

Woodstock Festival Vows to Carry On

By RICHARD F. SHEPARD

The producers of a mammoth three-day music festival in the Orange County town of Wallkill continued yesterday to make preparations for the fete, but a group of local residents said they would seek an injunction to keep it out of town.

The event is the Woodstock Art and Music Festival, scheduled to begin Aug. 15, with such folk and rock stars as Joan Baez, Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix and the Jefferson Airplane. Nearly 50,000 tickets have been sold and the promoters say that as many as 200,000 people might attend.

An application by the sponsors, Woodstock Ventures, for permission to put up temporary structures was denied Tuesday night by the Wallkill zoning board of appeals. John Roberts, president of Woodstock Ventures, said that his group did not recognize the board's authority and that the festival would be held as promised.

Joseph Owen, assistant town attorney of Wallkill, said yesterday that should the festival be held, its producers would be subject to penalties for violating town ordinances. The penalties include \$50 fine and/or six months in prison for the officers of the corporation, for each violation each day.

The zoning board's decl-

sion was based on its opinion that the 100 proposed temporary structures—for a stage, dressing rooms and toilet facilities—would contravene local ordinances. A group of local citizens under the title of the Concerned Citizens Committee has taken a leading role in fighting the proposed festival.

In an interview yesterday, Frank Jennings, chairman of the group, said that the committee had obtained 500 names on an antifestival petition.

"It's not that we're against folk music, jazz or festivals if planned properly," he said. "They didn't plan it right."

He said that plans for traffic, health and security were inadequate for the event. The committee, he said, had sought information on planning from music festival sites in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; Newport, R. I.; Boston and North Ridge, Calif., as well as the New York City Parks Department and Shea Stadium, where the Beatles appeared in 1965.

Wallkill is 80 miles from New York, near Middleton and Route 17, which leads to the Catskills. Mr. Jennings said there were only three country roads, without dividers or shoulders, leading to the 200-acre site of the festival.

He added that his group had taken the first steps to get an injunction in New York State Supreme Court to ban the festival. This may be decided by the court next week, he said.

Mr. Roberts, who hired a number of experienced officials to handle safety aspects of the festival, said that 300 police were being sought from the New York City Police Department to work at the festival in their off-duty time.

The festival is also trying to work out a system by which people could be bused to the festival from a site seven miles away to avoid traffic congestion.

The New York Times

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Originally published July 18, 1969