



DRAFT MINUTES

O'HARE AIRPORT COMMISSION

**CITY HALL
MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR
505 BUTLER PLACE PARK RIDGE, IL 60068**

Wednesday, May 15, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

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.

I. Roll Call

Members present: Jim Argionis; Angelo Demeros; Mike Ferraro; George Korovilas (7:03)
Members absent: Pat Ryan
Also present: Barb Cannon

II. Approve Minutes

A. February 20, 2013

Once Commissioner Korovilas arrived, he moved the minutes of the February 20, 2013 meeting be approved. Seconded by Commissioner Demeros. Motion carried. Commissioner Ferraro abstained.

B. April 17, 2013

Moved by Commissioner Ferraro and seconded by Chair Argionis, the minutes of the April 17, 2013 meeting were approved. Commissioners Demeros and Korovilas abstained.

III. Aldermen Wishing To Be Heard On a Non-Agenda Item

None present.

IV. Citizens Present Wishing To Be Heard On a Non-Agenda Item

None present.

V. Action Items

A. Spokesman article (July)

The article approved at the April 17, 2013 meeting was updated to reflect lobbying efforts and receipt of a response from FAA regarding our request for an SEIS.

Moved by Commissioner Korovilas and seconded by Commissioner Demeros, the *Spokesman* article was approved, as revised. Motion carried.

VI. Discussion Items

A. Update regarding cargo facility – letter from CDA to Rep. Schakowsky (Ferraro)

Commissioner Ferraro has contacted Rep. Schakowsky's office, as well as those of Rep. Moylan and Sen. Kotowski, to request a meeting. He has received no response. He will contact all again and inform them of the Hinshaw presentation on June 3.

B. Reply letter from FAA

FAA's April 17, 2013 letter states that the City's October 4, 2012 letter has not provided sufficient information to warrant a supplement to the O'Hare Modernization Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Attorney Richard Porter of Hinshaw & Culbertson in Rockford, along with the head of their Environmental group, will talk with the City Council at its June 3 meeting to discuss possible next steps. Chair Argionis does not believe the issue of an SEIS is dead. We disagree with FAA's assessment that there were not significant changes and that the law requires one be done. There is also the provision that states, regardless of whether there are significant changes, it is discretionary and FAA can do it just to assure the community that everything is proper and in order. We must lobby elected officials. We should ask Rick Porter if FAA has exclusive authority over this because it involves aviation, or if EPA may have some authority. Should we start bugging the EPA on these issues and tell them we want FAA to, at a minimum, exercise its discretion – which is a part of both of our requests – to do an SEIS? The PowerPoint presentation used at the January 2012 forum should be sent to Council the week prior to June 3 as an overview.

Commissioner Korovilas will contact EPA to learn if it has any jurisdiction regarding an SEIS for an airport or if it is solely under FAA's discretion.

C. CDA Bid Alert Update: Reevaluation of Environmental Impact Statement at O'Hare (Argionis)

This topic came up at the May 3 ONCC meeting. It is still in the bidding-out stage for a vendor who will perform the reevaluation.

D. H.RES. 810 (Submitted by Rep. Schakowsky on November 15, 2012) Update (Ferraro)

See above.

Other resolutions include Sen. Kotowski's S.Res. 690 and one by State Sen. Mulroe of Edison Park. These are similar resolutions proposed one year apart. Rep. Moylan and Quigley seem interested in the issue. If we could get them all together to talk, we may make some inroads.

E. ONCC Update: Resolution supporting SEIS (Argionis)

The City was represented at the May 3 ONCC meeting by Mayor Schmidt, Ald. Maloney, and Chair Argionis. Shortly before this meeting, we received the response letter from FAA. It was probably not a coincidence. Barry Cooper, the FAA Regional Director, was at the ONCC meeting and, from Chair Argionis' discussions with people who regularly attend, that was the first time he made an appearance. The Park Ridge Resolution was on the agenda and, prior to that, Mr. Cooper was asked to talk about the reassessment and explain the SEIS. He stated that the EIS cost \$25 million and took three years to complete. He explained they are now doing an interim assessment because there is an interim condition. The way the runways will be used for the next year or so is different than what was in the original EIS because the construction has been kicked out farther. If the reassessment indicates that an SEIS is warranted, then a full SEIS will be done. Mayor Schmidt asked Mr. Cooper about the scope of the reassessment and if it entails just the runway that will open this year, or if will also evaluate the Belle Plaine runway. Mr. Cooper had no answer. It seems to have been orchestrated to lay the groundwork for people voting against the Park Ridge Resolution seeking an SEIS. There will be opportunity for public comment and a hearing as the reevaluation process goes forward. We will need to keep informed of its progress and attend whatever public sessions take place to get that information. The Mayor of Harwood Heights asked if Mayor Schmidt would consider restating the motion to request the reevaluation that will already be taking place. At that point, Mayor Schmidt withdrew the motion, without prejudice, and may reassert it in the future if warranted.

F. Request ONCC address City Council regarding OMP Update

Acting City Manager Hamilton has sent a letter requesting a presentation by the CDA and FAA. A response has not yet been received. Chair Argionis has heard from people who have attended FAA/CDA Open Houses that they are completely useless. They pass out pamphlets and do not answer questions. There does not seem to be a lot of useful information.

G. Communication strategy plan

1. Mailing to residents
2. Aldermanic Update

Commissioner Ryan received a quote for a City-wide mailing. Ald. Maloney and Mazzuca have indicated OAC could ask for money for a mailing. At this point, Chair Argionis suggests OAC wait to see what Hinshaw recommends before requesting funding for a mailing.

The last Aldermanic Update Report was submitted to the Council on August 15, 2011. We would not have another done prior to the June 3 City Council meeting, and Chair Argionis believes it would be more beneficial for Council to view the January 2012 PowerPoint presentation for background information. We can add a one-page addendum

to update the Report. Commissioner Ferraro will draft one. It should include: the Minnesota article; the Chicago community groups; increased media coverage; our survey and the results; the three resolutions; the cargo facility; and the reassessment of the EIS.

We can develop a one-page info sheet, similar to the one done by the F.A.I.R. group.

H. OMP contracts out for bid (Ryan)

Commissioner Ryan is not in attendance.

VII. New Business

None.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m. The next meeting is June 19, 2013.