

Draft Meeting Minutes
O'HARE NOISE COMPATIBILITY COMMISSION
Strategic Planning Executive Committee Meeting via ZOOM
August 13, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Arlene Juracek called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members: Mayor Arlene Juracek, Village of Mount Prospect; Mr. Joseph Annunzio, Village of Niles; Mr. Brian Gaseor, Village of Norridge; Dr. Jennifer Kelsall, School District 234; Dr. Raymond Kuper, School District 234; Ms. Karyn Robles, Village of Schaumburg; Mr. Dennis Ryan, Village of River Grove; Mr. Evan Summers, Village of Bensenville

Absent: Mr. Ralph Sorce, Village of Melrose Park

Others: Ms. Jeanette Camacho, ONCC Executive Director; Chicago Department of Aviation Commissioner Jamie Rhee; Mr. Aaron Frame, Chicago Department of Aviation; Mr. Ryan Anderson, Landrum & Brown; Ms. Maura El Metennani, ONCC Consultant; Ms. Fran Guziel, ONCC Consultant

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Summers moved, seconded by Mr. Ryan to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2020 ONCC Executive Committee Meeting. Motion carried by roll call vote.

SUCCESSION PLANNING

Chairman Juracek announced she would not be seeking another term as the mayor of Mount Prospect; her term would end May of 2021. She believed that previously only an elected mayor could serve as the chair of ONCC. Today, there are active, well-informed participants on committees who are not mayors. She asked if the bylaws are now sufficient for designees to hold office.

Mr. Frame thought it could be a problem. He thought the IGA governs the role of officers, but we could change that policy this fall to open up eligibility to non-elected participants.

Mayor Juracek said it is important to understand the timeline of the next municipal election in 2021. If the IGA is approved this fall there would be flexibility in succession planning and the chain of events would allow non-mayors to hold office. Another alternative would be to look at active mayors and encourage them to participate in the organization.

Ms. Robles said that after discussions during the Governance Committee meetings, members saw a trend that mayors do not have the time to participate in leadership roles. They delegate and appointed staff members to serve as the active participants in various organization. Participation today by active members are not elected officials.

Mayor Juracek said in the 1990s ONCC had a higher priority on mayors' agendas because of the O'Hare expansion. She said it is a natural evolution of organizations to move the participants from elected officials down to municipal staff level as mayors move on to more urgent political issues. It is the normal maturing of an organization.

Mr. Frame, who reviewed the IGA, announced that it is not a problem for non-elected officials to hold a leadership position and the bylaws are the limiting factor. He said that the Governance Committee wanted to clarify the language that the IGA uses such as “participants” because it is confusing; the language will be cleaned up in the fall. The IGA does not limit and therefore it opens up eligibility for officers.

Mayor Juracek added that the committee participation has been a training ground for active participants who serve on the committees. The Nominating Committee should examine committee participation and take a broader look at active members for leadership positions. She did not know about Mount Prospect’s participation in the future after the elections. She said we should encourage colleagues as members to do more and step up to the plate going forward.

Mr. Frame asked if members would vote on the officers at the Annual Meeting and if the answer is yes, then the work they have to do is significant when nominating in February or March.

Mayor Juracek said that they have to make members aware of the change in leadership status at the meeting in September.

WHERE THE IGA STANDS TODAY

Mr. Frame said he presented the draft IGA with the first run at edits requested by the Governance Committee to the City of Chicago Corporation Counsel. He is proposing time to schedule weekly meetings with the Governance Committee and members of the Corporation Counsel to get the document finalized and into the record. He thought it should be ready in four to six weeks and necessary to meet weekly for last minute changes. Final draft should circulate one more time before we introduce it to the full ONCC. He said that he is trying to find out the target week, which could be the second, third or fourth week in September. The committee has to make sure members are comfortable with the proposed changes. He is recommending a five-year extension of the IGA.

Mayor Juracek said if the City Council approves the template agreement when will we have the changes.

Mr. Frame replied that he would print three original documents to be sent to individual municipality and school boards before the end of the year.

Mayor Juracek said she would be happy to provide testimony to the City Council on behalf of ONCC and to just let her know the dates.

Commissioner Rhee introduced Cory Thanos who is the deputy assisting with the IGA. She said he can help spearhead the document through to the Chicago Aviation Committee for a pre-briefing with the aldermen before the actual vote by the City Council. She added it would be good to have Mayor Juracek there to put a face to the organization because many of the aldermen are not familiar with ONCC.

RUNWAY 9C/27C OUTREACH

Mr. Frame announced that the CDA had prepared the first draft of the FAQs for the new runway and that it is a narrative modeled after the previous two FAQs in 2008 and 2013. In 2015, the written EIS of Reevaluation was used for outreach. He added that the FAA had finished its video presentation also. He went on to explain that this year would be somewhat tricky because the utilization of runways has been low due to the pandemic and even though the OMP was approved in 2005 the numbers will be

different. The air traffic is different today and the questions will be reasonably answered, but there are many variables such as when the airport is in west flow, there will be three arrival runways. And in the interim, there will be a shift to the north approximately four city blocks. Runway 9R/27L (used for departures) will be closed for the runway extension construction. When the materials are finalized, we will review with the FAA.

Mayor Juracek said when the volume resumes to the fifty percent level and runway usage resumes in increments there will be challenges, especially when schedules go back up to the full force.

Mr. Frame said the June ANMS report shows operation levels at Midway are better because of Southwest Airlines aggressiveness. O'Hare is doing somewhat better because American Airlines is more aggressive. The CDA will discuss in upcoming months. He asked what the ONCC wanted in terms of outreach? In 2013 CDA switched the west and east air flow this change was noticed. Changes this time will be on the north airfield and those closest to north will be noticed. Communities in the south will not experience a noticeable change; not as significant a larger number of residents closest to the north airfield will notice.

Mr. Icuss asked a question which was allowed. Can you be more accurate regarding the impact? Were studies conducted?

Mr. Frame replied that the flight path that will be created does not exist today; it is a new flight path. It is four blocks to the north and CDA wants alderman to be aware of this. It is a tangible change and those residents have never had aircraft over their homes. It is not on the same runway. It is not more planes, just aircraft utilizing a different runway. The noise impact in 2005 and the 2015 EIS reevaluation were different and that information is available on the FAA website. The noise is the same modeled technically for the 2020 interim condition. The 9C runway extension was not done. In November, the interim condition noise contour that was built will be lower than typical. The model is available online less than model because of lower traffic. Forecast on higher levels lower than typical seeing planes shifted from one runway to another online and modeled less because air traffic is down.

FLY QUIET

Ryan Anderson of Landrum & Brown said he is making progress this summer on alternative configurations for Fly Quiet 21. He said Alternative B was well received by the Fly Quiet Committee and he will be introducing new alternatives at the next Fly Quiet Committee Meeting in August. There will be examples with the goal of narrowing down the additional alternatives to one refined alternative to present to the full commission. Members wanted to know the status of the long runway decision by the FAA .

Mr. Anderson replied that CDA had a meeting with the FAA to discuss long runway topic and the FAA sent a response to Ms. Camacho. There will be more information at the August meeting.

Mr. Summers wanted to know when there would be a definitive answer to the long runway issue, where the long runway is paired with the diagonals. His understanding is that closing runways falls under the CDA's purview.

Mr. Frame responded that he would get back to Mr. Summers.

Mayor Juracek wanted to know if there was a timeline to plan meeting topics so the CDA has enough time to present the recommendations to the FAA. Mr. Annunzio said that he wanted it as soon as possible and Mayor Juracek wanted to know if it would be early fall to submit a plan to the full commission.

Mr. Anderson thought that was a bit too optimistic.

Mr. Annunzio said it was important to recognize that the committee would leave no stone unturned and that takes time.

Mr. Summers said there were strategic challenges, but he believed that Alternative B would be the preferred configuration. However, he believed reaching agreement on the headings would be more complicated.

Mr. Annunzio said that the Fly Quiet Committee will find out what it is made of when it comes to headings, but he is confident.

Mayor Juracek said there will be tough questions, but the committee can address tough questions. She advised that the committee should not fall into analysis paralysis -don't let the perfect be the enemy of the good - and come away with no recommendations. A sense of urgency has to drive the group; we need a Fly Quiet 21 plan.

Mr. Annunzio replied he would have a plan in place before the end of Juracek's term as chair.

Mayor Juracek just wanted to make sure that Fly Quiet does not revert back to 1997 Fly Quiet conditions once the runways are all finished.

RESIDENTIAL SOUND INSULATION

Mr. Frame announced that the CDA is ready resume work in the field for the Residential Sound Insulation program since Governor Pritzker deemed construction an essential business according to COVID-19 guidelines. The CDA has not been back into homes since March 17; they are working with the Chicago Department of Public Health to write COVID-19 protocols to address concerns for residents. He said the plan is to be finished with the residential sound insulation project by the deadline of the runway completion. They will be notifying homeowners about the work resuming. It is tricky because homeowners are concerned about letting construction workers in their homes.

For Phase 17 historical homes the construction contract has been advertised, and they are working on an addendum. Phase 18 was started but suspended in March. The Phase 18 bid package is divided into two packages. For Phase 19, the CDA will present a digital booklet with a map and listing of all eligible homes to share with each municipality at the Residential Sound Committee Meeting next month. Currently, there are 200 - 300 homes enrolled out of 1,000 eligible for Phase 19. CDA will meet with Ms. Camacho for an outreach program to increase enrollment; it is the last phase of OMP. Particularly, we need to check in with residents because during this phase, block rounding is important for homes located on the fringe of the noise contour. If the contour shrinks, those residents will be ineligible for the next round of sound insulation under a new noise contour, post-OMP.

Mayor Juracek asked if the final outreach should be directly with the mayors of the municipalities?

Mr. Frame agreed with the idea. He said CDA can compose a letter template to send to the mayors and that they can cut and paste the information onto their letterhead to send to residents. This approach worked in Park Ridge.

Mayor Juracek suggested there are other avenues for municipalities such as e-newsletters and videos.

ODOROUS WINDOWS

Mr. Frame reported that in June, the Illinois State Legislature changed its approach to the odorous windows situation and designated the City of Chicago to administer the five-person advisory committee. The first meeting scheduled for the committee will be a virtual meet and greet.

Mr. Frame said that a grant for the spring funding is already in place; the next step to replace the windows will require guidance from the state. They are not sure of the sequencing for replacement. Is it the resident that got the first call or got the first information? The grant only covers a portion of the homes. Earmarking the first cut of the tax from jet fuel will take multiple years. They will rely on the sequencing from the state advisory committee on how to do that. The CDA upgraded the specifications which will require new odor testing. There is a separate contract to fix the mechanical repairs issues that go with the normal warranty issues. The state is engaged in odor only. A city ordinance will take care of the mechanical warranty issues from Sound Solutions. There will be a different contract for on-call services. This will be signed to get the contract advertised four years on just the mechanical repairs that is separate for odors. That is when the mechanical warranty would end.

SCHOOL SOUND INSULATION

Mr. Frame announced that there is not enough money for additional funding for school sound insulation. Under the CARES Act the city received \$290 million for O'Hare construction and \$80 million for Midway Airport. CDA was thankful for the federal funding for construction at O'Hare. CDA is not opposed to the idea of additional school sound insulation; however, it is not the right time. All the issues that have been discussed, none of that is diminished. CDA is not receiving new grants for residential funding, the bonds and the grants are in place for now, but it is not a good time to ask for more funds for school sound insulation.

Mayor Juracek said that the schools' priorities today are all COVID related.

Dr. Kuper said he understands that no one is thinking of school sound proofing now. Hopefully, we can address at a future time; it is still a legitimate concern.

Dr. Kelsall added that as we move forward, we have a plan ready, but she knows that schools are not on anyone's radar. They have been working behind the scenes and the schools are not expecting anything. It may not be a major issue today, but maybe down the road the sound insulation will be addressed.

Dr. Kuper said that we have had good years and we have had bad years. We have to be tenacious and continue to work so we can present our findings at a more favorable time.

Mayor Juracek said that these are strange times in so many sectors. She said the committee is on monitor status and not in position to act on it at this time.

BUDGET

Ms. Camacho announced that a call for volunteers to serve on the Budget Committee for 2020-2021 Budget will be announced at the September Meeting.

Mayor Juracek said that ONCC appreciates funding from the city and believes it is an important partnership and that ONCC members are responsible stewards.

Mr. Frame announced that next year will be the 25th anniversary of ONCC. He said that there will be an additional appropriation of funds to celebrate the event in fall of 2021 either September, October, or November.

Mr. Frame said that ONCC budget is good to go and he recommended setting aside a few extra dollars for the celebration.

Mayor Juracek said we want to continue our work and we will not go away quietly. The Fly Quiet work needs to be completed.

Mr. Frame said we should be finishing the runway completion of the OMP airfield and it is not just 25 years of ONCC, but the completion of the OMP.

FUTURE PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Mayor Juracek said that Zoom meetings have opened up the field for potential speakers outside Chicago area. She suggested that perhaps federal leaders could address the Commission, FAA Great Lakes administrators, airlines, and tollway representatives. She mentioned it was a tough time for the airlines, Boeing is suffering from lack of sales, and asked for additional suggestions.

Ms. Robles suggested aviation expert Mike Mooney to provide overview of aviation industry trends. She had heard him speak before and thought his insights were fascinating. She would send his information to Ms. Camacho.

Ms. Robles also thought it was important for 2021 to start relationship building again with tower management and cargo representatives.

Mayor Juracek suggested that Mr. Mooney speak at the September or October general meeting. Commissioner Rhee said that there is ongoing dialog between the city and the tollway authority; she preferred that the city present an update of road construction before reaching out to the tollway authority.

Mayor Juracek said that the work of the Fly Quiet Committee will be occupying our meeting time going forward. It will be on a large-scale agenda filed will respond with appropriate speakers.

Ms. Camacho will forward the draft meetings calendar for review before the next Executive Committee Meeting which will be held on August 31, 2020.

Comments from the Audience

Mr. Icuss, Ward 41, commented on the Runway 9C/27C completion and asked if will it be early.

Mr. Frame said the opening is scheduled for November 5, 2020 to coincide with the 56-day charting cycle for pilots.

Mr. Icuss requested talking points, so information is not misstated when he meets with his constituents.

Mr. Frame said that FAQs will be ready to go and emailed directly to members for their use.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. Ryan moved, and Ms. Robles seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by a roll call vote. Meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.