



CITY OF PARK RIDGE

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MINUTES

O'HARE AIRPORT COMMISSION

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
505 BUTLER PLACE
PARK RIDGE, IL 60068

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2016 AT 7:00PM

Mission Statement

To develop and recommend appropriate solutions enabling Park Ridge city officials to take decisive action to reduce noise and environmental impacts from operations at Chicago O'Hare International Airport, while protecting the health and safety of area residents, educating the community, positively impacting and protecting property, sense of community, and quality of life.

Chairman Argionis called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

I. Roll Call

On roll call, the following indicated their presence: Chairman Argionis, Commissioners Ackeret, Judge, Klaus, Mills and Rapp. Alderman Mazzuca and Administrative Specialist Brigid Madden were also present along with 10 residents.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. July 20, 2016

Moved by Commissioner Mills. Seconded by Commissioner Rapp.
Motion carried by voice vote.

III. Aldermen Who Wish to be Heard on a Non-Agenda Item

IV. Citizens Who Wish to be Heard on a Non-Agenda Item

Ernie Kosower, 918 Sylviawood Avenue, commented on the issue of departure vectors on R9 take-offs. He explained that 9R departures have been turning left immediately after taking off, coming over the Southwest Woods and Oakton and Riverside between 1,500 to 2,000 AGL. He urged the Commission to address this issue and bring it to the attention of the ONCC. Commissioner Judge explained that he has brought this issue up at the last two ONCC Technical Committee meetings. ONCC deferred the question and indicated that they would need to confirm with tower control.

Mr. Kosower described the Fly Quiet program as "arbitrary" for 22R arrivals, as it was meant to be a relief runway for times when the airport was OSO, off-schedule operations, mainly due to weather. He explained that all parallel and diagonal runways should remain open because it would allow for the safest operation. Both of the airport's 22 arrivals are the shortest runways at 7,500 feet, which Mr. Kosower explained was not the most efficient use of airport runways.

Commissioner Rapp explained that he spoke about low flying planes banking over Park Ridge at the last ONCC Technical Meeting. In his opinion, the planes are avoiding certain areas in Chicago.

Commissioner Rapp addressed the increase in "east flow" air traffic. It was requested that the FAA brief the ONCC and explain the reason for the low, west bank departures.

Chairman Argionis urged the residents in attendance to contact their federal elected officials.

V. Fly Quiet Night Rotation

Chairman Argionis explained that the Fly Quiet schedule is posted to the website and sent out via email new release weekly. A survey is available online and asks for feedback on the rotation.

Ann Covington resides near Oakton Street and Greenwood Avenue and works from home. She explained that the survey was limited and she could not accurately describe the disturbances she experiences during the day as she works. Chairman Argionis suggested that she also report her complaints to the CDA via 311 and online through FAiRs application.

Chris Payne, 1214 Elliot Avenue, explained that the Fly Quiet Rotation frequently utilizes 22R for arrivals. He stated that he has been significantly affected by the rotation. Mr. Payne explained that 22R is either the primary or backup runway every other week.

Chairman Argionis asked if the Belle Plaine Coordinator was experiencing any night time relief as a result of the Fly Quiet rotation. Commissioner Rapp explained that the Belle Plaine runway does not operate 24 hours/day; it closes at 10:30pm. He explained that in order to fairly distribute, all ten runways must remain open overnight, including the 32 /14 runways.

Chairman Argionis explained that the predication was that as the 22s would experience more traffic as the 32s are decommissioned, which is why there is a push to keep the 32s open.

Commissioner Rapp explained that FAiR recent efforts to keep 32L 14R open include suggesting the closure of 22R/4L. 22R/4L crosses three other runways and is short. He stated that the "heavies" require a longer runway. Commissioner Rapp explained that Fly Quiet is an interim plan that is dependent on feedback.

Chairman Argionis explained why Park Ridge supported the Fly Quiet program, which was pointed out by Mr. Payne. It was concluded that, with the closure of the 32s, alternatives are needed to distribute the noise. He acknowledged that the program is not utilizing the best usage and configuration. He urged residents to complain, as that is the only way the CDA will know that the configuration is not working.

Chairman Argionis acknowledged that the City website might not be reaching enough residents. He discussed the effectiveness of sending a flyer to all households or a map with the street names and flight paths. The Commission does write an article in each issue of the Spokesman. The residents present were concerned that many do not know how to complain about the noise.

Ms. Covington and Mr. Kosower volunteered to assist with distributing flyers. Commissioner Rapp suggested a door hanger.

Mr. Kosower discussed the departure clearance and altitude of flights coming over Park Ridge. Chairman Argionis explained that the City supported and passed a resolution, with the help of State Senators and Representatives, which would allow for more runways to remain open at O'Hare. He stated that additional runways would allow for flights to be more equally distributed. The 32s are the best runways for Fly Quiet because they run along the Kennedy Expressway and forest preserves, however. Commissioner Mills commented on western access and how the ONCC indicates that the 32s will interfere.

Mr. Kosower expressed concern with the two incursion points which will occur with the two 22R runways open and construction of 9/27 C. He suggested that the City "mobilize" and have more presence at ONCC general meetings. Chairman Argionis stated that the timing of the meeting is difficult for many people. Commissioner Rapp announced the date and time of the next ONCC Technical Committee meeting.

A resident inquired how to access the Fly Quiet Rotation schedule. Chairman Argionis explained its location on the City website and the "e-alerts." The resident was frustrated with the unpredictability of the rotation.

Sandra Diamond spoke about the work of Dr. Bessel Van der Kolk, who describes trauma as unexpected and something most people are unprepared for. She explained that her community is in crisis and is subjected to trauma. Ms. Diamond feels threatened by the low flying planes. She stated that Park Ridge is no longer the City of Trees, but is now the City of Planes.

Chairman Argionis described the O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP) as flawed. He discussed the efforts of the Suburban O'Hare Commission. Many suburbs including Park Ridge lost money paying for lawyers to fight against OMP. He explained that while many people in town and the City itself recognize the problems imposed by the airport, achieving positive results is difficult. Chairman Argionis acknowledged the work of FAiR, especially their efforts in communicating with state and federal elected officials. Commissioner Rapp stressed the importance of contacting elected officials, whose contact information can be found on the City's website.

Chairman Argionis asked what would be feasible in terms of community outreach. Commissioner Rapp stressed that the Fly Quiet plan is not permanent; it is in a state of flux. However, he does think that Fly Quiet will pass in some form. Commissioner Mills suggested a simple flyer with the flight impact map and information on why and how to complain. Alderman Mazzuca spoke about the effectiveness of communication efforts. He acknowledged the regular Spokesman articles. While door hangers are novel and have work for other groups, Alderman Mazzuca explained that there is a practical limit to how many ways the OAC can ask people to log complaints. He encouraged the Commission to consider what tactic will generate the most impact and "move the needle." Alderman Mazzuca spoke about the City Council's strategic planning sessions, in which one focus will be providing Boards and Commissions the resources needed to service their mission.

After further discussion between the Commission and residents present, a double sided flyer with the flight impact map and key phone numbers and websites will be made available online as a PDF on the City website and sent via "e-alert." Alderman Mazzuca suggested leveraging FAiR resources.

VI. Environmental Study/Research

Chairman Argionis explained that years back the Commission received authorization from the City Council to hire a lawyer to challenge the FAA and request a Supplemental Impact Statement. The Record of Decision authorizing OMP relies upon an environmental study that predicts the impacts on the surrounding areas through full build-out. If significant changes have occurred, the FAA is to authorize a supplemental study. The FAA responded to the request and stated that a supplemental study was not required. The next step would have been to request an Administrative hearing.

Commissioner Ackeret explained that she is seeking an expert to assist with this initiative. She will focus her efforts on the environmental impact statement.

Chairman Argionis and Alderman Mazzuca suggested collaborating with the Community Health Commission.

Commissioner Rapp explained that a letter from the Cook County Assessor's Office was sent to residents in Norwood Township, which addresses the impact of airport noise on property value. Chairman Argionis stated that this letter is a formal acknowledgement by the Assessor's Office of the airport noise. This topic will be discussed in further detail at the next OAC meeting.

VII. Legal Efforts

Chairman Argionis discussed the lawsuit involving LAX, which stopped the construction of a runway. Commissioner Judge will gather additional information on the LAX lawsuit and determine what is relevant to Park Ridge. Chairman Argionis suggest contacting aviation attorney Steve Taber, who has worked with the Commission in the past.

VIII. Supplemental Environmental Impact Study

Chairman Argionis explained that this item was already discussed and will be revisited at the next meeting.

IX. ONCC Representation at Meetings

Chairman Argionis stated that Park Ridge has had inconsistent representation at ONCC meetings. He explained that Commissioner Rapp is no longer a Park Ridge alternate for the meetings. In order to ensure Park Ridge representation, the Commission will suggest additional alternates for when the Mayor cannot attend. Commissioners Judge, Mills and Rapp volunteered to attend as representatives for Park Ridge. Chairman Argionis will communicate these names to the Mayor.

X. Standing Reports

Chairman Argionis suggested adding a "Legal" report, given by Commissioner Judge.

- A. Communication:** No report.
- B. In the News:** Commissioner Mills distributed a report, which is available on the City's website.
- C. Health/Safety Issues:** Commissioner Ackeret distributed a report, which is available on the City's website.
- D. City Council Updates:** Chairman Argionis asked that the letter from the Tax Assessor's office be shared with the City Council. Alderman Mazzuca explained that it was discussed at the last Council meeting.
- E. Data:** No report.
- F. FAiR Update:** Commissioner Rapp discussed the blocked vote for the sale of \$3.5 million in bonds which was later passed in the Chicago City Council.
- G. Legislative Update:** No report.

XI. Maine South Air Quality Monitor

Chairman Argionis explained that the former City Manager was working to obtain a copy of the final report from the Maine South air quality monitor. He would still like to work to obtain a copy for the Commission.

XII. Residential Sound Insulation Eligibility List

Chairman Argionis explained that the Building Department was working on outreach. Commissioner Judge stated that Steve Steffens attending the last Residential Sound Insulation meeting and asked to be provided with an updated list.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:29pm.