



CITY OF PARK RIDGE

505 BUTLER PLACE
PARK RIDGE, IL 60068
TEL: 847-318-5200
FAX: 847-318-5300
TDD: 847-318-5252
www.parkridge.us

MINUTES

O'HARE AIRPORT COMMISSION

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 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, Mills and Rapp. Alderman Mazzuca and Administrative Specialist Brigid Madden were also present along with 28 residents.

II. Approval of Minutes – September 21, 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

Alderman Mazzuca provided an update on the City's Strategic Planning process. He explained that there was discussion about incorporating monetary resources to boards and commissions in the budget process. Chairman Argionis explained that it would be useful to have some funds to communicate with the community on a large scale.

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

Ellen Valles resides at Chester Avenue and BellePlaine Avenue. She explained that she experiences noise due to the Fly Quiet Rotation and planes banking over her home. Ms. Valles suggested utilizing high school students to solicit survey results from residents or organizing the students to all send in a complaint at the same time. She also stated that she use to live in Orange County near John Wayne Airport. She explained that the airport was more creative with its Fly Quiet operations.

Chairman Argionis explained that laws have changed since the implementation of Fly Quiet in Orange County. Another difference he noted is that the City of Chicago owns O'Hare Airport, which is surrounded by non-owning municipalities. Chairman Argionis explained the legal barriers facing local municipalities. He explained the Commission's involvement in legislature that increased the number of operational runways at the airport, which would allow the diagonal runways to remain open and carry air traffic out over the expressways and toward Arlington Heights.

Chairman Argionis urged the residents to contact their federally elected officials.

Commissioner Rapp explained that the Fly Quiet survey is only for those who are experiencing more noise or relief because of the rotation. He stressed the importance of filing a complaint with the CDA over the phone or through the FAiR application.

Therese Korzeniowski explained that her home is eligible for sound insulation, but her last contact with the CDA was several months ago. She added that even with new windows, she will still be "locked up in her home."

Commissioner Rapp confirmed that Ms. Korzeniowski's home was measured for windows. He explained that a federal grant was released in the last 60 days for noise abatement, which will likely include her property.

Commissioner Rapp addressed the new sixth runway, which he said would affect the area between Peterson Avenue and Devon Avenue. Chairman Argionis explained that landings tend to be localized to a specific street, but a larger area or corridor is affected when planes take off due to increased noise and banking.

Chairman Argionis discussed the limits of the sound contour, which is used to determine eligibility for soundproofing. Commissioner Rapp added that the noise contour does not align with the data collected. The next sound study does not legally need to occur until 2026.

Carol McComb lives on Vine between BellePlaine Avenue and Gillick Street and previously resided on Ashland Avenue near Granville Avenue. She explained that the noise is greater in her current home. Ms. McComb stated that she hears planes over her home 24 hours a day, including cargo and international flights. Although the house is only four years old, the windows shake when a plane is overhead. She expressed concerns with the outdated study that determines the sound contour. Ms. McComb explained that she received a letter notifying her that her property taxes would be reduced due to the airport noise.

Chairman Argionis stated that the BellePlaine runway was open in 2008 and the OAC was formed because of its opening. He responded to Ms. McComb's comment that nothing was being done and explained that federal preemption limits the City's abilities. He recommended the residents attend the ONCC meetings because they have the authority to make changes.

Chairman Argionis reviewed the past work of the Commission, which is available on the City website.

Ms. McComb asked for clarification on the location of the noise monitors. Chairman Argionis explained that a list is available on the CDA's website; there are three monitors in Park Ridge. Commissioner Rapp explained that the Park Ridge monitors have indicated an increase in noise over the last three months.

Ms. McComb commented on airport noise at the schools and asked the Maine South students present if it was still disruptive while in class. The students indicated that it was.

A resident suggested speaking with the school boards.

Another resident discussed the impact of sending petitions and thousands of letters to US and Illinois Senators and Representatives.

Chairman Argionis explained the difficulty with gaining a consensus in Park Ridge, as some residents are not bothered by the noise and others are not under it.

Marty Piot, 101 Granville Avenue, asked whether runway 4R 22L would be decommissioned. Commissioner Rapp indicated that it would be staying. Chairman Argionis explained that two of the four existing diagonal runways would remain open. Mr. Piot questioned the construction of 9C 27C. Commissioner Rapp explained that the runway is under construction and will be built in three phases.

Mr. Piot requested clarification of the Flight Impact Map. The direction of the planes at each runway indicated whether it is designation of arrivals or departures. Commissioner Rapp explained that the Granville runway could be used for both arrivals and departures.

Noreen Vonckx, a resident at Bristol Court, acknowledged that 27R 9L cannot handle the larger planes and hopes that the Commission will monitor that runway to ensure there are no plans for expansion. Commissioner Rapp explained that there are no plans presently to expand that runway. He stated that it is a shorter runway but also land-locked. He discussed recently runway excursions. Chairman Argionis added that ironically the longest runway, which heads northwest, is scheduled to be closed.

Leslie Farrell, 1000 S Delphia Avenue, addressed the departures banking over her home and asked which runway the flights were taking off from. Commissioner Rapp explained that flights are likely from the runway over the Kennedy Expressway, as the BellePlaine runway is not used for departures.

V. Fly Quiet Night Rotation / General Operational Changes

Commissioner Rapp explained that the test of the Fly Quiet rotation would end on December 25. The final Ad Hoc Fly Quiet meeting is scheduled for November 30 at the CDA. He encouraged the public to attend. Commissioner Rapp explained that recommendations would be made at the meeting and there would be a push to continue the interim plan. A Fly Quiet plan cannot be made permanent because the layout of the airport is changing. He expects that the City of Chicago and the ONCC will recommend to the FAA that the plan continue through the spring.

Commission Rapp discussed operational changes, which includes east flow banking. He passed around a map, which indicated the flight paths during September. Planes take-off on the east-west runways and fly north-northwest and north-northeast over Park Ridge. Commissioner Rapp also provided a map of west flow arrivals over Park Ridge. He explained that the communities at the airport's corners are experiencing more noise - Park Ridge, Schiller Park, Harwood Heights, while the City of Chicago is experiencing less. He stated that the altitude at which the planes are turning is too low; his understanding is that the planes should be at least 3,000 feet before making such turns.

Lastly, Commissioner Rapp discussed the cargo briefing from the last ONCC Technical Committee meeting. He explained that the City of Chicago "quietly" opened the northeast cargo facility. One of the three large buildings is operational. The cargo flights are landing at night and there will be an increase in cargo operations at the airport.

A resident questioned the addition of ten American Airline gates. Commissioner Rapp explained that the additional gates might not initially increase flights, but rather improve efficiency.

Alderman Mazzuca explained that the additional gates were leveraged by the City of Chicago to receive the funding needed to complete the sixth runway.

A resident defined RNAV and its benefits and asked whether it would be implemented at O'Hare. Commissioner Rapp explained that the topic has been raised. Chairman Argionis asked this resident to provide more information on RNAV to the Commission.

VI. Environmental Study/Research

Commissioner Ackeret attended the last Health Commission meeting and explained that the group was receptive to collaborating on an environmental study. She suggested presenting a task-oriented, structured plan.

A resident suggested the City perform independent air quality study focused on small particle matter and compare that to communities that are farther away from the airport.

Commissioner Ackeret explained that she has researched the cost of an independent study and it would cost approximately \$10,000.

VII. Legal Efforts

Commissioner Judge discussed the lawsuit filed by the Alliance for a Regional Solution to Airport Congestion (ARSAC) against the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA). He explained that LAWA owns other airports in the area of LAX, meaning that air traffic could be disbursed to other local airports. He explained that this could not be done in Chicago due to limits at Midway Airport. Commissioner Rapp provided an update on a potential regional airport in Peotone. He mentioned that over 50% of the flights coming into O'Hare are connecting flights, meaning they can be relocated.

Commissioner Judge explained that the lawsuit claims that the LAX expansion plan violates the California Environmental Quality Act, among other deficiencies. He suggested researching the Illinois equivalent of the California Environmental Quality Act. Commissioner Judge added that the LAX master plan was inconsistent with the county land-use plan.

Commissioner Judge reviewed the agreement between the ARSAC and LAX which ended the lawsuit. The safety efforts reduce aircraft emissions, protecting the surrounding communities. He attributes the success of the ARSAC to their focus on air quality. Commissioner Judge spoke with Denny Schneider from the ARSAC who explained that the success was over 14 years in the making; 100,000 hours of unpaid time were put into the lawsuit and over one million dollars in legal fees.

Commissioner Judge discussed a recent case in Massachusetts, the Barnstable Municipal Airport in Cape Cod, which concerns traffic congestion.

VIII. Assessor's Office Letter

Chairman Argionis explained that the Township Assessor's Office sent a letter to residents regarding a reduction in property taxes due to airport noise. Alderman Mazzuca explained that the City Council was interested in knowing how many Park Ridge residents were receiving this reduction. Commissioner Mills stated that it was discussed at the October ONCC meeting, but a report was not available. Commissioner Rapp spoke about his concerns with "redlining" areas of the City. Alderman Mazzuca addressed concerns that the City would lose money because of the reductions and explained that it is a "zero sum game."

IX. ONCC Representation at Meetings

Chairman Argionis explained that the Mayor must send a letter requesting a seat on the ONCC Technical Committee. He also stressed the important of consistent representation from the City at ONCC meetings.

X. Standing Reports

- A. Communication:** No report.
- B. Legal:** No additional report.
- C. In the News:** Commissioner Mills distributed a report, which is available on the City's website.
- D. Health/Safety Issues:** Commissioner Ackeret distributed a report, which is available on the City's website.
- E. City Council Updates:** No Report.
- F. Data:** No report.
- G. FAiR Update:** Commissioner Rapp explained that FAiR is reassessing its strategy, focusing on the regional airport opportunity. He referenced a quote from Mayor Rahm Emmanuel in which he said the completion of the sixth runway would give O'Hare Airport the capacity of a

third airport. Commissioner Rapp added that FAiR is still focused on ultrafine particles and is not giving up on saving the diagonal runways.

XI. Maine South Air Quality Monitor: Final Report

The final report was distributed. It will be added to the City's website.

XII. Residential Sound Insulation Eligibility List

Chairman Argionis explained that the City would be working to reach out to those residents who qualify for sound insulation but have not yet reached out to the CDA.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:27pm.