

Approved Meeting Minutes
O'HARE NOISE COMPATIBILITY COMMISSION
Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 30, 2018

Attendance: Mayor Arlene A. Juracek; Mr. Joseph Annunzio; Ms. Karyn Robles; Ms. Catherine Dunlap; Dr. Raymond J. Kuper; Mr. Frank Damato; Mr. Dennis Ryan; Superintendent Jennifer Kelsall; Ms. Nancy Kiernan; Ms. Vildana Celik; Ms. Jeanette Camacho; Ms. Maura El Metennani and Ms. Fran Guziel.

Approval of the October 1, 2018 ONCC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Mr. Ryan moved to approve the October 1, 2018 meeting minutes. Ms. Robles seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a unanimous voice vote.

FAA/ONCC Leadership Meeting

Mayor Juracek introduced Ms. Nancy Kiernan from the Department of Aviation. Ms. Kiernan will be attending the ONCC meetings on behalf of Commissioner Jaime Rhee.

ONCC Chair Arlene Juracek told the Committee that FAA Regional Administrator requested that the FAA and ONCC leadership meet monthly to improve informational communication between the two agencies especially with the environmental review. The next meeting will be on November 13, 2018.

FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018

Mayor Juracek requested the FAA to address the bill at a later ONCC meeting.

Odorous Window Update

Mr. Frame reviewed three report documents pertaining to the odorous window issue. First, he reviewed the letter from Wood and said we could draw conclusions as to the risks to human health from the RSIP windows are based on:

- Air quality test results from whole windows conducted in an isolated environmental chamber;
- Results from air quality testing conducted in 13 homes that were evaluated both before and after window replacement;
- Head space tests conducted to determine the potential for off-gassing from individual window components; and
- Analysis for off-gasses resulting in short-term exposure to ultraviolet radiation.

Mr. Frame also pointed out the statement from WOOD that suggested that "...beyond nuisance conditions there is currently no evidence suggesting that compounds specifically associated with the windows are present in homes at concentrations that would pose a threat to health."

Wood Indoor Testing

Testing on four homes were completed, and the results were similar and below health guidelines and not above the threshold. The City is determining where and when for more testing.

INTERTECH performed the architectural testing for performance...can the windows be fixed, or do they need to be replaced? Eight homes were tested using the three manufacturers—Sound Solutions, Republic and Harvey windows. They tested if the windows faced north, south, east or west; were the windows on the first or second floor; were the windows exposed to direct or indirect sunlight and finally were the screens removed, were vent holes drilled and were the sashes wiped with solvent or alcohol.

When the screen was removed the odor went away, but not an absolute. Wiping the sashes with mineral spirits worked and drilling two vent holes at the top of the jamb framing continued to reduce the odors smelled. Testing is not yet complete. The City must develop a mitigation plan and review construction packages for the future.

Dr. Kuper asked if the screens were located on the outside of the window.

Mr. Frame said the screens were interior screens. He said he would share any new findings.

ONCC Chair Juracek thanked Mr. Frame for a thorough report.

Mr. Frame said the City was looking at ways to finance the final pieces and was wondering how to make this happen. Time is of the utmost interest and Commissioner Rhee wants to see action to solve the problem. They should be able to give information to the homeowners in a short time. In July, the City sent a letter to homeowners urging them to remove the screens as a quick remedy to the problem.

What was the most efficient way to solve the problem? Some owners have removed the screens, but the City is not encouraging homeowners to remove the screens now because the City will not be able to assess the odors with the screens gone. Instead, the City is saying leave the screens in place and call us, so the windows can be tested for odors.

Dr. Kuper asked if all three window companies had odorous problems.

Mr. Frame replied all three manufacturers had odorous problems but only Harvey is still in the program. The CDA wanted to continue working with Harvey and they are obligated to working with customer service.

Ms. Kiernan said you could go to any large building supply store and you will smell an odor it is the PVC coating over fiberglass screening. That combination of materials doesn't work.

Mr. Damato asked if there was an odor with the screen off?

Mr. Frame responded that it was a combination of circumstances with the odor—the primary was the screen and the secondary was the vinyl coating on the window sash. It is not just one manufacturer. Of the problem windows 80 percent are from Midway and 19 percent are from O'Hare.

Ms. Dunlap requested that the CDA make a chart.

Ms. Kiernan said that the CDA wanted to put together a database considering the issue.

Ms. Dunlap said she wanted to communicate the effort to residents and wanted to understand the data.

Mr. Frame said that of the 668 residences with odorous window issues, 19 percent were from O'Hare.

Dr. Kuper said that with 20,000 homes sound insulated it really was a small number of homes with a problem.

Mr. Frame believed aluminum screens would be the replacement.

Dr. Kuper asked if it was all the windows in the home.

Mr. Frame responded no, and Dr. Kuper said that makes the percentage smaller yet. Aaron felt that in some windows you cannot detect the problem. Mayor Juracek suggested it might be an airflow issue.

Ms. Dunlap said she researched the problem and found that even Marvin Windows had complaints of an odorous nature.

School Sound Insulation Committee

Dr. Kuper reported that they had another meeting and they are funneling down the schools that might be eligible for sound insulation. They are still gathering data and hope to have a committee meeting sometime after Thanksgiving. The CDA is giving him a great deal of data and it will come down to "is there money to fund this". He said they are finding that the schools closest to the runways are the most affected. He was not sure if those schools were partially sound insulated

Mayor Juracek said we need all this information before we can proceed. Some schools may not be eligible under the FAA guidelines.

Fly Quiet Committee

Mayor Juracek reported that the Suburban O'Hare Commission (SOC) wants to report to the Fly Quiet Committee sometime in February or March its runway rotation recommendations and she would leave that decision up to the Fly Quiet chairs.

Mr. Annunzio thought they could meet prior to then and if there was something the Fly Quiet team liked they could incorporate it into the meeting but now have SOC present at the meeting.

Mayor Juracek thought it might be best if ONCC members who also belonged to SOC could make the presentation as their contribution to the meeting.

Ms. Robles said is the document valid to the FAA because it had no bearing to the EIS.

Mr. Annunzio said we could do something to recognize their effort.

Ms. Dunlap got the SOC proposal because she sits on the aviation planning committee and the document uses a different model than the one the FAA uses.

Mayor Juracek said it looks like the document uses the north and south tower and the FAA is not interested in that approach.

Ms. Dunlap said to take the information and see how it affects the population.

Mayor Juracek said it was hypothetical data and there would be a modeling debate. There needed to be a practical application and the use of the north and south tower was practical but not doable. She asked if the Fly Quiet leadership should meet with SOC?

Ms. Robles said she was open to hearing a path we can flush out that conversation then the ONCC/SOC member could make the presentation.

Mayor Juracek said when they meet with the FAA they could ask if this makes sense and then meet with the ONCC membership.

Ms. Dunlap said they don't see this at the national council.

Mayor Juracek said she thought that Mayor Johnson of Elk Grove Village is meeting with the consultants to consider it and the goal is to do what you can to get to "yes".

Ms. Dunlap thought this was SOC's third ideation of their modeling sample.

Mayor Juracek thought that as a practical solution to not get caught up into the modeling.

AAAE/ACI Conference Report

Mayor Juracek reported that she and Karyn Robles attended the AAAE/ACI Conference in Indianapolis and from her notes commented on a very good analogy of Metroplex from a panel member who referred to it as random tennis balls coming at the air traffic controller whose job it was to send the aircraft out in a measured rational way to manage them. The goal was to manage the airspace we have.

They heard a presentation on annoyance levels by HMMH, acoustical engineering consultants, who said 30 to 50 percent of the complaints were other than noise or acoustics when registering complaints. These statistics were documented worldwide.

The recent health effects of noise report by the World Health Organization(WHO) was based on less than robust data with a low quality of evidence and was not supported by evidence. The data does not support the conclusions.

Ms. Robles added that recommendations were strongly made and again the quality not as robust and verifiable.

Mayor Juracek added the weak correlation rather than reporting "might or Could" suggested "you Should".

Ms. Robles said thank you for the comments but it could not be achieved without shutting down the airports which was not realistic or coordinated to achieve positive result

Mr. Annunzio said it sound like a political document rather than a health document.

Mayor Juracek it doesn't make strategical decisions not correlations...we also heard about NextGen and should the noise be diffused or concentrated. The data shows it doesn't matter the problem is "change". This is useful to understand the data...it is emotionally driven and politically driven.

Ms. Robles also reported that at some airports noise complaints are being reframed to be called noise reports.

Mr. Frame said that citizens are being called out in Tampa, San Francisco and Toronto. Florida has strict and aggressive FOIA laws and it is not considered a formal report. Complaints are farther out...Tampa is a small number of individuals...what is going on is just perception.

FAA Correspondence

Mayor Juracek thought the FAA went to great lengths to explain Metroplex in layman's language.

Mr. Frame responded that the letter and definitions were significant, and we should use these as resources since it was a fantastic amount of time spent on the report.

Mayor Juracek mentioned the relationship with the FAA to meet monthly to be well informed and all on the same page. She said we were still looking at the survey data but the FAA going through levels before it is released. She received a letter on nighttime activity on Runway 10R/28L and the bulk of closings was due to FAA inspections. She mentioned that Rebecca Cointin would be the FAA guest speaker at Friday's general meeting. There had been a memo from the CDA announcing new personnel. Catherine Dunlap announced Dennis Ryan would make an announcement at the general meeting regarding Noise 201 on November 13, 2018 and Airport 201 on January 15, 2018.

Comments from the Audience

Mr. Dwyer said he'd like for conversations regarding noise impacts to be discussed in Fly Quiet.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robles.

The meeting ended at 11:29 a.m.