The majority of shooting is northeast, north and southeast; away from any potential noise impact with a residential neighborhood to the northwest, approximately 1/3 of a mile away. There is a stipulation limiting the hours of operation for this proposed outdoor firing range.

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends approval with stipulations.

**STAFF RECOMMENDED STIPULATIONS**

1. The Special Permit will not be effective until it has been recorded in the Public Records of Manatee County, Florida by the applicant and a copy of the recorded Order is received by the Planning Division of the Building and Development Services Department.

2. The Plot Plan submitted with this application shall be a part of this approval and fulfill Final Site Plan requirements.

3. Any additions in the future to the approved Plot Plan will require Final Site Plan review.

4. The applicant shall receive a Certificate of Completion from the County based on a Final Inspection, showing that all improvements are in place per the Plot Plan and all conditions of the Final Order are met.

5. Hours of operation are from 8a.m. – 7p.m., daily.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIAL PERMIT CRITERIA PURSUANT TO SECTION 505 OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Is the proposed use consistent with the Comprehensive Plan?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes. An outdoor firing range is consistent and a permitted use within the Mixed Use-Community (MU-C) Future Land Use classification in the Comprehensive Plan.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **2. Is the establishment, maintenance, or operation of the proposed use detrimental to, or will it endanger, the public health, safety, or general welfare?** |
| No, the establishment, maintenance or operation of the proposed use should not be detrimental to or endanger the public health, safety or general welfare. The site is currently surrounded by sod farms. This site is part of a SMRs' sod farm which consists of ±532 acres. The closest residence is .38 miles away. Typically, noise exposure is generated by the muzzle blast and bow shock (sonic boom) associated with a supersonic projectile. The bow shock is only important in the noise field forward of the gun unless structures are present that reflect the bow shock noise to the rear. There is no rifle or pistol use proposed at this shooting range. |

| **3. Will the establishment of the use impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of surrounding properties for uses permitted in the zoning district?** |
| No, the establishment of the use should not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of surrounding properties for uses permitted in the General Agriculture (A) zoning district. This area is developed as an open area for sod farming. |

| **4. Has the applicant complied with the requirements for Level of Service review?** |
| Applications for Certificate of Level of Service Compliance for traffic, transit and solid waste have been reviewed and approved. |

| **5. Do adequate measures exist, or will they be taken, to provide ingress and egress to the proposed use in a manner that minimizes traffic congestion on public street?** |
| Yes. The facility will be accessed via Uihlein Road, off State Road 64. The trap and skeet facility is approximately 3/4 miles south of SR64, on the east side of Uihlein Road. Uihlein Road is currently a combination of dirt and shell. Paving or stabilization is not proposed or required. The parking area and driveways will be grass. No pavement is proposed except for handicap parking spaces. Technically, Uihlein Road functions as a road but technically is a driveway for access to farmland owned by SMR. |

| **6. Is the proposed use consistent with the community character of the immediate neighborhood of this proposed development?** |
| Yes. This area is agricultural. Surrounding area consists of sod farms. The closest residence is +2,300 feet to the northwest in Rolling Acres, a 12 lot subdivision, on the south side of SR64. The range cannot be seen from SR64. The majority of shooting is aimed and positioned in the north and southeasterly direction to limit potential noise associated with this type of activity. Shooting stands are mobile. |

| **7. Will development of the proposed use have a substantial adverse affect on a known archaeological, historical, or cultural resource located on or off the parcel proposed for this development?** |
| No. There are no known archaeological, historical, or cultural resources located on or adjacent to this particular parcel. and the site is not within a location defined as a highly sensitive area. This area has been used for sod farming for over 10 years. |

| **8. Have the adequate provisions been made, or will they be made, for buffers, landscaping, public open space, or other improvements associated with the use?** |
| No landscape buffers are proposed. The shooting facility does not front on a road, and therefore does not require a roadway buffer. Because the site location is in the middle of a sod farm, no landscaping was required. The shooting range is setback +3/4 mile from State... |
Road 64. Improvements will consist of developing the shooting range to include buildings, grass parking and range.

9. Does the proposed use meet all other standards set forth in the Land Development Code, which apply to the use in the zoning district for which this development seeks approval? The site is in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Land Development Code as well as Conditional Use requirements of Trapshooting, Skeet or Outdoor Firing Range in LDC Section 704.71.

REMAINING ISSUES OF CONCERN – NOT RESOLVED OR STIPULATED

None

Attachments:
1. Copy of Newspaper Advertising
2. Notice of Intent and Draft Final Order (01/09/13)
3. Public Comment Letter
PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF ESTABLISHMENT OR CHANGE OF A REGULATION AFFECTING THE USE OF LAND IN UNINCORPORATED MANATEE COUNTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Hearing Officer for Manatee County, will conduct a Public Hearing on Monday, February 25, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. at the Manatee County Government Administrative Center, 1st Floor Chambers, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida to consider and act upon the following matter:

SP-12-07 - DT#201202381 - SCHROEDER MANATEE INC/ANCIENT OAK GUN CLUB

This item was heard at the December 19, 2012 Hearing Officer public hearings and is being reopened at this hearing on February 25, 2013.

Request: Approval of a Special Permit for operation of an outdoor firing range in the A (General Agriculture) zoning district. The site is located on the east side of Uihlein Road approximately 3/4 mile south of State Road 64, Lakewood Ranch (378 acres).

Rules of Procedure for this public hearing are in effect pursuant to Section 522.87 of the Manatee County Land Development Code. Copies of this section of the Code are available for review at the Building and Development Services Department.

All interested parties are invited to appear at this hearing and be heard, subject to proper rules of conduct. Additionally, any written comments filed with the Director of the Building and Development Services Department will be heard and considered by the Hearing Officer and entered into the record.

Interested parties may examine the Official Zoning Atlas, the application, related documents, and may obtain assistance regarding this matter from the Manatee County Building and Development Services Department, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, 2nd Floor, Bradenton, Florida, telephone number (941) 748-4501 ext. 6787.

According to Florida Statutes, Chapter 286.0105, any person desiring to appeal any decision made by the Hearing Officer with respect to any matter considered at the Public Hearing will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purposes they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Americans With Disabilities: The Hearing Officer for Manatee County does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual’s disability status. This non-discrimination policy involves every aspect of the Hearing Officer’s functions including one’s access to and participation in public hearings. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation for this meeting as provided for in the ADA, should contact Kaycee Ellis at 742-5800; TDD ONLY 742-5802 and wait 60 seconds, or FAX.

THE PUBLIC HEARING MAY BE CONTINUED FROM TIME TO TIME PENDING ADJOURNMENTS.

MANATEE COUNTY HEARING OFFICER
Manatee County Building and Development Services Department

Manatee County, Florida
2/12/2013
NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPROVE
SPECIAL PERMIT NO. 12-07
SCHROEDER MANATEE, INC./ANCIENT OAK GUN CLUB DTS#20120381

This Notice is sent to all parties of record for Special Permit Application No. SP-12-07 for the operation of an outdoor firing range in the A (General Agriculture) zoning district. It is the intent of the Hearing Officer to APPROVE this application. The Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Conditions for Approval are contained in the attached draft Final Order.

Pursuant to Section 505.4.3 of the Manatee County Land Development Code which states in party, the following shall apply:

"After issuance of the NOTICE OF INTENT, parties of record shall have five (5) days, excluding Saturday, Sunday and County holidays, in which to respond to the report and proposed conditions. Responses shall be filed with the Planning Director.

Within ten (10) days, excluding Saturday, Sunday and County holidays, of the issuance of the NOTICE OF INTENT, after review of any responses to the Notice and proposed Final Order, the Hearing Officer shall:

1. Issue the Order approving the Special Permit with such conditions as may be necessary;

2. Issue the Order denying the Special Permit; or

3. Reopen the public hearing pursuant to Section 502.8.7.3.

If, after reviewing the responses, the Hearing Officer determines that there is substantial new information which would materially affect the decision and which was not reasonably available at the time of the public hearing, he or she shall reopen the public hearing."

ISSUED ON BEHALF OF MANATEE COUNTY this ___ day of January, 2013.

MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

[Lori M. Dorman, as Manatee County Hearing Officer]

ATTEST: R.B. SHORE
Clerk of the Circuit Court

[Deputy Clerk]
SPECIAL PERMIT NO. 12-07
SCHROEDER MANATEE, INC./ANCIENT OAK GUN CLUB DTS#20120381

FINAL ORDER OF MANATEE COUNTY HEARING
OFFICER LORI M. DORMAN ON BEHALF OF MANATEE
COUNT GRANTING A SPECIAL PERMIT NO. SP-12-07
FOR THE OPERATION OF AN OUTDOOR FIRING RANGE
IN THE A (GENERAL AGRICULTURE) ZONING DISTRICT.
THE SITE IS LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF UIHLEIN
ROAD APPROXIMATELY ¾ MILE SOUTH OF STATE
ROAD 64; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND
PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE (78 +/- acres).

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County adopted
the Manatee County Land Development Code, Manatee County Ordinance 90-01, as
amended; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Land Development Code, Manatee County
Ordinance 90-01, as amended, the Hearing Officer has the authority to grant Special
Permits; and

WHEREAS, Schroeder Manatee, Inc., requested a Special Permit to allow the
operation of an outdoor firing range in the A (General Agriculture) zoning district; and

WHEREAS, on December 19, 2012, the aforementioned Hearing Officer held a
public hearing to receive the staff, applicant, and public comment and argument
regarding the proposed Special Permit to allow the operation of an outdoor firing range.

NOW THEREFORE, after consideration of the application for Special Permit No.
12-07, the Hearing Officer makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law
and issues the following Final Order:

Section 1. Findings of Fact.

The aforementioned Hearing Officer, after having considered the public
comment, argument, evidence, documentation, staff report and all other matters
presented at the Public Hearing referenced above, hereby makes the following Findings
of Fact:

A. The 78 +/- acre site is in the MU-C (Mixed Use-Community) Future Land Use
Category (FLUC).

B. The request is to allow the operation of an outdoor firing range in the A zoning
district.
C. The Manatee County Comprehensive Plan lists recreational uses in the Range of Potential Uses for the MU-C FLUC. An outdoor firing range is considered a recreational use.

D. According to the Land Development Code (LDC) Figure 6-1, outdoor firing ranges are permitted in the General Agriculture zoning district by Special Permit.

E. The proposed shooting complex is approximately ¾ mile south of S.R. 64 of Uihlein Road and is located on a 532 acre parcel which is used as a sod farm and other agricultural uses. Although the proposed complex itself is not fenced, the 532 acre parcel in which it will be located is surrounded on all sides by fencing. The proposed complex is accessible only via Uihlein Road, which functions as a road but is a private drive for access to farmland.

F. The closest residence is over 2300 feet to the northwest from the closest shooting station at the complex; the "Land Lab" used by the Center Montessori School and Bayside Community Church are farther from the closest boundary of the proposed complex than this residence.

Section 2. Conclusions of Law.

Based upon the Findings of Fact set forth above and considering the testimony, evidence and documentation and the staff report presented, and a review of the applicable provisions of the Manatee County Comprehensive Plan and Manatee County Land Development Code, the above-referenced Hearing Officer makes the following Conclusions of Law:

A. This Hearing Officer has jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter in this proceeding pursuant to the LDC.

B. The applicant has the burden on proving entitlement to the Special Permit it seeks. *Irvine v. Duval County Planning Comm’n*, 495 So.2d 167 (Fla. 1986); *Florida Dept. of Transportation v. J.W.C. Co., Inc.*, 396 So.2d 778 (Fla. 1st DCA 1981).

C. The proposed use is compatible with the area and is found to be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and MU-C (Mixed Use Community) Future Land Use Category. The request is found to be consistent with Policy 2.2.1.28 of the Manatee County Comprehensive Plan, which allows for this type of use in the MU-C Future Land Use Category.

D. Based upon the location of the shooting complex, the establishment, maintenance or operation of the proposed use is not detrimental to and does not endanger the public health, safety or general welfare.

E. There is no rifle or pistol use proposed at this shooting complex.
F. The establishment of the use as an outdoor firing range will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement or surrounding properties for uses permitted in the zoning district. All of the surrounding properties immediately adjacent to the shooting complex are owned by Schroeder Manatee, Inc.

G. Applications for Certificate of Level of Service Compliance have been reviewed and approved.

H. Adequate measures exist for ingress and egress to the proposed site. There is existing access to the site via Uihlein Road, off State Road 64. Uihlein Road is currently a combination of dirt and shell and is not proposed to be paved.

I. The proposed use is consistent with the community character which is agricultural.

J. There are no known archaeological, historical or cultural resources located on this parcel which has been used as a sod farm for approximately 10 years.

K. Landscaping, fencing and buffers were not proposed for this shooting facility as it is located within the middle of a sod farm. Being approximately 0.75 miles south of S.R. 64, it is not visible from the roadway. It does not front any roadway; accordingly no roadway buffers were required or proposed.

L. The site is in compliance with all applicable provisions of the LDC, including the Conditional Use requirements of LDC Section 704.71, Trapshooting, Skeet or Outdoor Firing Range, with regard to safety, the types of weapons to be used and anticipated noise factors.

Section 3. Order.

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, a Special Permit is hereby issued to Schroeder Manatee, Inc./Ancient Oak Gun Club, located at 16800 SR 64 East and more particularly described in Exhibit “A” attached hereto and incorporated herein, to allow an outdoor firing range in the A zoning district, subject to the following conditions:

1. The Special Permit will not be effective until it has been recorded in the Public Records of Manatee County by the Applicant and a copy of the recorded Order is received by the Planning Division of the Building and Development Services Department.

2. The site plan submitted with this application shall be a part of this approval and shall fulfill the Final Site Plan requirements.
3. Any future additions or changes to the approved site plan will require a revised Final Site Plan review.

4. The applicant shall receive a Certificate of Completion from the County based upon a Final Inspection showing that all improvements are in place as set forth in the site plan and all conditions of this Final Order are met.

5. The hours of operation for the shooting complex are from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. daily.

Section 4. Severability.

In the event any portion or section of this Order is determined to be invalid, illegal or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decisions shall in no matter affect the remaining portions or sections of this Special Permit which shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 5. Effective Date.

The effective date of this Special Permit shall be upon execution of this Order and its recording in the Official Records of Manatee County by the applicant with the Office of the Clerk of Circuit Court and the receipt of a copy of the recorded Order by the Building and Development Services Department.

ORDERED ON BEHALF OF MANATEE COUNTY on this ________ day of ______________________, 2013.

MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

__________________________
Lori M. Dorman, as
Manatee County Hearing Officer

ATTEST: R.B. SHORE
Clerk of the Circuit Court

BY: ______________________
Deputy Clerk
COMMENCE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 2, TOWNSHIP 35 SOUTH, RANGE 19 EAST; THENCE S89°17'34"E, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 2, A DISTANCE OF 4024.90 FT.; THENCE S00°42'26"W, PERPENDICULAR WITH SAID NORTH LINE, A DISTANCE OF 2672.10 FT. FOR A POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE S00°11'44"W, A DISTANCE OF 984.01 FT. TO A POINT ON THE ARC OF A CURVE WHOSE RADIUS POINT LI#S S14°39'04"W, A DISTANCE OF 300.00 FT.; THENCE RUN SOUTHEASTERLY, ALONG THE ARC OF SAID CURVE THROUGH A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 88°12'40", A DISTANCE OF 461.87 FT.; THENCE S89°38'49"E, 1848.07 FT.; THENCE S03°27'52"W, 120.49 FT.; THENCE S89°38'49"E, 128.71 FT.; THENCE N27°05'20"E, 1620.70 FT.; THENCE N89°24'01"W, A DISTANCE OF 2920.88 FT. TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, BEING AND LYING IN SECTIONS 1 & 2, TOWNSHIP 35 SOUTH, RANGE 19 EAST, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

CONTAINING 78.15 ACRES MORE OR LESS.
February 5, 2013

Hearing Officer Lori Dorman
Manatee County Commission Chambers
1112 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, FL 34205

Re: Gun Club Proposed for Eastern Manatee County, as reported in the Sarasota Herald-Tribune

Dear Officer Dorman and Manatee County Commissioners:

I think the plan to allow a gun club in Manatee County is outrageous! In light of recent events in America, why would we encourage people to take up arms, even if for “sport”? I understand that the main concern has been about safety of those near this club. Even if the safety standards are adhered to, the noise pollution would be terrible, even if the noise level is within the legal range. My family recently visited Sawgrass Park in Pinellas County, which is within a few miles of a place that allows target shooting. The constant bangs made us uncomfortable and really impacted our enjoyment of that park. Also, I strongly believe that wildlife will be affected by the noise generated by this club. We have had excellent press recently about the visiting Razorbill birds at Anna Maria and the rally to help the Scrub Jays in Sarasota. Do we want to move backwards in our concern for the environment? What kind of goals are we setting in Manatee County? A family-friendly, healthy lifestyle seems to be on everyone’s agenda. This does not fit with that plan. I do not think that this proposed gun club has any place here in Manatee County.

Sincerely,

Eirian Camphire
1421 70th Street Ct E
Bradenton, FL 34208

Furthermore, a gun club is already located in Myakka City. Allowing a second gun club in such close proximity would set up one of these businesses to fail and demonstrates the lack of a long term view of east county organizations. Whose best interest is served by a second gun club?