

## **Town of Lee Ad Hoc Racetrack Committee Meeting Minutes June 9, 2015**

**Attendees: C Brown, W Lehman, A Lelio, T Loureiro, B. Callen, T Dronsfield, Eric Reuter (Reuter Associates)**

1. Group had a pre-meeting without Eric Reuter to discuss goals/deliverables for this meeting. Tom L noted that any discussion regarding potential penalties for violations is outside the committee's charge. Tom D noted that he would like any penalties to be formally added to the ordinance in order to make them clear and enforceable. Group focused on the following issues as deliverables for Eric: where should sound be measured for existing ordinance; does the 97 dBA limit make sense; recommend any language changes to the ordinance which would make it more easily enforced; review of procedures needed to take accurate sound measurements.
2. Group approved below meeting minutes from April 7 2015 meeting.
3. Eric joined group. Bill stated that he was disappointed that Eric did not contact him directly when he arrived at track on April 26 to take sound measurements. Eric said that he had checked in at the front gate and asked for Bill, but track staff said that Bill could not be contacted as he was busy working. Tom L suggested better coordination/communication would help going forward.
4. Tom L reviewed the deliverables in item 1 above with Eric.
5. Eric distributed two sound charts. The first showed sound data taken simultaneously from two locations inside the track property: north (in main parking lot) and west (in back of the track, in an area used for camping and overflow parking). Eric noted that ideally, the data lines for each of these locations would mirror each other. These data lines did not closely correlate to each other though, and Eric explained this was an example where sound measurements at one of the locations could not be used to predict sound levels at the other location. The second sound chart which Eric distributed showed sound levels measured close to the track property line, in the Tamarack neighborhood, and in the Cartland neighborhood.
6. Group focused on the sound data gathered during the April 26 ACT race using sound measurement equipment placed at the blue culvert along route 125. Eric believes that the sound data collected at this station is actually not affected by route 125 traffic. Maximum readings at this location were 94 dBA. Eric believes that it would be easy to correlate measurements at this location to sound levels at the nearest property line along route 125, and then establish a transfer function formula. If that is the case, then measurements taken at the blue culvert could then be used to correlate sound levels at the property line, and potentially be used to enforce the Lee Racing Ordinance sound level maximums (<97 dBA as measured at any track property line).
7. Group discussed traffic noise along route 125. Eric said that he can devise a measurement procedure to test his hypothesis that traffic noise from route 125 does not affect sound measurements gathered at the blue culvert measurement location during a race event. Tom D offered the assistance of the Lee Police Dept. to stop traffic for a short period of time on route 125 in order to isolate traffic noise. Group also discussed the possibility of measuring noise levels when running a truck over the road rumble strips, while using the engine for braking, etc.
8. Eric made several additional comments: he would like to gather more information on the track structure, surface, etc. He noted that noise levels in Tamarack were higher than typically allowed by non-racing related noise ordinances. He noted that 97 dBA as measured at the track property line is a relatively high noise threshold. Eric noted that his measurements are averaged over 1 minute intervals, and not instantaneous readings as currently indicated in the Lee Racing Ordinance. He believes instantaneous measurements might indicate higher sound levels as the cars move around different parts of the track.
9. Carey mentioned that group may want to refine the racetrack sound contour map for use in making future zoning decisions. Group agreed this could benefit other Town departments.
10. In response to a question, Eric mentioned that there are two source documents/studies used to define acceptable limits of environmental noise. One is an EPA document referencing Level Day Night (LDN) levels, averaged over a 24 hour period, with 55 dBA being the typical threshold. The other document was produced by the World Health Organization.
11. Group agreed that the next meeting be scheduled for 3:30 pm on June 19 2015 at the Lee USA Speedway (meet near the entrance sign), at which time Eric will take measurements at both the blue culvert and route 125 locations in hopes of being able to establish a strong correlation between these two measurement locations. Tom L to communicate next meeting time and place to Town of Lee reps.
12. Group adjourned.