

Lee Ad Hoc Racetrack Committee Meeting Minutes August 26, 2014

Attendees: B Callen, C Brown, W Lehman, D Cedarholm, T Loureiro, A Lelio

1. July 29 2014 meeting minutes were approved.
2. Wayne provided update on discussion with UNH professor Allen Drake re sound measurement. Wayne said Professor Drake may be interested in working on this project, and Wayne suggested that he be invited in to discuss sound measurement with group.
3. Tom made contact with HMMH regarding sound measurement studies. HMMH forwarded two previous Town of Lee proposals to Tom for review.
4. Carey made contact with John Evans, State of NH Program Mgr for Traffic Noise, and he reviewed current LRO Section 21A measurement specs with him. John said that the traffic noise measurements that he conducts are not taken at noise noise prop line, but rather on surrounding property areas; he disregards peak noise levels and instead calculates average noise levels over a 24 hour period (LEQ measurements); he has ANSI sound meters that the town of Lee might be able to borrow; traffic noise measurements are conducted using the dBA scale; traffic sound meters are mounted 5.5 feet above ground; traffic noise studies are concerned with impact noise levels above 66 dBA at residences and 71 dBA at commercial properties. John also stated in his experience, berm construction was most effective at reducing traffic noise transmission.
5. Bill spoke with reps at NH Motor Speedway. They measure noise levels at various areas off of the speedway property. They are allowed to exceed 97 dBA 3 days each week at measurement locations, but must be less than 97 dBA during the other 4 days of the week.
6. Group discussed taking measurements at prop line vs on surrounding properties. Tom stated that LRO currently references measurements on property line, so that should be the focus. Dave suggested that while we are measuring, we may want to take measurements on surrounding properties to establish additional benchmark data. Carey stated measurements over time vs peak measurements would be more valuable. Andy stated that the LRO specifically references peak measurements, not averages. Dave said that measurements over time were more appropriate for background noise situations (example: road traffic), but **he believes that many** Lee residents are more concerned with peak raceway noise rather than the average background racing noise.
7. Tom suggested that a noise tutorial for the group might be helpful for educational purposes.
8. Andy suggested that different entities be contacted and presented with the committee charter/LRO and asked whether they are able to design a measurement program based on these parameters. Carey suggested that there may be a better way to measure speedway noise, and so we should not limit the experts to methods specified in the LRO. Andy countered that the LRO is the law right now, and that the charter is the official committee charge, so the committee should first determine whether measurements can be taken per the specified methods. If they can't, Andy stated that the committee would then have to go back to the Select Board with alternate recommendations on measuring speedway noise.
9. Group agreed that an RFP should be sent out to various entities, and that the RFP should be based on items 1, 3 and 4 from the committee charter and section 21 of the LRO. Tom will draft the RFP and circulate for review prior to the next committee meeting. Carey suggested that the RFP be worded to allow sound measurement experts to provide alternate measurement suggestions as applicable.
10. Dave suggested that sound measurements be taken at the Octoberfest races Oct 10/11/12 if possible.
11. Next meeting was set for 7pm Sept 9 2014.
12. Meeting was adjourned.