Tax Map/Block/Parcel
No. 72 12 515

Building Permit/Zoning
Certificate BP-02-4390

Case ZA-713

CORRECTED

Official Decision
Zoning Administrator
Carroll County, Maryland

APPLICANT:	Robert E. & Helen M. Lewis 6295 Wild Lake Drive Sykesville, Maryland 21784
REQUEST:	***A declaratory ruling that 15 alpacas are permitted under the maximum animal limit in the private stable definition of Section 223-2.***
LOCATION:	6295 Wild Lake Drive Sykesville, MD 21784
APPLICABLE REGULATIONS:	Code of Public Local Laws and Ordinances, Chapters 223-2, 223-35B, and 223-181
HEARING HELD:	December 3, 2002

FINDINGS & CONCLUSIONS

Based on the testimony and evidence presented at the hearing, the ***declaratory ruling*** is granted.

Facts, which support the request for relief from the strict terms of the Ordinance, in this case, a ***declaratory ruling that 15 alpacas are permitted under the maximum animal limit in the private stable definition of Section 223-2,*** are as follows:

Mr. & Mrs. Lewis are active in the 4-H and work with children helping them to learn about and show Alpaca's. This property is 3 acres and is zoned Conservation, which "allows no more than two (2) horses, ponies, or cattle; or equivalent number of sheep, goats, or other ruminates". Mr. & Mrs. Lewis provided documentation from the Maryland Department of Agriculture on animal unit equivalencies. According to this information, approximately 18 Alpacas would be equivalent to two (2) horses. Mr. & Mrs. Lewis are requesting a variance for 15 Alpacas. Also, according to the other documentation provided the Alpacas are more hygienic as compared to horses, as long as regular cleaning is maintained. The surrounding property owners' submitted letters of support for the variance, stating the property was neat, clean and well maintained, with the exception of Mel and Carol Laney, who attended the hearing. Their concern was mainly regarding the odor generated by manure.

This ***declaratory ruling*** is being granted with the following conditions:

1. The maximum number of Alpacas allowed will be 15.
2. Pastures are cleaned on a regular basis.

This approval is valid for one year from the date of a Zoning Certificate.

NOTE:

Appeals of decision made pursuant to Chapter 223-181 may be made to the Board of Zoning Appeals within thirty (30) days of the date of the Zoning Administrators decision in accordance with Chapter 223-188 of the Code of Public Local Laws & Ordinances.

A decision of the Zoning Administrator made pursuant to Chapter 223-181 is final, and constitutes a zoning action. Unless timely appealed, parties may not thereafter challenge the Zoning Administrator's decision.

February 19, 2003
DATE OF CORRECTED DECISION

Gayle Fritz
GAYLE FRITZ
ACTING ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S DESIGNEE

cc: Zoning Enforcement