



SARASOTA COUNTY GOVERNMENT SARASOTA, FLORIDA

SEP 2 4 1993

Building and Zoning Department

SURVEYMAPPENG

1301 Cattlemen Road Sarasota, Florida 34232 Telephone (813) 378-6117 FAX (813) 378-6029 Zoning (813) 378-6121 Zoning FAX (813) 378-6075

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September 22, 1993

Roger Hill, Ranch Manager Schroeder-Manatee Ranch 7550 Lorraine Road Bradenton, Florida 34202

> Re: Street Name Approval for Sarasota Polo Club

Map: #185

Dear Mr. Hill:

Per Sarasota County Ordinance #80-73, the following street names were submitted to this office on ___September 14, 1993 ___for review in_____SARASOTA POLO CLUB

> DEER DRIVE COW CAMP LANE CHUKKER LANE QUAIL LANDING POLO CLUB LANE WHISKEY POND LANE FIELDSIDE DRIVE

The above street names were approved by the Zoning Department this date.

If we may be of further assistance, contact our office anytime.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Lewis

Plans Examiner, Building and Zoning, Zoning Division

xc:

U.S. Post Office Dick Emerson, Engineering Dept. Ron Robeson, Engineering Dept. Leo Shaffer, Traffic Operations Tom McCaughey, Engineering Dept. Susan Rhyne, ECDC, Health Dept. Joanne Koester, Supervisor of Elections House of Maps So. County Ambulance Service District Tom Shaw, Emergency Management

Planning Dept. Greg Bacon, Fire Marshal Carlos Bryant, Utilities Ray Parsons, Mosquito Control South County Zoning FPL Gerald Samies, Sheriff's

Dept.

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SARASOTA COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Office of the County Attorney

Interoffice Memorandum

TO:

Michael Miller, Zoning Administrator, Building & Zoning

Department

FROM:

Brenda L. Valla, Deputy County Attorney

RE:

Schroeder-Manatee Ranch, Sarasota Polo Club, Rezone

Petition 93-15; Log No. 93-30919

DATE:

August 11, 1993

Please be advised that the action requested by your legal services request in regard to the above-referenced file has been completed and this file is now being closed. If you have any questions or believe the work on this file has not been completed, please call me or my secretary, Lynne Homa.

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SARASOTA COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Office of the County Attorney

Interoffice Memorandum

TO: Michael L. Miller, Zoning Administrator

Building & Zoning Department

FROM: Brenda L. Valla, Deputy County Attorney

RE: Schroeder-Manatee Ranch, Sarasota Polo Club, Rezone

Petition 93-15; Log No. 93-30919

DATE: August 10, 1993

Based on my conversations with you and review of correspondence between you and Mr. William C. Strode, attorney for Schroeder-Manatee, I have been asked to determine whether the property subject to Rezone Petition 93-15 is required to be platted prior to the issuance of building permits. As described to me, the completed project will consist of lots equal to or greater than five (5) acres. Vehicular access is provided by way of shell roadways constructed pursuant to agricultural permits.

Ordinance 89-95, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the County "Land Development Regulations" or "LDR's," defines "Subdivision" as follows (criteria not germane to this discussion is omitted):

"The division of a parcel of land, whether improved or unimproved into three (3) or more lots of less than five (5) acres each, for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of transfer of ownership, or...Any division of land if the extension of an existing street or establishment of any new street is involved..."

Since the proposed project will consist of lots equal to or greater than five (5) acres, the first definition of subdivisions set forth above does not apply to require platting in this fact situation. The developer does not propose to extend any existing street. Therefore, the question of whether subdividing is required turns on the question of whether the proposed development establishes any "new street."

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"Street" is defined in the Land Development Regulations, Section A5 as follows:

"STREET means a public vehicular right-of-way or private vehicular accessway which affords the principal means of access to more than one parcel of property. The term includes any other vehicular right-of-way -- except an alley -- such as avenue, road, way, drive, lane, boulevard, place, easement and the like."

The Land Development Regulations do not define the term "parcel." The subject property has already been divided into lots which are leased to different parties. Do these leased lots constitute separate parcels? Also, the land surrounding the subject property is owned by Schroeder-Manatee, but not proposed to be rezoned and developed. Is the rezone property a different "parcel" from the surrounding property not subject to rezone? If the applicant deeds a portion of the property to another entity controlled by the applicant, has a separate parcel been created, converting the shell roads to "Streets" under the LDR definition? The LDR's offer no guidance to answer these questions.

The second sentence of the LDR definition of "Street" states that, "The term includes any other vehicular right-of-way...such as avenue, road, way, drive, lane, boulevard, place, easement, and the like." There is no requirement that these "rights-of-way" meet the LDR design and construction standards. In fact, an "easement" seldom meets such standards. The extremely broad LDR definition of "Street" could reasonably be construed to include the shell rights-of-way on the subject property.

Although I have not researched this issue, apparently the shell travelways on the subject property were legally permitted and constructed pursuant to an agricultural exemption. Should the property have been platted at the time these rights-of-ways were constructed? Probably not. This interpretation would require farmers and ranchers to plat agricultural lands every time such agricultural rights-of-ways were constructed. This result is not consistent with the purpose of the county or state subdivision regulations. At the time the use of the parcels accessed by the shell agricultural roads changed, should the owner have been required to plat the property? This may be a reasonable result, but it is not required, or even addressed, by the County LDR's or Chapter 177, Florida Statutes.

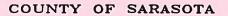
Michael L. Miller August 10, 1993 Page 3.

Based on the above, it could be argued that the rights-of-ways built with agricultural exemptions are "existing streets," constructed at a time when platting was not required. Because "parcel" is ambiguous in the definition of street, either the surrounding land not subject to rezone or the leased lots could reasonably be considered separate "parcels." This would qualify the agricultural rights-of-ways as streets.

The Florida Supreme Court has held that "Since zoning regulations are in derogation of private rights of ownership, words used in a zoning ordinance should be given their broadest meaning when there is no definition or clear intent to the contrary and the ordinance should be interpreted in favor of the property owner." Rinker Materials Corp. v. City of North Miami, 286 So.2d 552 (Fla. 1973). Neither Chapter 177, Florida Statutes, nor the County's LDR's clearly address the fact situation presented here. Construing the ambiguity in favor of the property owner, as the law requires, it is my opinion that Sarasota County does not have the authority under its LDR's to require the platting of the land subject to Rezone Petition 93-15. If this result was not intended by Sarasota County, the Land Development Regulations should be amended to address this situation and remove the ambiguity.

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FLORIDA

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT ENGINEERING DIVISION SURVEY-MAPPING SECTION

MAPPING WORK ORDER

DIVISION	JOB I	NO. ⊆	1302	
SURVEY	PROJ.	NO	ALU	
DATE	3.24	-93		

	TITLE BLOCK DATA	
TYPI	E OF DRAWING	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
	RIGHT-OF-WAY MAP	1) Place the non-conforming Plat
	MAINTAINED RIGHT-OF-WAY MAP	on our half section Maps using
	BOUNDARY SURVEY	the attached road names (Private)
	TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY	@ Make a file folder for the
	SPECIFIC PURPOSE SURVEY	completed drawer called "Spenson
	RIGHT-OF-WAY STRIP MAP	POLOCIUB" and put all the
	R/W PARCEL SKETCH/DESCRIPTION	attached in it.
	OTHER SKETCH/DESCRIPTION	3 Did we get a disc on the Polo
	HALF SECTION SHEET NO.	REFERENCES:
	HALF TOWNSHIP SHEET NO.	MAP yes
	D.N.R. CERTIFIED CORNER RECORD	AERIAL
	SECTION CORNER REFERENCE SHEET	PB/PG
	BENCH MARK REFERENCE SHEET	FB/PG
	SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT MAP	OTHER
	VOTING PRECINCT MAP	
	VOTING PRECINCT SKETCH	
	OTHER	

BEGAN ______

COMPLETED _____

CHECK BY _____

INDEXED ____