

JASON CAPELLE, DISTRICT 1
GEORGE YANCEY, DISTRICT 2
DONALD BROOKS, DISTRICT 3
JULIE ZELJMAKER, DISTRICT 4
JIM HUTCHISON, DISTRICT 5



MAILING ADDRESS:
128 WEST MAIN STREET
ORANGE, VIRGINIA 22960

SANDRA THORNTON
PLANNING SERVICES MANAGER

PLANNING SERVICES:
OFFICE: (540) 672-4347
FAX: (540) 672-0164
orangecountyva.gov

Orange County Planning Commission Agenda

Thursday, June 18, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

This meeting is being held electronically pursuant to and in compliance with the Continuity of Government Ordinance (or “An Ordinance to Effectuate Changes in Certain Deadlines and to Modify Public Meeting and Public Hearing Practices and Procedures to Address Continuity of Operations Associated with the COVID-19 Pandemic”), adopted April 28, 2020 by the Orange County Board of Supervisors in accordance with Virginia Code § 15.2-1413. The meeting is accessible by:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnL_EM-lgrXYdfKcPI8-jOQ

This meeting will be conducted remotely and there will be no physical public access. During this meeting, there will be no opportunity for public comment. Instruction for providing public input relative to the scheduled public hearing will be reviewed during the meeting and is contained in the public hearing notice.

1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. May 21, 2020 regular meeting
4. Public Hearings
 - a. **Continuation of SUP 20-01:** Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild has applied for a Special Use Permit to discharge fireworks at Tax Map Parcel 61-32 which contains 127.544 acres and is zoned Agriculture (A). The property is owned by Cardinal Garden & Gun, LLC and is located on Woolfolk Lane. The parcel is designated Agricultural 1 on the Recommended Future Land Use Map in the Orange County Comprehensive Plan. The request is pursuant to Orange County Zoning Code Sec. 70-303 (23) – Uses permitted by special use permit, “Pyrotechnics testing/manufacturing on a parcel 50 acres or greater in size.”
 - (1) Consideration of applicants’ request for postponement
 - (2) Public comments
5. Worksession – (none)

6. New Business – (none)
7. Old Business – (none)
8. Reports
 - a. Board of Supervisors report – Mark Johnson
 - b. Planning Services report – Sandra Thornton
9. Commissioner Comments
10. Next meeting date – Tentative July 2, 2020
11. Adjourn



**Orange County Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
June 18, 2020**

Agenda Item 2a

**Orange County Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
Thursday, May 21, 2020
Meeting Held Electronically via Zoom video conference**

Present: Donald Brooks (Chairman); Jason Capelle (Vice Chairman); George Yancey; Jim Hutchison; Julie Zeijlmaker, Mark Johnson, Board of Supervisors Liaison

Absent:

Staff Present: Sandra Thornton, Planning Services Manager; Theodore Voorhees, County Administrator; Eric Lansing, Assistant County Attorney; Tracey Newman, Planning Services Associate

1. Call to order and determination of quorum:

Chairman Brooks called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and streaming began on YouTube.

Pursuant to the emergency ordinance adopted on March 24, 2020, this meeting was held electronically via Zoom video conference and livestreamed to YouTube for the public to view. As such, the minutes reflect the physical location of each Planning Commissioner during their participation.

Chairman Brooks participated from his residence, located at 9258 Everona Road, Orange, VA.

Vice Chairman Capelle participated from his residence, located at 6315 Spotswood Trail, Gordonsville, VA.

Planning Commissioner Yancey participated from his residence, located at 16170 Cox Mill Road, Gordonsville, VA.

Planning Commissioner Hutchison participated from his residence, located at 525 Harrison Circle, Locust Grove, VA.

Planning Commissioner Zeijlmaker participated from her residence, located at 34104 Indiantown Road, Unionville, VA.

2. Approval of agenda:

On a motion of Mr. Hutchison, seconded by Mr. Yancey, which carried by a vote of 5-0, the agenda was approved as modified to correct the Recommended Future Land Use designation of the subject parcel in the description of the public hearing item 5.a.

3. Approval of minutes:

A. January 2, 2020 regular meeting:

On the motion of Mr. Hutchison with second by Mr. Capelle, the minutes were accepted as presented on a vote of 5-0.

4. Public comment:

Chairman Brooks advised there would be no general public comment as the meeting was being held via video conference. He also explained that public hearing comments would be taken via mail or email until June 3, 2020 at 5:00 PM and gave direction on submission. It was later determined that all comments would be forwarded to the Planning Commissioners and to the applicants as received.

5. Public hearings:

- A. SUP 20-01:** Mid Atlantic Pyrotechnics Arts Guild (MAPAG) has applied for a Special Use Permit to discharge fireworks at Tax Map Parcel 61-32. The request is pursuant to Orange County Zoning Code Sec. 70-303(23) – Uses permitted by special use permit, “Pyrotechnics testing/manufacturing on a parcel 50 acres or greater in size.”

Ms. Thornton reviewed the special use permit application and the staff report. An extensive discussion ensued with the Planning Commissioners expressing concerns and asking questions of the applicants, MAPAG as authorized by property owner Cardinal Garden & Gun, LLC, represented by Edward and Carol Hostetter. Dave Stoddard, president of the board of directors of MAPAG was in attendance from his home, 3316 Kilkenny Street, Silver Spring, Maryland. John Steinberg, advisor to the board of MAPAG, was in attendance from his residence at 3944 Carthage Rd., Randallstown, Maryland; and Edward Hostettler, also an advisor to the board, and his wife Carol were in attendance via Zoom video conference from their residence at 2006 Mt. Forest Dr., Houston, Tx. They explained their desire to establish a location in Orange County where they can discharge fireworks on specified dates and addressed the commissioners’ questions and concerns. In addition, the applicants advised MAPAG has been active in Orange County since 2012 and now seeks to operate from a new and permanent location.

In order to allow for public input, as the meeting was conducted remotely, Chairman Brooks continued the public hearing until June 4, 2020, and advised that comments submitted would be reviewed at the next meeting.

6. Work session: None

7. New Business: None

8. Old business: None

9. Reports:

A. Planning Services Report – Sandra Thornton

Ms. Thornton stated that as of May 4, 2020, plat reviews were current. She also advised that site plans were approved for Twin Lakes Villas Phase 1 and that review of plans for Locust Grove West Storage was nearly concluded. She stated that a Special Use Permit application is pending for a luxury RV resort and may be presented at the July meeting

B. Board of Supervisors Report – Mark Johnson

Mr. Johnson advised he looks forward to working with the Planning Commission.

10. Commissioner comments

Mr. Zeijlmaaker inquired about the next meeting and was advised by Eric Lansing, Assistant County Attorney, that it will also be conducted remotely.

11. Next meeting date – Tentative July 2, 2020

12. Adjourn

On the motion of Mr. Hutchison, seconded by Mr. Yancey and Mr. Capelle, which carried by a vote of 5-0, the meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Donald Brooks, Chair

Planning Commission Secretary

The events of this meeting were captured via digital audio recording. These written minutes shall serve as the official record of actions taken during the meeting.



**Orange County Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
June 18, 2020**

Agenda Item 4a(1)

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 4:08 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; 'Eric Lansing'
Subject: FW: SUP 20-01 Planning Commission Public Hearing Deferral Request
Attachments: Darwin E Satterwhite.vcf

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Darwin Satterwhite <darwin@dsatterwhite.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 11:50 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Cc: ellen@dsatterwhite.com; Eddie Hostetter <EHostetter@resalecatalyst.com>
Subject: SUP 20-01 Planning Commission Public Hearing Deferral Request

Sandra,

I have just been retained by the applicant and the landowners in the above referenced matter that is set for public hearing with the Planning Commission this Thursday evening. I respectfully request a thirty day postponement of the hearing to allow me sufficient time to review the file and to properly advise my clients. Anything that the Planning Commission could do in this regard would be greatly appreciated.

I would be happy to discussed this with you further, and appreciate your consideration of this request.

Thanks,

Darvin

Darvin E. Satterwhite
Attorney at Law
3013 River Road West
P. O. Box 325
Goochland, Va. 23063
804-556-4012
Fax 556-4849

Darvin E. Satterwhite

(804) 556-4012 Work
darvin@dsatterwhite.com

P. O. Box 325
3013 River Road West
Goochland, Va. 23063

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Edward R. Hostetter
2006 Mount Forest Drive
Kingwood, TX 77345

June 12, 2020

Ms. Sandra Thornton
Orange County Planning Department
126 West Main Street
Orange, Virginia 22960

Reference: SUP 20-01 – Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild, Inc. (MAPAG)

Dear Ms. Thornton:

Thank you for your help in MAPAG's SUP application process and forwarding along the public comments.

I reviewed the public comments submitted through the June 3, 2020 deadline and subsequent comments as of the date of this letter. Everyone's goal is to address all listed concerns and work towards a satisfactory compromise. I have focused on the public comments opposed to the SUP application. We are heartened that numerous adjoining landowners have joined us in support of the application. It is of course understood that the members of the club support the SUP application.

I divided the public comments into three categories: those favorable; those opposed with legitimate, practical, logical concerns; and those comments that are unproductive as they are founded on fundamental errors of fact and perception. Some of the public comments include wild rumors, hyperbole, misinformation and a serious misunderstanding of MAPAG's activities. While likely well intentioned, these public comments detract from the real work to find common ground.

In the spirit of good governance, I respectfully request the Planning and Zoning Commission disregard those comments which contain wild speculation, are unfounded, and written to scare or intimidate the reader. All must respect the role of the Planning and Zoning Commission. On behalf of the serious and responsible persons participating in this process, I respectfully ask you not be bullied or intimidated. The club will update its SUP application with significant revisions which are designed to be responsive to the legitimate concerns expressed.

A public comment from Mr. Kevin Passarello, received Monday June 8, 2020 raises several legal, zoning, statutory, and constitutional issues. Mr. Passarello specifically asserts, among other things that Subsection 23 is “unconstitutional.” Frankly, it never occurred to me that there could be a serious defect in Orange County Code.

The Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors are represented by legal counsel and we can only assume Mr. Passarello is a practicing attorney with extensive knowledge of the law as he has rendered numerous and specific interpretive legal opinions. I am unable to determine whether Mr. Passarello’s conclusions are valid without recourse to qualified legal counsel Therefore, as the landowner, I have directed Dave Stoddard, MAPAG President, to respectfully request a 30 day delay in the proceedings so that I may retain legal counsel and respectfully request you grant this request for postponement.

My legal concerns rest on two points. I am a landowner in Virginia and need to understand my legal rights. I have no interest in the expending further time and energy only to discover at a later date the County Code is defective or unconstitutional, as stated by Mr. Passarello. I don’t believe my request for a delay is unreasonable given the circumstances. In fairness, the club’s application was delivered to Orange County Planning Office in mid-January and we were asked to be patient in its processing, given that it was the first time for such an application.

We all recognize these are unusual times. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, it continues to be difficult to meet with an attorney either by phone or in person. Further, the first two firms I’ve contacted have explained they are not taking cases at the moment. I am waiting on a return call from another attorney as this is written. I have thus been unable to obtain proper advice from counsel regarding the legal opinions expressed by Mr. Passarello and other such points of law and statute as are relevant to this matter.

My request is that you place the club’s application on hold for 30 days so I and the club can obtain legal counsel to understand specifically what is allowed, what is permitted and what the SUP would grant the recipient. The original application includes a description of MAPAG activities. As noted, these activities have now, through the amendments proposed by MAPAG, been significantly curtailed.

We have members that camp onsite. This reference has morphed into an assumption we are creating a commercial campground. We are not. This is a separate and serious issue. We are working with the Piedmont Environmental Council to clarify that we are NOT creating a campground as such entities are defined in code. The public comment from the Piedmont Environmental Council, specifically recommends denial of the club's application unless certain specific areas are addressed. Though many such issues can easily be resolved, the issue of a "campground" remains unresolved. I have contacted the Piedmont Environmental Council and intend to work with them, as noted above, to resolve their concerns. However, I need to understand these issues from a property rights perspective. I believe retaining counsel will facilitate everyone's understanding of the issues and impacts.

As the Planning and Zoning Commission and Orange County have utilized counsel on several points to obtain sound professional, legal guidance, it would be fundamentally unfair to compel us (MAPAG, Edward R. Hostetter) to proceed further through the legal quandaries raised by Mr. Passarello and others without similar access to retained counsel.

I request that the Commission grant us a 30-day postponement from June 18, 2020, when we are scheduled to resume consideration of this matter, to either Thursday, July 9 (28 days) or Thursday, July 16 (35 days). This should afford us sufficient time to select and retain legal counsel and to allow said counsel to evaluate the issues at hand.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,



Edward R. Hostetter

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 3:29 PM
To: Jason Capelle; George Yancey; jnzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; elansing@orangecountyva.us; dgs@accelix.net; hostetter@goeaston.net; jrsrocket@aol.com; Theodore Voorhees
Subject: Fwd: MAPAG SUP 20-01 Request for Postponement
Attachments: MAPAG SUP 20-01 Request for postponement 061220.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Sent from my iPhone - Please pardon any errors.

Sandra Thornton
Orange County Planning Services Mgr.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "David Stoddard" <dgs@accelix.net>
Date: June 12, 2020 at 2:55:24 PM EDT
To: "Sandra Thornton" <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Cc: <EHostetter@resalecatalyst.com>, "Carol Hostetter" <CAHostetter@hotmail.com>, "John Steinberg" <jrsrocket@aol.com>
Subject: MAPAG SUP 20-01 Request for Postponement

Dear Orange County Planning Commission:

I am requesting a postponement to the SUP hearing scheduled for June 18th. A letter explaining the reason for the postponement is attached. Thank you for taking the time to consider my request.

Respectfully,

David G Stoddard, President
Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild
3316 Kilkenny Street
Silver Spring, MD 20904-1735

<http://www.mapag.org/>
301-850-0668 x101 : office
301-455-0245 : mobile
dgs@accelix.net



David G. Stoddard, President

Mid Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild, Inc.

3316 Kilkenny Street

Silver Spring, MD 20924-1735

June 12, 2020

Ms. Sandra Thornton

Planning Services Manager

Orange County Virginia

128 West Main Street

Orange, VA 22960

Reference: Special Use Permit Application, SUP 20-01

Dear Ms. Thornton:

Please allow this document to serve as formal request for postponement of discussion on the matter of SUP 20-01.

The Planning and Zoning Commission and Orange County Commissioners have utilized counsel on several points to obtain sound professional, legal guidance, it has become necessary for MAPAG and the landowner to have access to retained counsel to understand and address the legal quandaries specifically raised by Mr. Passarello and others during the public comment period. I request that the Commission grant us a 30-day postponement from June 18, 2020, when we are scheduled to resume consideration of this matter, to either Thursday, July 9 (28 days) or Thursday, July 16 (35 days). This should afford us sufficient time to select and retain legal counsel and to allow said counsel to evaluate the issues at hand.

MAPAG has taken public comments into serious consideration. We propose to significantly reduce the number of days of permits we request and the fireworks activities on the property. Instead of seven weekends of fireworks activities per year we propose five weekends with fireworks activities. We would also propose specific hours for fireworks activity. Testing will be limited to Friday and Saturday 1pm – 4pm. Displays of fireworks would be restricted to the hours of 7pm – 11pm on Friday and Saturday evenings. There will be no fireworks on Thursdays or Sundays. This reduces the proposed hours during which fireworks may be discharged from 280 hours to just 70 hours, a 75% reduction. It should be noted

that, even during those hours, fireworks discharge will be intermittent, *not* continuous. There will be no fireworks discharge whatsoever on school nights. This is a serious and significant concession on the part of MAPAG in response to legitimate concerns expressed in the public comments.

Fireworks permits are required by State Code. Instead of 28 discrete fireworks permits, we propose issuance of five permits: one per month to cover the two days in May, June, July, September and October MAPAG plans to discharge fireworks. The permits would be specifically valid Friday and Saturday 1pm – 4 pm for testing and 7pm – 11pm for display. Salutes will be limited to 4” or less. The MAPAG website is being changed to reflect this change in policy, imposing restrictions on the loudest fireworks that exceed NFPA code limitations.

The table below outlines what MAPAG intends to submit in its amendment:

Club Activities	Current Application	Amended Application	Change %
Events with Fireworks	7 weekends	5 weekends	28% reduction
Days of Fireworks Discharge	28 days	10 days	64% reduction
Valid Permit Hours	280 hours	70 hours	75% reduction
Window for Testing	280 Hours	30 hours	89% reduction
Window for Display	280 Hours	40 hours	86% reduction
Attendance	<i>No Cap Given</i>	100 attendees max.	

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your consideration and help through this process. It is very much appreciated.

Regards,



David G. Stoddard, President

Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

board@mapag.us

301-455-0245



**Orange County Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
June 18, 2020**

Agenda Item 4a(2)

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2020 2:10 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; elansing@orangecountyva.us; dgs@accelix.net; hostetter@goeaston.net; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: Fwd: OPPOSITION TO SUP 20-01

Sent from my iPhone - Please pardon any errors.

Sandra Thornton
Orange County Planning Services Mgr.

Begin forwarded message:

From: pamjaske@aol.com
Date: June 2, 2020 at 3:27:20 PM EDT
To: "sthornton@orangecountyva.gov" <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Cc: "hwholladay@gmail.com" <hwholladay@gmail.com>
Subject: OPPOSITION TO SUP 20-01
Reply-To: pamjaske@aol.com

Dear neighbors,

I am a resident of Rapidan and I am writing to express my sincere opposition to the Special Use Permit being requested to allow camping and fireworks on agriculturally zoned land.

It is quite difficult to imagine a more intrusive use than the one proposed by these out of state residents and their Fireworks Club. These people are asking permission to set off very noisy explosions for up to 10 hours a day, four times a month. They also want permission to allow unlimited numbers of people to camp and party on the land from Thursday to Sunday during one week each month.

This use is totally inconsistent with the quiet agricultural and rural nature of the area. It is a commercial use and not an agricultural use. This type of activity would seriously devalue adjacent properties, and discourage investment in our county. Perhaps that is why this group has not made this request in an area closer to their own homes.

I am asking the the members of the Planning Commission to deny this Permit. If you have any questions for me, I can be reached at 672-0376.

Thank you,
Pam Jaske

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2020 2:09 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; elansing@orangecountyva.us; dgs@accelix.net; hostetter@goeaston.net; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: Fwd: Woolfolk lane SUP

Sent from my iPhone - Please pardon any errors.

Sandra Thornton
Orange County Planning Services Mgr.

Begin forwarded message:

From: William Vanhoven <billvanhoven@icloud.com>
Date: June 2, 2020 at 3:35:30 PM EDT
To: sthorton@orangecountyva.gov
Subject: Woolfolk lane SUP

Ms. Thornton,

I received your letter to neighboring properties in regards to the requested SUP by MAPAG (Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild, Inc). My property directly adjoins the Woolfolk Lane site, and having discussed the basic plans with the MAPAG people I wanted to let you know that we feel like they will be a good neighbor and would like to see this SUP approved and they be allowed to move forward with their plans. Thank you for taking time to receive comments from neighboring properties and your hard work in putting this together.

Sincerely,
Bill van Hoven
Clearview Greenhouses, LLC
540-229-9106

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2020 2:07 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; elansing@orangecountyva.us; dgs@accelix.net; hostetter@goeaston.net; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: Fwd: Opposition to SUP for Fireworks Club

Sent from my iPhone - Please pardon any errors.

Sandra Thornton
Orange County Planning Services Mgr.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Dan Morrow <willowsspringfarmllc@gmail.com>
Date: June 2, 2020 at 3:45:26 PM EDT
To: sthornton@orangecountyva.gov
Subject: Opposition to SUP for Fireworks Club

Dear Sir,

I understand that the Planning Commission for Orange County will soon consider a proposal for a Special Use Permit for a Fireworks Club. As a land owner in Orange County, I would like to register my strong opposition to this proposal. Such frequent, large and loud fireworks displays—for commercial entertainment rather than public ceremony—would impose an unjust burden on our rural community. Like others in our county, I treasure the quiet evenings of summer and fall. Although my home is probably far enough from the proposed site in Lahore that I wouldn't be able to hear the fireworks, I deeply sympathize with those closer by who would undoubtedly be disturbed. And I worry that approval of such a SUP would create a precedent that might eventually lead to more such activities in our tranquil county.

I request that the Planning Commission deny this SUP.

Dan Morrow
13170 Marsh Run Lane
Somerset, Virginia

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2020 11:19 AM
To: William Speiden (External)
Cc: Mark Warren; R. Mark Johnson (External); Tracey Newman
Subject: Re: fireworks

Thanks for your email. I recall reading your comments (the bagpipe reference because I am fond of bagpipes!); we will be sure that they're included.

Sent from my iPhone - Please pardon any errors.

Sandra Thornton
Orange County Planning Services Mgr.

On Jun 4, 2020, at 7:33 PM, Bill Speiden <oxpwr@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Planning Commission,

Thank you for listing all the PC input for the fireworks/camping SUP, as of June 3 according to your note. I sent this in on June 2 and do not see it listed.

Did I miss it?

Bill Speiden

Dear Planning Commission,

Like most red-blooded Americans I love a good fireworks display.
I also like Scottish bagpipes for a brief period of time.

Either source of sound/lights in any given neighborhood would get old within a short period of time.

Please do NOT perpetrate this potential menace on our quiet rural neighborhoods.

Thank you,

Bill Speiden

Bill Speiden
P.O. Box 462
Somerset VA 22972
(h) 540-672-2596
(c) 540-717-2121

"I would rather be in the parade of life than watch it go by"

On Tuesday, June 2, 2020, 3:57:48 PM EDT, Bill Speiden <oxpwr@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Planning Commission,

Like most red blooded Americans I love a good fireworks display.
I also like Scottish bag pipes for a brief period of time.

Either source of sound/lights in any given neighborhood would get old
within a short period of time.

Please do NOT perpetrate this potential menace on our quiet rural neighborhoods.

Thank you,

Bill Speiden

Bill Speiden

P.O. Box 462

Somerset VA 22972

(h) 540-672-2596

(c) 540-717-2121

"I would rather be in the parade of life than watch it go by"

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 1:43 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: Fire works camping permit

First of comments received after the 5 p.m. deadline on June 3

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

-----Original Message-----

From: John Snyder <farm@dutchmont.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 5:15 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Fire works camping permit

Please do not pass this ordinance. We value the rural character of our County. It is a valuable asset. Rural camping permits will invade the wonderful rural peace we enjoy. Real rural brings people here who value that special hard to find environment.

Jack Snyder

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 1:45 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: OPPOSITION TO THE SPECIAL USE PERMIT (SUP) 20-01

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Tim and Sharon Foster <fosterfam93@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 5:42 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: OPPOSITION TO THE SPECIAL USE PERMIT (SUP) 20-01

I would like to make my voice know that my family and I are in opposition to the subject SUP 20-01. The noise generated from the fireworks (pyrotechnics) will be excessive in this rural agricultural community containing livestock and domesticated animals. Reasonable noise level would be impossible to regulate since Orange County does not currently possess a Noise Ordinance. In addition, the SUP allows 28 days and nights per year, with up to 10 hours a day, and no limit on the number of attendees. We consider this to be excessive. Lastly, as a rural agricultural community, a large group gathering with loud and dangerous fireworks are incompatible with farmers raising livestock and residents enjoying peace and quiet.

Please deny the SUP 20-01 request. If you have any questions, I can be contact at (540) 656-3336.

Sincerely,

Tim Foster

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 1:46 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: SUP-20-10

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

-----Original Message-----

From: Donna Pugh <pughcrew77@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 5:48 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: SUP-20-10

Sent from my iPhone

To whom it may concern,

As a tax paying citizen of Orange County I am vehemently opposed to SUP-20-01!!! The reason we live in the country is for peace and quiet!
Can't imagine the excessive noise of fireworks constantly going off! The only time I want to hear them is on July 4th!
Vote NO!!!!

Thank you,
Dwane & Donna Pugh
Orange, Virginia

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 1:48 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: SUP20-01

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: RON ESCHERICH <rescherich@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, June 4, 2020 7:46 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: SUP20-01

Ms. Thornton,

Just a few comments:

The events be limited to 7 per calendar year
Three day events and not four
Events end at ten and not eleven.

I have heard that there is a lot of opposition to the SUP but you would know better than me.

Regards,
Ron Escherich

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 2:29 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: The proposed Fireworks/Camping Special Use Permit (SUP)

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Jackie Edmonds <jacknskip@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 4, 2020 10:02 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornnton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: The proposed Fireworks/Camping Special Use Permit (SUP)

I am concerned about this special use permit and what it will mean to Orange County and the residents close to this venue. Prior to this, the group had to get a permit each time they wanted to do this, with this permit they would have an open permit with no stopping if they did not abide as advertised... There are many elderly and handicapped individuals that may be negatively affected by the noise and chaos generated by this... Thank you for considering not passing this special use permit...

May 28, 2020

Orange County Planning Commission

128 West Main Street

Orange, VA 22960

Re: SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

Dear Orange County Planning Commission:

I am writing to you in support of MAPAG's proposal to acquire a Special Use Permit (SUP) for events on its property in Orange County. I have been involved in the pyrotechnic community for more than 40 years and support efforts to preserve hobbyist fireworks activities throughout the US.

As a long time resident of Vermont, Maple Products business owner, retired engineer, hobbyist fireworks enthusiast and friend of MAPAG, I am a frequent attendee of pyrotechnic events across the country. MAPAG events in the past have included training opportunities for the safe assembly and use of fireworks, provided fellowship for the pyrotechnic community and an opportunity for me to visit your beautiful state. As tourism is very important to Vermont, I am certain the state of Virginia appreciates the economic benefits from lodging, dining, sightseeing and purchases made by visitors to its state to attend these events.

Our community appreciates your time and thoughtfulness in considering our proposal.

Respectfully,

John Narowski



Maplestone Farm

4146 Tucker Mountain Road

East Corinth, VT 05040



Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 2:45 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: Fireworks / Camping SUP

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: dlperdue riverlyproperties.com <dlperdue@riverlyproperties.com>
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2020 1:26 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Fireworks / Camping SUP

Please share with Planning Commissioners for Orange Co., VA

Dear Neighbors/Planning Commissioners-

This is a second email on the same subject of urging you to deny the SUP for the Fireworks Training facility in Lahore.

I took the time, as I am sure you all have, to read the cascade of letters/emails on this matter.

It is as we feared. The vast majority of the letters in support of the SUP came from not only outside the county but outside the state! Maryland, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Ohio, northern Virginia, etc. They are excited to come on down to our home and set off commercial grade fireworks for 4 days and then go home. I guess they don't mind leaving behind the garbage, the smoke and the trauma of noise and light they created.

77 letters from Orange County resident taxpayers opposed. These are the people who have no choice but to live with the outcome.

Seems to be a no brainer but maybe the extra two weeks of comment can give more folks from across the country time to weigh in...you know what Orange County folks think already.

Elizabeth & David Perdue
Somerset, VA

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 2:46 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: Opposition to Fireworks SUP

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary DeLuca Mo <maryideluca@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2020 2:19 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Opposition to Fireworks SUP

To: Orange County Planning Commission

From: Mary & Francesco Mo
4547 Ridge Road
Barboursville, VA 22923

To whom it may concern,

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the Special Use Permit proposed by the Fireworks Club. Please rule against this proposal to maintain the environment and safety for our children and animals.

Best regards,
Mary

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 2:48 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: Fireworks

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

-----Original Message-----

From: Marta Yahoo <mmbuzz@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2020 2:34 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Fireworks

I have just learned that the Planning Commission canceled last night's scheduled meeting at the last minute. Given the fact that 78 citizens of Orange County voiced their disapproval of this SUP makes me wonder why the meeting was postponed. I was one of the 78 who wrote a letter against the fireworks scheme and I am writing to you again to say that I am deeply disappointed by the actions of the Planning Commission and that I hope they will respect the wishes of the people they represent and NOT APPROVE this SUP.

Thank you,

Marta Buzzelli
6402 Scuffletown Rd.
Somerset

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 2:49 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: MAPAG fireworks Special Use Permit.

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Nancy <ladyfirefighter101@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 6, 2020 8:27 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: MAPAG fireworks Special Use Permit.

I am writing in favor of allowing MAPAG to utilize a 300 acre of tract to use as a training ground for those who are training to be a Pyrotechnician ...these people are highly trained and learning from them (which I was) until it being denied a special use permit.

This is not some big party where people drink and and set off explosives. Thus is a group of people who are responsible for their members and students in training who are learning practices to study and pass the practicals of these state tests the state of Virginia REQUIRE to be a Pyrotechnician...

I ask that the special use permit to be granted so we can learn safety, build the set ups that is very important to the correct sequence of firing and continue to train while things are being cancelled this year, we can be even more prepared for when things open up again.

Thanks for listening.

Nancy Farber
16433 Trimmers Road
Orange VA 22960
ladyfirefighter101@yahoo.com

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 2:51 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: June 4, 2020 - Proposal for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow Camping and
Fireworks on Ag land

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Tony Buzzelli <abuzzelli@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 6, 2020 10:45 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Fwd: June 4, 2020 - Proposal for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow Camping and Fireworks on Ag land

Dear Planning Commission Representatives:

I am stunned and dismayed that the scheduled meeting which generated significant community reaction to the SUP discussed below was postponed until June 18! Why? In the era of eroding trust in our public servants, you cause me to think that the overwhelming sentiment to deny the SUP isn't the answer you wanted.

Please explain to the community why this meeting was postponed after nearly 120 comments were received; about 80 opposing the SUP and forty supporting the SUP. That amount of input was extraordinary...to use a hackneyed term...unprecedented.

Further, 75% of those who wrote in support of the measure are not citizens of Orange County and are members of the club proposing the SUP. What is the basis for their input?

98.7% of the 78 individuals who took the time and made the effort to express their views on why the SUP should not be approved are citizens of Orange County!

Help me understand why you need any more input to vote down the proposed SUP. If you disregard the input of those who are not citizens nor taxpayers of Orange County, 87.5% of those who have a right to express their views as citizens of Orange County expressed a negative view on the SUP.

Don't waste everyone's time...vote NO NOW on this terrible SUP request which will harm the well being of our community as described below.

Thanks for listening...again.

Tony Buzzelli

"Assume Positive Intent"

'Wash your hands...flatten the curve'

Tracey Newman

From: Dale Hilton <dale.hilton@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 7, 2020 11:53 AM
To: Tracey Newman
Subject: Fwd: SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

Greetings,
I want to make sure this reaches you.
Many thanks,
Dale Hilton

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Dale Hilton <dale.hilton@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jun 7, 2020 at 11:50 AM
Subject: SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild
To: Jason Capelle <jcapelle1@gmail.com>, <gyancey@orangecountyva.gov>, <dbrooks@orangecountyva.gov>, <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>, <jbzeilmaker@gmail.com>, <jhutchison@orangecountyva.gov>, Rob Hilton <rrh5276@gmail.com>, mark hoerath <mfhoerath@gmail.com>, <mjohnson@orangecountyva.gov>, Ginger Donelson <va_dance@yahoo.com>, <laurieholladay@verizon.net>, <rivandalefarm@aol.com>

Dear Ms. Thornton,
I'm writing to voice my opposition to the request for special permission for a fireworks and camping operation in Orange County. As several other opponents have stated, if granted the SUP would:

1. repeatedly compromise the quiet, pastoral nature of this area
2. provide legal precedent for land use that violates the intent of current zoning
3. give permission for a "small group of people to do things that an individual alone could not undertake" on agricultural property."
4. fail to provide environmental or financial benefit to the county.

I strongly urge the Planning Commission to reject this request by the Mid Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild.
Thank you,
(Ms.) Dale Hilton

--
Dale Hilton
dale.hilton@gmail.com
5320 Old Barboursville Rd.
Barboursville, VA 22923

--
Dale Hilton
dale.hilton@gmail.com

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 2:55 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: comment for Orange County Planning Commission members

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Megan Hack <tihack@verizon.net>
Sent: Sunday, June 7, 2020 1:31 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: comment for Orange County Planning Commission members

TO THE OC PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS:

It was very upsetting to hear that Donald Brooks, Chair of OCPC, decided at the very last minute to cancel the PC meeting on Thursday evening, June 4, 2020.

This highly unusual move by the Chairman of the PC raises doubt about the fairness of the entire process for OC citizens, not just concerning this particular SUP but all future SUPs which may come before the Commission.

It is our understanding that over 75 residents of OC wrote to voice objections to this utterly ludicrous SUP, something that could not possibly be more detrimental to the stated agricultural purposes of Orange County, Virginia.

Would Mr. Brooks have cancelled the meeting had 75+ residents of OC been physically present in the committee room or outside in the hall waiting their turn to speak against this atrocious idea? I very much doubt he would have done that had the meeting been held in person. So why would he do it when the meeting was held remotely? Does a reason have to be given, or is cancellation of a scheduled meeting at the sole discretion of the Chair? What did the other PC members say, from their "remote locations", when this cancellation was announced? Had they been aware in advance that the Chair would be cancelling this scheduled meeting?

Changing rules for input, after rules have already been in place and the time for comment has passed, smacks of involvement of special interests.

Surely it should be crystal-clear to the OCPC that such a "club" of out-of-staters is not wanted in this county, is not welcome in this county, is not suited to this agricultural county's stated purposes, and

its SUP should be denied at the earliest possible opportunity, which now looks to be June 18th, assuming Mr. Brooks does not decide to cancel another meeting.

Please, PC members, listen to your constituents, those who actually live in your jurisdiction, as opposed to those from away with ulterior motives, and vote against this SUP.

We continue to be unalterably opposed to this SUP----and we are also unalterably opposed to OCPC meetings being cancelled at the last minute by the Chair with no forewarning and apparently no valid reason.

Sincerely,
Megan and Eugene (Ti) Hack
Gordonsville VA 22942

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 2:56 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: The Fireworks Club

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

-----Original Message-----

From: Flossie Fowlkes <flossiefowlkes@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 7, 2020 7:30 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: The Fireworks Club

Dear Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors and Mark Johnson,

Having received almost 80 comments opposing the Special Use permit requested by The Fireworks Club, and only 30 in favor, all from people who are not residents of Orange County, what on earth possessed you to give the 30 another two weeks to gather more comments?

It seems a little odd to me that you did this and cancelled the meeting planned for this past week in order to give those in favor more time to collect their propaganda in support of an unreasonable request for a Special Use permit.

Obviously, none of you live next door to, or in the neighborhood of, the property The Fireworks Club hopes to lease in perpetuity.

The postponement of the meeting in conjunction with the original unreasonable request for the Special Use permit, sounds vaguely suspicious to me, and I would think to others like me who have already written you in opposition, and I m wondering, who is on whose team after all.

Please, act in response to your citizens and residents of Orange County and turn down the Special Use permit in order to keep our county rural and agricultural, a place we have chosen to live without undue noise and/or traffic.

Sincerely,
Flossie Fowlkes
(Florence Bryan Fowlkes)
P.O.Box 910
10226 Inverness Drive
Gordonsville

William R. Craig, Lt. Col (US Army-Ret.)
10311 Edinburgh Drive, Spotsylvania, Virginia 22553

Ms. Sandra Thornton
Orange County Planning Commission
126 West main Street
Orange, Virginia 22960

Reference: SUP 20-01 - Mid Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

Dear Ms. Thornton:

With this letter I am requesting the Orange County Planning Commission and County Board of Supervisors to favorably consider the Special Use Permit referenced above. Fireworks are a national heritage that we use to celebrate "Our Nations Birth" and other special occasions.

All too often, tragic accidents occur resulting from the publics' lack of knowledge of the safe use and storage of fireworks. This organization teaches all aspects of fireworks safety. This includes design, manufacture, storage, and display.

While I am not a member, I have attended Open House Displays at their former site in Orange County. Because of my military background I was given private tours of their facilities.

Anyone who has spent time around pyrotechnic devices would be impressed by the knowledge and skills exhibited by even the youngest members. Their care in handling raw materials in the manufacturing of fireworks and their storage of both raw materials and completed devices are above reproach.

Their test firing and displays are conducted by licensed members and monitored from several locations. Members and guests are given safety briefings and remain a safe distance from the actual firing locations.

In closing, I submit that I see this as a positive step for both the County and the Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild Inc.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



William R. Craig



June 4, 2020

Sandra Thorton
Orange County Planning Commission
128 W. Main Street
Orange, VA 22960

Re: Special Use Permit 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

Dear Ms. Thorton,

I am a member of MAPAG and would like to express my support of MAPAG's Special Use Permit application.

My background is being a software engineer for 22 years and I reside in Leesburg, VA. I'm currently employed by Gannett Co. Inc on the Emerging Technologies team and create Augmented Reality stories for the USA Today app.

I have been a member of MAPAG since its inception in 2013 and have been coming to Orange County, VA for pyrotechnic events since 2010. I also have taken and passed the Pyrotechnic Guild International's Display Operator's course and have shot several professional displays in Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania under Dr. John Steinberg's supervision.

MAPAG provides a safe, fun and educational environment for budding pyrotechnicians who want to learn how to craft and shoot displays safely. It is a dying art. We are not a bunch of yahoos who constantly shoot off fireworks all hours of the day. We wait until night time to see our craft mostly. We are not a Chinese fireworks factory. It takes hours and days to build a successful firework by hand just like it does to paint a nice picture. The bigger the picture and firework the longer it takes. I assure you we have experts in chemistry in our club and would not use harmful chemicals that would cause harm to living things. We have families, animals and little ones too, so respectfully please fact check anything labeled as harmful chemicals used by other past firework makers. Pyrotechnics is a labor of love and our members have put a lot of time and money into the club to make it what it is today. I do woodworking as a hobby and created the shell and rocket wooden ready boxes myself and donated them to the club. I have helped clean up numerous occasions. We are not rowdy disrespectful people. I guarantee you will hear more and louder gun shots from around the county not coming from us than our fireworks shooting on 127 acres of land. The incredible firework displays of today would not be where they are today without the firework clubs helping to educate and foster development in a legal, safe environment for our craft. It's something everyone looks forward to seeing.

I respectfully appreciate the planning commission's time in reviewing all the letters on this matter. Thank you.

Alan Davies
14427 Falconaire Place
Leesburg, VA 20176
email: adavies25@gmail.com



Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 2:59 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: Special Use Permit/Cardinal Garden & Gun LLC and Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts
Guild, Inc./Parcel #60100000000320
Attachments: Passarello_Planning Commission_MAPAG-Hostetter_Letter_6.8.20.pdf

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Kevin Passarello <kevin.passarello@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 4:08 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Special Use Permit/Cardinal Garden & Gun LLC and Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild, Inc./Parcel
#60100000000320

Dear Commissioners:

Please see the attached letter in further **opposition** to the above-referenced application. This letter argues that:

1. The Zoning Ordinance does not permit, apart from a SUP, the current and proposed manufacturing and testing of pyrotechnics by MAPAG, but only the “temporary” or “seasonal” display of fireworks.
2. If the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors disagrees with point #1, the Applicant’s SUP to display fireworks should nonetheless be denied, because an adequate remedy already exists under the Applicant’s historic practice of obtaining successive fireworks display permits.
3. Subsection 23 does not, in any event, allow camping; Applicants must file and obtain a separate SUP for camping under Section 70-303(5) of the Zoning Ordinance.
4. Orange County cannot apply Subsection 23 to allow the Applicant’s SUP, because Subsection 23 is **unconstitutional**.

Sincerely,
Kevin L. Passarello
18454 Monteith Farm Road
P.O. Box 568
Gordonsville, VA 22942
kevin.passarello@gmail.com
(H) 540-832-3892

June 8, 2020

Via email to sthornton@orangecountyva.gov
Orange County Planning Commission
P.O. Box 111
112 West Main Street
Orange, VA 22960

Re: Special Use Permit/Cardinal Garden & Gun LLC and Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild, Inc./Parcel #6010000000320 near Lahore, VA in Orange County

Dear Commissioners:

This letter supplements my letter to you dated May 28, 2020 in opposition to the above-referenced special use permit (“SUP”) application of Cardinal Garden & Gun LLC (“CGG”), Edward and Carol Hostetter, and the Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild, Inc. (“MAPAG” and, collectively with CBB and the Hostetters, the “Applicants”) to conduct pyrotechnics testing and manufacturing on a 127-acre parcel zoned A-1 (agricultural) (the “Property”) near Lahore, Virginia. The Applicants also seek permission for an unlimited number of members and guests to camp in recreational vehicles and tents on the Property—all pursuant to Section 70-303(23) (“Subsection 23”) of the Zoning Ordinance. Subsection 23 allows, subject to issuance of a SUP, “pyrotechnics testing/manufacturing on a parcel of 50 acres or greater in size.” Section 70-1 defines pyrotechnics testing/manufacturing” to mean “the operations of non-profit entity engaged in the production and testing of fireworks, whereby the entity is licensed and regulated pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Chapter 40.”

The Planning Commission has so far received 118 public comments in this matter—an extraordinary response. A total of 78 opposed the application, 77 (or nearly 99%) of which came from Orange County residents. Another 40 people supported the application, but 30 of them (or 75%) are MAPAG members and live outside of Orange County. The interest of Orange County residents, whether or not within range of the Property, is precisely that—whatever generalized affinity one might have for “fireworks”—almost nobody wants them thundering 10 hours per day for 50 days during 7 months of every year next door to their otherwise rural property. I feel likewise.

My first letter substantiated that the Applicants have failed to demonstrate facts sufficient to support a SUP. The current letter further argues in the alternative that:

1. The Zoning Ordinance does not permit, apart from a SUP, the current and proposed manufacturing and testing of pyrotechnics by MAPAG, but only the “temporary” or “seasonal” display of fireworks.
2. If the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors disagrees with point #1, the Applicant’s SUP to display fireworks should nonetheless be denied, because an adequate remedy already exists under the Applicant’s historic practice of obtaining successive fireworks display permits.
3. Subsection 23 does not, in any event, allow camping; Applicants must file and obtain a separate SUP for camping under Section 70-303(5) of the Zoning Ordinance.
4. Orange County cannot apply Subsection 23 to allow the Applicant’s SUP, because Subsection 23 is unconstitutional.

The Zoning Ordinance does not permit, apart from a SUP, the current and proposed manufacturing and testing of pyrotechnics by MAPAG, but only the “temporary” or “seasonal” display of fireworks.

The Applicants state in their application: “Since MPAGA’s formation in 2012, Orange County has issued MAPAG *more than 80* fireworks display permits.” (Emphasis added.). Against this background, Section 70-309 of the Zoning Ordinance provides for “temporary zoning permits” for “special events” such as a “carnival, circus, equipment show and display, festival, fair, *fireworks show*, tent event or similar meetings or events.” (Emphasis added.). Under the ordinance, “each subsequent event shall require a new permit,” and remains subject to detailed time, place, and manner limits. If an event will attract fewer than 100 people, a temporary zoning permit is not required, but exempt events “shall remain subject to all other applicable provisions of this section and the county laws and regulations.” Section 70-309(3)(g).

An event that occurs 10 hours per day for 50 days during 7 months of every year is neither “temporary” nor “seasonal” but *de facto* permanent. The Zoning Ordinance does not permit “by the slice” something that cannot occur “as a whole”: that is, once a course of dealing proves an exception as rather the rule, the Zoning Ordinance requires that the associated land use must conform to (in this case, A-1 (agricultural)) associated regulations. Pyrotechnics manufacturing and testing is not a permitted use in an agricultural district. Therefore, Orange County’s conduct of rubber-stamping numerous fireworks display permits for MAPAG—and the prospective continuance of that conduct with respect to the Property—violates the Zoning Ordinance. Nothing, moreover, in the Zoning Ordinance’s provisions for either temporary zoning permits or a fireworks *display* permit allows the separate conduct of *testing or manufacturing* pyrotechnics—any more than a permit, say, to display automobiles implies a right to make or race them. Testing and manufacturing activities are inherently more dangerous and implicate much broader land use interests, including for neighboring landowners.

The Applicant’s SUP to display fireworks should nonetheless be denied, because an adequate remedy already exists under the Applicant’s historic practice of obtaining successive fireworks display permits.

If the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors disagree with point #1, a SUP should still not issue, because an adequate remedy already exists under the Applicant’s historic practice of obtaining successive fireworks display permits. The public interest prefers a display permitting over a SUP for many reasons. Despite its best efforts, Orange County cannot exhaustively anticipate and balance the competing interests of the Applicants and general public with sufficient conditions to a SUP. Once a SUP is granted, the Applicants will enjoy a vested right and, indeed, the permit might even convey with the Property into perpetuity. Neighboring landowner complaints about environmental concerns, including effects relating to noise, traffic, and the frequency of events, cannot be redressed once the Applicants obtain (and assuming they comply with) a SUP. This state of affairs invites controversy, even litigation, for the county and the Applicants.

Subsection 23 does not, in any event, allow camping; Applicants must file and obtain a separate SUP for camping under Section 70-303(5) of the Zoning Ordinance.

In addition to pyrotechnics testing and manufacturing, the Applicants seek permission for an unlimited number of members and guests to camp in recreational vehicles and tents on the Property under Subsection 23. A “camp, campground or recreational vehicle park” however, requires a separate special use permit under Section 70-303(5) of the Zoning Ordinance—as do “commercial recreational uses” generally under Section 70-303(13). The Applicants’ application should, accordingly, be denied.

Moreover, the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors should not be confused by the status of MAPAG as a “club organized for the pleasure, recreation, and other non-profitable purposes”

under 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code in this context. MAPAG might, for example—instead of charging an “admission fee” to its events (which would both render MAPAG’s conduct “commercial” and jeopardize its tax-exempt status)—establish a “special membership” category for people who want simply to camp on the Property. In this “work around” scenario, a SUP that limited camping only to MAPAG members and guests might nonetheless become a commercial campground.

Orange County cannot apply Subsection 23 to allow the Applicant’s SUP, because Subsection 23 is unconstitutional.

Subsection 23 violates the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution which provides, in relevant part: “No State shall make or enforce any law which shall . . . deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.” Virginia Code Section 15.2-2282 embodies equal protection concepts by requiring that “all zoning regulations shall be uniform for each class or kind of buildings and uses throughout each district . . .” Thus, zoning classifications must treat similarly situated property similarly. *See Schefer v. City Council or the City of Falls Church*, 279 Va. 588, 691 S.E.2d 778 (2010).

Courts have afforded wide latitude to lawmakers in zoning contexts in which a regulator has disparately treated similarly situated landowners as to *distinct* parcels—because different lots inherently have unique characteristics as to which legislative discretion might be exercised. *See Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County v. McDonald’s Corporation*, 261 Va. 583, 544 S.E.2d 334 (2001). (Traditionally protected classes like race and gender might invoke heightened or “strict scrutiny.”) But cases of discrimination as to the *same* parcel require some “rational basis” for preferring one class of land-user over another. *See, e.g., City of Manassas v. Rosson*, 224 Va. 12, 294 S.E.2d 799 (1982) (upholding a regulation prohibiting home-based family occupations from having outside employees by right, against a complaint of certain unmarried persons without immediate families, in a residential district). Orange County cannot demonstrate any rational basis for limiting the potential benefits of Subsection 23 to “non-profit entities” alone as to any particular parcel in A-1 zoning, including the Property.

The origin of Subsection 23 reveals its discriminatory purposes and effects. As the Applicants admit:

“In early 2016, the Orange County Attorney, the County Administrator and the leadership of MAPAG met to discuss how the club and Orange County could work toward a more efficient permit process: Why did the club request multiple fireworks display permits every year? Was there a better way for the County to manage the permit process in general? The County Attorney explained to us the Special Use Permit process. If MAPAG made application for a Special Use Permit (SUP) and was granted one, the process would define the club’s activities/responsibilities, and streamline the permitting process.”

The other flaws of the Applicant’s SUP request aside, then, Subsection 23 was, in fact, enacted just for MAPAG. The ordinance by its terms applies only to “the operations of *a non-profit entity* engaged in the production and testing of fireworks.” (Emphasis added.) As a result, an individual landowner or a for-profit business (even without the added potential nuisance of having many members and even campers in tow) could not conduct “pyrotechnics testing/manufacturing” *on the same Property* but, indeed, would have their less invasive but otherwise similar use deemed “nonconforming” and so prohibited.

This state of affairs is exacerbated by the fact that Subsection 23 embodies not a “by right” but a “special” use case. A SUP by its nature enables a local government to attach certain time, place, and manner conditions to a SUP itself. Such conditions might well articulate the very interests of a

municipality that informed the land uses otherwise “permitted” in a given district, and can be applied equally to SUP applicants irrespective of their status as individuals, non-profit entities, for-profit corporations. (Real estate zoned A-1 (agricultural), in particular, stands to “protect the rural, agricultural, historic and conservation areas of the County by preserving open space, limiting population and allowing little or no development other than agricultural and forestal enterprises, farm markets, homesteads and larger estates.”) Nothing in Subsection 23’s application to non-profit entities *alone*, however, advances any articulable, rational interest of Orange County relative to A-1 land generally. In fact, MAPAG’s crowds and the scope of its activities—comprising a growing complement of 80 members and up to 35 vehicles for each event for 10 hours per day for 50 days during 7 months of every year—vastly exceeds the impact of a putative individual or even commercial endeavor for “pyrotechnics testing/manufacturing.”

Subsection 23 is, in short, clearly discriminatory in its design and application and violates the 14th Amendment and Virginia Code Section 15.2-2282. Because the ordinance is invalid, Orange County cannot grant the Applicants a SUP under it.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Planning Commission and ultimately the Board of Supervisors should deny the application.

Sincerely,



Kevin L. Passarello
18454 Monteith Farm Road
P.O. Box 568
Gordonsville, VA 22942

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 3:02 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: SUP

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Gina Sedwick <ginasedwick@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 8:35 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: SUP

Dear Ms. Thornton,

My husband and I are very opposed to the request for a SUP allowing for Fireworks/Camping on agricultural zoned land in Orange County. It is our opinion that shooting off loud fireworks and everything that will go along with it, is not an appropriate activity for land zoned agricultural. We think this would be detrimental to livestock, wildlife and the peaceful lifestyle enjoyed by local residents. It is our hope that this SUP will be denied.

Sincerely,
Gina & Rod Sedwick

10470 Rapidan Rd.
Orange, VA 22960
ginasedwick@gmail.com
540-672-8305

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 3:04 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: Pyrotechnics postponement

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Cynthia Whitman <cynwhit@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 7:07 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Cc: Mark Warren <rivandalefarm@aol.com>
Subject: Pyrotechnics postponement

Postponement of the meeting for the Fireworks Guild SUP raises some red flags. This SUP should have been denied out of hand. County residents are not in favor of this proposal. This will be a noisy nuisance and the people in favor are largely NOT residents of Orange County.

Anyone near the site with dogs, cats, cattle or horses will have major disruption to their lives each and every time the group sets off their explosives. The decibel chart shows that the noise will be heard miles away.

What will innkeepers tell tourists about the rumbles they will hear during the night ? How will wedding venues advise couples whose nuptials will be punctuated by explosions?

This "special use" runs counter to everything defining agricultural land and life in Orange County. If this activity is allowed the floodgates will be opened and there will be a steady stream of proposed changes to our way of life from **outside** interests.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Whitman
11012 Rapidan Road
Orange, VA 22960

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 5:03 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; John Steinberg
Subject: FW: The proposed Fireworks/Camping Special Use Permit (SUP)

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Jackie Edmonds <jacknskip@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 10:12 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Re: The proposed Fireworks/Camping Special Use Permit (SUP)

My second attempt to send this to you to show my opposition...
Thank you....

On Thu, Jun 4, 2020, 10:02 AM Jackie Edmonds <jacknskip@gmail.com> wrote:

I am concerned about this special use permit and what it will mean to Orange County and the residents close to this venue. Prior to this, the group had to get a permit each time they wanted to do this, with this permit they would have an open permit with no stopping if they did not abide as advertised... There are many elderly and handicapped individuals that may be negatively affected by the noise and chaos generated by this...
Thank you for considering not passing this special use permit...

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 5:04 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing (elansing@orangecountyva.us); David Stoddard; Edward
Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: SUP for Maryland based Fireworks Club

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

-----Original Message-----

From: Owner <cathad13@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 11:06 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: SUP for Maryland based Fireworks Club

Planning Commission:

I am extremely disappointed and a bit suspicious about the cancellation of a meeting to vote on the proposed request of the Maryland based Fireworks Club for a SUP to operate on a Grasty Lane property.

I don't feel the need to reiterate Orange County residents' strong opposition to granting this permit, but all the Commission need is to refer to the extremely articulated letter to you from Kevin Passarello. His obviously well-researched opposing points explains why this SUP needs to be denied. As a resident who lives only a few miles from the Grasty Lane property I strongly agree with denial of the permit.

Catherine Smith

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 3:56 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Norman Whetzel <nwhetzel@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 6:45 PM
To: Tracey Newman <tnewman@orangecountyva.gov>; Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

My name is Norman Whetzel (67 years old) and I am a member of MAPAG Club. I am also a member of the Crackerjacks, Pyrotechnics Guild International Clubs and have a Virginia Certified Pyrotechnician license. I have been coming to Locust Grove for the past 20 years to manufacture and enjoy Fireworks.. I currently reside in Fairfax county and work as a Data Analyst for an electronics company in Reston. I am planning to retire in your area in the next few years. I love the countryside and people I have met in Orange county
I enjoy learning everything about manufacturing fireworks and believe that it will become a lost art in the future if we don't pass the information to the younger generation. This is the main reason that MAPAG exists.
I have donated my time for some of your local fireworks displays in Mine Run and at the last Orange County Display working with the members of the Fire Department.

I truly hope that the SUP is approved and I can enjoy your County and Hospitality!

Best Regards,
Norman Whetzel
655 Old Hunt Way
Herndon, VA 20170
571-263-1024

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 3:58 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: SUP 20-01

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

-----Original Message-----

From: Pen Bresee <hpbresee@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:18 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: SUP 20-01

To the Planning Commission

Special Use Permit 20-01

Please vote AGAINST SUP 20-01

The adverse impact of major fireworks exploding 10 hours a day, four days a month for seven month.....in our rural county makes no sense. Please do NOT recommend this to the Board of Supervisors.

Thank you ,
Suzanne W, Bresee
Orange resident

Sent from my iPad

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 3:59 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: Fireworks Club request for SUP

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Patricia Filer <ogradyfiler@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:47 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Fireworks Club request for SUP

I am a resident of Orange County and am adamantly opposed to this SUP.

Like many people, I am here for a quiet rural life away from the City. The very last use that I want to see agricultural land in Orange County put to is a venue for regularly scheduled carnivals of explosions for the casual entertainment of people who don't live here.

I don't believe it is compatible with the values of the agricultural landowners, many of whom have placed conservation easements on their properties to preserve the rural character of the community. I would imagine the noise would also be detrimental to nearby cattle and equestrian operations.

Patricia O'Grady Filer, MAI
Piedmont Appraisal Company
195 Red Hill Road
Orange, VA 22960
540-672-0419

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:00 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: SUP 20-01

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

-----Original Message-----

From: Catherine Gillespie <catmgillespie@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:09 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: SUP 20-01

I am opposed to the special use permit for this group to set off fire works. This will disturb wild life as well as domestic animals, much less people who live in this neighborhood. Please vote no.

Catherine Gillespie
11478 Rapidan Road.
Sent from my iPhone

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:03 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: Fireworks club

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

-----Original Message-----

From: Gail <rn_gparrish@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 4:52 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Fireworks club

To whom it may concern:

We are very opposed to the fireworks club operating in our county.

Thank you

Shep and Gail Parrish

Sent from my iPhone

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:06 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: Please vote against SUP 20-01

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

-----Original Message-----

From: D. Porter <dolmadgc@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 8:47 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Cc: DeLane Porter <delanep@gmail.com>
Subject: Please vote against SUP 20-01

Dear Orange Co. Planning Commissioners,

I am opposed to the passing of Special Use Permit 20-01 that is being proposed by a Fireworks Club. For a number of reasons our county should not consider any type of firework use in our county and especially with a camping/party commercial group. Here are a few reasons:

1. Noise--these are very loud, large Fireworks. Reasonable noise levels will be impossible to regulate in our County which has no Noise Ordinance.
2. Excessive--28 days and nights per year, with up to 10 hours of Fireworks each, and No Limit on number of attendees, is excessive and unfair to community members.
3. Rural area--Fireworks and large group Camping/Partying are Commercial uses incompatible with farmers raising livestock and residents enjoying peace and quiet on their land zoned Agricultural

Perhaps, this county does not have a noise level ordinance but for the health of our citizens it certainly should. Since it does not, I hope you will think of our safely and not consider this proposal.

Sincerely,
DeLane Porter

--

DeLane Porter
Oakley
13041 Constitution Hwy.
Orange, VA 22960
540-661-0361-home
540-308-5207-cell

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:08 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: SUP 20-01

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Alexis Hauge <pets2many@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 9:12 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: SUP 20-01

I oppose the Special Use Permit 20-01 by the Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild and raise many of the concerns that others have, including:

1. Noise--these are very loud, large Fireworks. Reasonable noise levels will be impossible to regulate in our County which has no Noise Ordinance. These are not your normal fireworks, these are pyrotechnics
2. Excessive--28 days and nights per year, with up to 10 hours of Fireworks each, and No Limit on number of attendees, is excessive and unfair to community members.
3. Rural area--Fireworks and large group Camping/Partying are Commercial uses incompatible with farmers raising livestock and residents enjoying peace and quiet on their land zoned Agricultural
4. We also need to worry about the use of such explosives and fire. The MAPAG states they intend to use this site for Pyrotechnics testing/manufacturing. These are explosives and highly dangerous and volatile manufacturing operation.

Last week, less than two years after the Board of Supervisors voted unanimously against the proposed Ordinance to allow "Glamping" on Agricultural zoned land, a proposal for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to allow Camping and Fireworks on Ag land, was presented to the Planning Commission (PC).

- The requested SUP would allow a Fireworks Club to shoot off Fireworks up to 10 hours per day, four days each month, for 7 months each year, forever. These are not the typical Fireworks the public can buy, but are the type used in Municipal July 4th celebrations. The sound of exploding Fireworks will be heard for miles.

- The Club also seeks permission for an **Unlimited Number of members and guests to Camp in RV's and Tents, and basically to Wine & Dine and Party. The SUP asks to allow the Sleep Over fun from Thursday through Sunday, during one week each and every month from April through October. Year after year, in perpetuity.**

I urge you to vote NO to the SUP.

Alexis Hauge

Orange County, Virginia

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:09 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: SUP for Fireworks

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Greg Hughey <grhughey1947@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 11:48 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: SUP for Fireworks

Not much time to write but my wife and I are most definitely against granting a SUP for the fireworks club. We moved from the Town of Orange to the Lahore area 18 yrs ago to try to have a greater measure of peace. What with Skydive Orange over our heads pretty much every nice day, ironically, and probably four nearby neighbors shooting firearms constantly, it seems, we sure don't need any more "violations" to the stated County Comprehensive Plan.

Vote this SUP DOWN !!

Greg and Susan Hughey
15561 Matthews Mill Rd

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:12 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: SUP fireworks

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Sarah Poole <sarah.h.poole@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 8:02 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>; Charlotte Tieken <charlottetieken@gmail.com>
Subject: SUP fireworks

Dear Ms. Thornton,

Please find below a public comment on the fireworks SUP.

Thank you!

Sarah Poole
(Assistant to Charlotte Tieken)

June 12, 2020

Dear Orange County Planning Commission:

I would like to begin by thanking each of you for your support and energy on behalf of Orange County during these turbulent times. All of us are seeking new solutions – in your case, finding new ways to communicate your agendas, meetings and public input. As we all face what will become “the new normal” during this period of profound uncertainty for all communities, it is a time to reflect on how we can work even more collectively with our local leaders. We will be stronger for it.

I previously wrote a letter regarding the special use permit for the Mid Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild #60100000000320, but sent it to each of you personally and not to Ms. Thornton. Therefore, I will not be redundant and state again my many points for being vehemently opposed to this SUP. I have read the letters submitted for the last meeting. It is obvious that the vast majority of Orange County residents who wrote agree with my opposition.

I conclude by reiterating that I have confidence in you, our Planning Commissioners. You love our county or you would not be so generous with your time. I beseech you to continue to act and vote to find the right balance for the matters that enhance, protect and strengthen our county’s agricultural and rural beauty that make it special. I hope you will agree that this SUP is not in keeping with those intentions and you will vote to deny it.

Respectfully,

Charlotte Ticken
PO Box 514
Somerset, VA 22972

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:15 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: SUP 20-01 Mid Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

Sandra B. Thornto
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: clmathewsmill@aol.com <clmathewsmill@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 8:36 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>; George Yancey <gyancey@orangecountyva.gov>; Jason Capelle <jcapelleorangecounty@gmail.com>; Donald Brooks <dbrooks@orangecountyva.gov>; Jim Hutchison <jhutchison@orangecountyva.gov>; jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com
Subject: SUP 20-01 Mid Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

Ms. Thornton, Jason Capelle, Donald Brooks, Jim Hutchison, Julie Zeijmaker,
We are writing to voice our opinion about the SUP 20-01 for the Mid Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild. We are NOT in favor of this permit. We moved to Orange in 1998 because of the tranquility of country life. We know that having this permit will create unwanted NOISE for neighbors, cattle and livestock in this area. We live near Grasty Lane and we do not want unnecessary traffic and noise. This is not what Orange County taxpayers and residents want.
Sincerely,
Craig and Lisa Lawson
2 taxpayers of Orange County, Va.

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:16 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: Support for SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: D Booth <dbooth.8806@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 9:46 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Support for SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

Good Morning Ms. Thornton,

Please find my letter in support of SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild below.

Thank you and your Council for your time consideration.

Respectfully,
Debbie Booth

Deborah Booth
7327 N. Union Church Rd.
Milford DE
19963

302-500-2914

dbooth.8806@gmail.com

June 12, 2020

Ms. Sandra Thornton
Orange County Planning Commission
128 W. Main Street
Orange, VA 22960

RE: SUPPORT FOR SUP 20-01 for Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnics Guild

Dear Ms. Thornton and Orange County Planning Commission:

As a member of Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnics Guild, you are part of a fireworks family that is supportive of individuals and local communities alike. I have been a member since its inception and the MAPAG club is an environment about learning, camaraderie, and firework making.

Because of this group of caring, experienced professionals, I have learned safe fireworks handling, show setup and choreography. During the past seven years I have worked on a variety of municipal firework displays in the Delmarva area as well as Kentucky and Indiana. I have taken the Display Operator's Course every time it is offered because it is an excellent course and a good refresher for anyone who is in the industry. The master builders and professionals in this club have spent many hours training, teaching and guiding me in the safety, chemistry, and construction involved in the art of creating beautiful fireworks.

I want to be able to pass this tradition down to my granddaughters and grandson. This is truly a dying art. Let us bring this tradition back to the USA so in the future we can purchase "made in the USA" materials instead of purchasing show materials from China and other countries.

To offset the concerns regarding the roadway trash, I would be willing to organize an "adopt a roadway" and keep this section of road clean to support the local community and our club.

The experts in this club have spent hours training members of volunteer fire departments and individuals about the safe handling of fireworks and the problems that may arise with their use.

Just a little background information about me, I have been employed with the University of Delaware for 32 years and have a bachelor's in Business Management with additional coursework.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration of SUP 02-01 Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnics Guild.

Respectfully,

Deborah Booth

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:28 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: SUP hearing

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Beverly Gordon <bhgordon24253@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 11:08 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: SUP hearing

I have lived off of Grasty Lane for 37 years and as my property is within a half mile of the proposed site of the fireworks display I must oppose the special use permit. The added traffic on Grasty Lane as well as the excessive noise is a concern. We live in a very rural area and enjoy our quiet. I hope the Planning Commission will recommend to the Board of Supervisors to deny the application. Thank you.

Beverly Gordon

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:29 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: MAPAG SUP application - opposed

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Nan <feltingfrenzy@earthlink.net>
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 2:08 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: MAPAG SUP application - opposed

Ms. Thornton,

I write in opposition to the Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild's application to increase their opportunities to fire off their explosives. I live about 4 miles straight line distance from the Woolfolk Lane property in question, and want to make it clear that at even that distance the loud booms of the explosives are clearly heard and have occasionally rattled our windows. The explosive sounds are startling to us, and scare our domesticated animals.

I'm not sure how the original application for the land usage passed, and I urge you to not approve the MAPAG SUP that would increase the intrusion to our rural style of living.

Thank you,

Nan Crawford

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:30 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: Special Use Permit-20-01

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

-----Original Message-----

From: VIBEKE OBER <vibekeober@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 2:58 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Special Use Permit-20-01

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

Thank you for your hard work for Orange County.

I would like to voice my opposition to granting a Special Use Permit , 20-01 to Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild.

1. I think you have to consider the extreme noise level for the surrounding land owners .
2. 28 days and nights per year, with up to 10 hours of fireworks seems excessive to me.
3. I am all for sharing this beautiful county with others, but without negative impact on surrounding neighbors, in this case farmers raising animals who would also be affected by the noise.

Thank you for the opportunity to e-mail you.

Sincerely,

Vibeke Ober

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:32 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: SUP 20-01

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Shane Fletcher <sfletcher@gf-systems.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 6:57 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: SUP 20-01

I am a county resident and farm owner. I am opposed to the SUP request by MAPAG for fireworks manufacture and testing in any agriculture area. It is both an unreasonable and excessive request. The only appropriate location in my opinion is a commercial setting where oversight can be available. Not a remote rural location.

G. Shane Fletcher
Locust Grove

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 5:49 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: fireworks and campingMs. Sandra Thornton Planning Services Manager Planning
Commission Orange County, Virginia Re: SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild
Dear Ms. Thornton, This is to oppose the proposed SUP 20-01. You and the Planning
Commis

All: I just found this in my Junk folder. If it is a duplicate of another email, I apologize and we will only include one in the public record.

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Dale Hilton <dale.hilton@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2020 8:12 PM
To: Jason Capelle <jcapelle1@gmail.com>; George Yancey <gyancey@orangecountyva.gov>; Donald Brooks <dbrooks@orangecountyva.gov>; Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>; jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison <jhutchison@orangecountyva.gov>; Rob Hilton <rrh5276@gmail.com>; mark hoerath <mfoerath@gmail.com>; mjohnson@orangecountyva.gov; Ginger Donelson <va_dance@yahoo.com>; laurieholaday@verizon.net; Mark Warren <rivandalefarm@aol.com>
Subject: fireworks and campingMs. Sandra Thornton Planning Services Manager Planning Commission Orange County, Virginia Re: SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild Dear Ms. Thornton, This is to oppose the proposed SUP 20-01. You and the Planning Commiss...

Ms. Sandra Thornton Planning Services Manager Planning Commission Orange County, Virginia
Re: SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

Dear Ms. Thornton,

This is to oppose the proposed SUP 20-01.

You and the Planning Commission deserve tremendous credit for protecting the nexus of natural beauty, agriculture, history and location that is Orange County. And now, you must consider yet another challenge to the integrity of our home place.

As many of our more expert neighbors have written in eloquent opposition to the special use permit, the proposed fireworks and camping operation would:

1. compromise the attributes of our County that favor farming and family residences in perpetuity;
2. represent legal precedent for land use that violates the intent of current zoning;

3. legitimize a "small group of people (doing) things that an individual alone could not undertake on agricultural property;"
4. fail to provide environmental or financial benefit to the county;
5. identify Orange County as a destination for similar activities.

I strongly urge the Planning Commission to reject this request by the Mid Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild.

Thank you for your consideration.

R. Robertson Hilton
5320 Old Barboursville Rd.
rrh5276@gmail.com

--
Dale Hilton
dale.hilton@gmail.com
216 731 1040

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:34 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: Special use permit

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Fiona Farris-Teates <danser2.fft@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 9:50 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Special use permit

MAPAG special use permit should be denied. No economic or cultural value to County. Only noise and lots of it. A new comprehensive noise ordinance needs to be passed. This is the 21th century not rural 1950. Noise public health issue. Also law allowing testing and manufacturing of fireworks needs change. The entertainment of a few should not keep majority from enjoying peace and quiet.

Fiona Farris-Teates
344 Birchside Circle
Locust Grove Va 22508

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:36 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: SUP OPPOSITION

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Julie F <julie.fithian@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 10:07 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: SUP OPPOSITION

Ms. Thornton,

Good morning. I wanted to write you and renew my opposition to the proposed SUP supporting the Fireworks Club in Lahore. I have learned that the meeting to discuss this was unexpectedly delayed. After reviewing the minutes, and the overwhelming local opposition, I was admittedly surprised that this issue was not closed. There is a clear majority of Orange County residents opposing this SUP. I also noted that those in favor were largely members of the club, and not residents of our county.

In reviewing the letters submitted, I noted that these would be largely club member constructed fireworks. This only heightens my concern regarding the safety of surrounding woodlands and property. I would like to again emphasize the impact this will have on local wildlife, domestic animals, and livestock.

Again, I am concerned by the unusual move to cancel the meeting. Opposition was clear, provided in time for the meeting, and county based (77/78). It is my opinion that the direct reason for cancelling should be discussed at the next meeting with the utmost transparency.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. I ask that we take the time to register the opposition, that was presented in spite of the challenging environment and stressors we are all feeling during these unprecedented times. The county has spoken. The SUP should not be approved.

Regards,

Julie Fithian

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:37 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: SUP 20-01

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Bob Coiner <bobbycoiner@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 5:12 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: SUP 20-01

To the members of the Orange County Planning Commission

I'm writing in opposition to SUP 20-01 proposed by the Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild and being considered by the Orange County Planning Commission.

Even if this SUP has any support to be approved one day, the fact that this group is coming from a high density area, or anywhere outside the area, should raise serious health concerns during the pandemic and not be approved at this time.

As to approving it in the future, I don't see why the trickle of economic activity would be worth what we'd be giving up in an agricultural area. Since most would be camping, it's wishful thinking to believe they wouldn't come fully stocked and gassed and they shouldn't need to leave their weekend home while here. So either they do a lot of shopping and we then need to be concerned about the virus, or they don't, and we get little to no economic value from this.

I assume the value of area farms and homes would go down considerably, and we would also be establishing a dangerous precedent with 10 hours of loud, performance-grade fireworks 28 days and nights a year in a heretofore quiet agricultural district. I don't know if we have dairy farms close by, but I would think any farm operation would be negatively affected by this.

I hesitated to write to you, because I know you'll look at all sides of this and come up with the right decision for Orange County and her citizens, but I did want to make my concerns known and be counted. I'm also responding because I've been contacted by citizens in that area who are very concerned about this. It certainly says something when citizens reach out to the mayor of a town on the other end of the county. They are worried.

Thank you for your service and all you do for Orange County.

Sincerely,

Bob

Robert K. Coiner

Mayor of Gordonsville
Chair, Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission
Orange County Education Foundation
Advisory Committee, Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan
Governor's Local Government Policy Council
President, Virginia Municipal League, 2016-2017
President, Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions, 2016-2019
(540) 832-3264
bobbycoiner@gmail.com

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:39 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: MAPAG SUP Support

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Southern Exposure Pyrotechnics <SouthernExposurePyro@live.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 5:36 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: MAPAG SUP Support

Sandra Thornton

Orange County Planning Commission

Thank you for taking my letter in support of the special use permit for the Mid Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild. I am disabled, a club member, an ATF license holder, Virginia certified Aerial and close proximity pyrotechnic operator, and a small business owner, of Southern Exposure Pyrotechnics LLC, based in Fredericksburg. This club has been a wonderful resource to me for continued education, safety training, peer support, and social outreach. The Mid-Atlantic pyrotechnics Art Guild, has been very inclusive to me and other members in wheelchairs. Should this club not exist, or move out of the area I fear I may not be able to enjoy the pyrotechnics industry anymore. Being a disabled American travel is difficult, many of these pyrotechnic events are held far away from hotels. The events themselves are often in the country and not fully accessible by wheelchairs. Would the Board of Supervisors please vote in support of the special use permit, and keep this unique and supportive club around.

Jake Walther
Southern Exposure Pyrotechnics LLC
Southernexposurepyro.com
(540)455-1230

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:40 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: MAPAG special use permit

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Steve Crawford <1guzzishop@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 14, 2020 7:20 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: MAPAG special use permit

My wife and I moved to Orange County in 1982 after I was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy following a 6-year enlistment. I recently retired from Dominion Energy after working for that company for more than 33 years. We have lived at our current address in Unionville for more than 22 years. Recently we've noticed very loud explosions coming from the south, and we've wondered what was going on. An excellent letter to the editor of the Orange County Review from a Mr. Kevin J. Passarello of Gordonsville informed us that an out-of-state group of people are exploiting Orange County for their own selfish means. The MAPAG special use permit application should be denied, and these people should be told to conduct their offensively loud and obnoxious activities in their back yard (not mine).

Please do the right thing and deny this special use permit.

Thank you,
Steve Crawford
Unionville, VA

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:42 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Eric Valliere <eric_valliere@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 5:52 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

Good morning,

I would like to put forth this letter of support for SUP 20-01 applied for by the Mid Atlantic Pyrotechnic Guild.

The group is comprised of people who enjoy the artistry of fireworks and the fellowship of gathering with like minded individuals. While some pyrotechnic clubs (I'm a member of a few) are creating noise all day, MAPAG creates very little noise volume. They are busy creating most of the day as the pyrotechnic arts are a time consuming craft. They are good stewards of the land and leave behind a clean property at the end of the day. Gatherings are typically small as well. They support local businesses by buying food and supplies from the local community. I would hope the county would support this rather unique use and allow the club the permit to do so.

Regards,
Eric Valliere
Deltaville, VA

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:43 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; Edward Hostetter; David Stoddard; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: Special Use Permit 20-01

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: ambledsoe1122@gmail.com <ambledsoe1122@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 9:12 AM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Cc: James K. White (External) <jimwhitedistrict2@gmail.com>
Subject: Special Use Permit 20-01

My husband and I reside at 15508 Marquis Rd., Orange, Lahore area of the county.

We are writing to state our concerns in the planning commission's consideration of special use permit 20-01 for Mid Atlantic Pyrotechnics to discharge fireworks on Woolfolk Lane in Lahore.

Our main opposition to this is the noise. We do not want to hear loud fireworks related noise for 10 hours a day, 4 days a month over a seven month period. We think that it is excessive to expect the neighbors to listen to that noise for basically 40 hours each month. And we have heard the loudness of the fireworks noise, as someone "tested" them for a brief time one evening, not long after acquiring the property.

Therefore, we are opposed to approving special use permit 20-01 for Mid Atlantic Pyrotechnics as presented.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our concerns.

Ann and Scott Bledsoe
15508 Marquis Rd.
Orange, VA 22960

Ann M. Bledsoe
Realtor
Frank Hardy Sotheby's International Realty
151 W. Main St., Orange, VA 22960
540-672-1100 office
540-717-6046 cell
ambledsoe1122@gmail.com

Sean Whaley
2261 Bluebird Ln
Locust Grove VA 22508
crazyandol@gmail.com
571-969-1662

Sandra Thornton
Orange County Planning Commission
128 W. Main Street
Orange, VA 22960
Re: SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild

To whom this may concern,

This letter is in support of Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild (MAPAG) and their Special Use Permit (SUP) request currently in front of the Board. I am an Orange County resident, living in Wilderness Shores II for about the last decade. For reference this is less than 3 miles from MAPAG's historic shoot site. I am an IT Specialist with the federal government, specializing in program and project management and analysis of department-level IT budgetary data.

I learned about MAPAG about 5 years ago when searching Virginia's requirements to obtain a Display Operator's License. Before this point my girlfriend, who has owned the house in Wilderness Shores II for 13 years, and I had no idea that the group existed or had any issues with noise from their activities. Traffic on Route 3 causes more noise issues than MAPAG's activities. I became a member around 4 years ago, however due to schedule conflicts have not been able to attend their events for the last 2.

The members of MAPAG are a dedicated group of enthusiasts that love the art of fireworks. Each member that I have had the pleasure of interacting with shares a passion for not just seeing huge amounts of explosions in the sky, but enjoying the craftsmanship of each firework, talking about how each one is made, how to recreate or improve on different types of shells. Everyone takes safety seriously, keeping an eye out in safe something dangerous is occurring and saying something if the need arises. I have always been impressed by their knowledge and willingness to share and help others learn.

I have taken the PGI Display Operator's course taught by Dave Stoddard. He is an extremely knowledgeable individual, providing a wealth of knowledge to those that both attend the course and are at MAPAG events in general. While I have been around fireworks since I was a little kid, Dave's instruction was both enlightening as well as helpful to ensuring that those shooting fireworks do so in a safe manner. Because of his training, I have felt comfortable enough to assist in shooting multiple fireworks shows.

MAPAG's use of the historical site demonstrates that they are good stewards of the land, and it's use as an agricultural site will not be disrupted or harmed. The organization has demonstrated their ability to work harmoniously with the animals that call the site their home. When the organization meets, they are cognizant to the fact that they are on a farm, and after each meeting their cleanup results in the property being as clean, if not cleaner, than when they arrived.

In closing I appreciate the Board's consideration of MAPAG's SUP application, and I respectfully encourage you to approve without hesitation. I look forward to bringing my children to their future events and teaching them how to safely enjoy building and watching fireworks for years to come.

Sincerely,

Sean Whaley

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 5:18 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: Special Use Permit 20-01 - VOTE NO

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: villageroad@verizon.net <villageroad@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 12:51 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>; Jim Hutchison <jhutchison@orangecountyva.gov>;
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Donald Brooks <dbrooks@orangecountyva.gov>; George Yancey
<gyancey@orangecountyva.gov>; Jason Capelle <jcapelleorangecounty@gmail.com>; rmarkjohson142@gmail.com
Cc: Jim crozier <jcrozier@orangecountyva.gov>; James K. White (External) <jimwhitedistrict2@gmail.com>; Teel
Goodwin (external) <teel.goodwin@comcast.net>; Lee Frame <lframe@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Special Use Permit 20-01 - VOTE NO

TO: Planning Commission
RE: SUP 20-01
POSITION: Oppose
Date: June 15, 2020

I understand that SUP 20-01 was presented to the Planning Commission on May 21 and which is outlined as follows: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild has applied for a Special Use Permit to discharge fireworks at Tax Map Parcel 61-32 which contains 127.544 acres and is zoned Agriculture (A). The property is owned by Cardinal Garden & Gun, LLC and is located on Woolfolk Lane. The parcel is designated Agricultural 2 on the Recommended Future Land Use Map in the Orange County Comprehensive Plan. The request is pursuant to Orange County Zoning Code Sec. 70-303 (23) – Uses permitted by special use permit, “Pyrotechnics testing/manufacturing on a parcel 50 acres or greater in size.”

I am a resident of Unionville, VA (Orange County) and am writing to express my fierce opposition to the SUP 20-01 for many reasons, including those outlined below:

1. Noise--these are very loud, large Fireworks. Reasonable noise levels will be impossible to regulate in our County which has no Noise Ordinance at this time.

2. Excessive--28 days and nights per year, with up to 10 hours of Fireworks each, and No Limit on number of attendees, is excessive and unfair to community members.

3. Rural area--Fireworks and large group Camping/Partying are Commercial uses incompatible with farmers raising livestock and residents enjoying peace and quiet on their land zoned Agricultural.

Such a SUP would set a dangerous precedent in Orange County and for parcels designated as Ag2 or even commercial or otherwise.

For anyone living in Orange County, Louisa County, this noise would be overwhelming for the residents and would be in opposition to the rights as a homeowner to "quiet enjoyment" of his/her property.

I also would like to respond to comments made by Donald Brooks in the Orange Review:

- 1. The land where the fireworks would take place is owned not by the Hostetters, but by Cardinal Garden & Gun. The Hostetters never owned the land per the county records as far as I can determine.**
- 2. The overwhelming majority of those residents whom have submitted their opposition to this SUP 20-01 are residents of Orange County. It should not matter whether they live in Somerset or Barboursville. Each of these comments submitted by Orange County residents should be weighed just as heavily as comments submitted by residents in the Unionville, Rhoadesville, Lahore areas. To do so otherwise, would be unfair and prejudicial.**

More importantly, I am writing to provide you with very unsettling findings based on my own personal conversations with residents at the previous site in Locust Grove where MAPAG exploded fireworks:

- A resident – whose name I will not disclose due to privacy concerns – was thrown from her horse and injured when the fireworks were previously exploded at the Locust Grove site. This is a prime example of how the noise will negatively impact our residents and animals;**
- Horses owned by a resident - who resides near where the fireworks were previously exploded at the Locust Grove Site and whose name I will not disclose due to privacy concerns – ran through a fence and were injured. Again, this is an extremely serious situation and must be considered as an overwhelming reason to vote against this SUP request;**
- There was very loud music throughout the day and evening at the previous fireworks exploded by MAPAG;**
- There was lots of drinking going on throughout the day and evening at this site; and,**
- There was lots of trash left behind by the MAPAG members and the people who were allowed to camp and participate in the fireworks and gathering**

FOR ALL OF THE REASONS OUTLINED ABOVE, PLEASE VOTE AGAINST SUP 20-01.

Jacque Johnson

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 5:30 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: Fireworks Proposal

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Karen Fisher <karen@fisherplants.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 2:20 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Fireworks Proposal

June 15, 2020

Orange County Planning Commission
P.O. Box 111
112 West Main Street

Orange, VA 22960
Re: Special Use Permit/Cardinal Garden & Gun LLC and Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic

Arts Guild, Inc./Parcel #6010000000320 near Lahore, VA in Orange County

Dear Commissioners:

It has recently come to my attention that fireworks may become more prevalent in our community. The fact that educated people allow this practice to continue when it traumatizes PTSD victims, pets & livestock utterly astounds me. If anyone wants to literally light money on fire for fun fine, just don't make me listen to it while I'm trying to relax on my porch. If fireworks can proceed without noise, ok. Until that happens - NO! Why do hundreds of people have to purchase thunder shirts for their dogs & now possibly have to use them multiple times per year? Fireworks have no useful purpose other than putting temporary lights in the sky. We already have stars. Everyone can look at those instead for free without disrupting anybody's sleep. This archaic practice has been replaced with noiseless fireworks in more civilized societies. Until that happens, I will vehemently oppose the discharge of fireworks every chance I get. Our Veterans deserve this small but important consideration.

Sincerely,

Karen Fisher

20803 Lahore Rd.

Orange, VA 22960

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 5:37 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: Proposed SUP to allow fireworks,RVs,etc. on A - 1 Zoned land

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: ridgeporter <ridgeporter@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 2:59 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Proposed SUP to allow fireworks,RVs,etc. on A - 1 Zoned land

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

I write in strong opposition to the approval of the above proposed SUV. This pernicious ordinance is not compatible with quiet enjoyment of property in A - 1 districts. It would lead to excessive noise as well as be a nuisance to livestock. Moreover, it might lead to other unwanted Commercial development which is not allowed in certain parts of Orange County under the existing comprehensive plan.

Please vote against it.

Respectfully submitted,

Ridge Porter

J. Ridgely Porter III
Oakley Farm
13041 Constitution Highway
Orange, VA 22960
[Tel:\(540\)661-0361](tel:(540)661-0361)
Farm Office:(540)661-4127
Mobile:(434)284-3290

Tracey Newman

From: Sandra Thornton
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 5:38 PM
To: Donald Brooks (External); Jason Capelle; George Yancey; Julie Zeijlmaker
jbzeijlmaker@gmail.com; Jim Hutchison; R. Mark Johnson (External)
Cc: Tracey Newman; Eric Lansing; David Stoddard; Edward Hostetter; jrsrocket@aol.com
Subject: FW: Comment Opposing SUP 20-01
Attachments: Oppose SUP 20-01.pdf

Sandra B. Thornton
Planning Services Manager
Orange County, VA
128 W. Main St. Orange, VA 22960
(540) 672-4347 (P) (540) 672-0164 (F)

From: Ray Palmer <rakkaray@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 4:11 PM
To: Sandra Thornton <sthornton@orangecountyva.gov>
Subject: Comment Opposing SUP 20-01

Dear S Thornton,

Please see and record my comment below. I have also attached a scanned version with my signature. Thank you for taking my comment.

Ray Palmer

TO: ORANGE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

c/o sthornton@orangecountyva.gov

RE: Special Use Permit (SUP) 20-01

FROM: Ray Palmer, 283 E Main St. Orange, VA 22960

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION:

I was shocked to hear of this fireworks/camping/partying proposal for land zoned as Agricultural 1 in Orange County. This proposed use sounds like college fraternity parties for adults. This does not belong in Orange County, for several reasons.

First, the noise level, and its frequency and duration, will disturb the peace of rural residents and their livestock. This would be an affront to our quiet way of life in this county. The commercial grade fireworks the club intends to use can be heard for miles. Vibrations from these explosions can also be felt for some distance.

Second, the four-day sleepover and partying each month, with unlimited attendees, is also inappropriate for Orange County. This could encourage all forms of loud behavior and possible drunken driving.

Finally, I can unequivocally state that as a Vietnam combat veteran, the last thing I want to hear for 10 hours is a string of loud explosions. This can be disturbing to many combat veterans, particularly any of those with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Thus, I respectfully request that the Orange County Planning Commission reject this SUP 20-01.

June 10, 2020

Ronald W. Smith

15394 Grasty Lane

Orange, Virginia 22960

Re: SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild, Inc.

Ms. Thornton,

Edward Hostetter - Woolfolk Lane off of Grasty Lane, Orange, Virginia

I am a homeowner very close to this property. I am very much in favor to have Mr. Hostetter's pyrotechnic activities near me. He works well with the local fire department and they have only positive things to say about him. I see no need of any stipulations placed upon him as his activities are going to be located on an isolated portion of his property. I wish him the best. I am also hoping he and his guest will bring additional business revenue to the county.

Sincerely,

Ronald W. Smith

Ronald W. Smith



June 10, 2020

Trudy C. Smith

15394 Grasty Lane

Orange, Virginia 22960

Re: SUP 20-01: Mid-Atlantic Pyrotechnic Arts Guild, Inc.

Dear Ms. Thornton,

I would like to offer my perspective on the SUP application by MAPAG.

My home is located on Grasty Lane, which is close to the property listed in the application to the north. I would like to start by saying that I am in support of the SUP. I have lived next to this property for 65 years and adjoins additional property of Cardinal Garden and Gun, LLC.

As a neighboring property owner, I request the following:

that Woolfolk Lane must be the only road used to and from the events by members or the public.

MAPAG has been reputable and professional at their previous event location.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide my input. I look forward to enjoying the fireworks from my farm and wish Mr. Hostetter the best of luck!

Sincerely,



Trudy C. Smith

