

AIRPLANE NOISE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2016

Meeting was called to order @ 7:12 p.m.

Members Present: Andy Schmidt, Chair; Barbara Martin, Secretary; Cindy Christiansen, CAC Representative; David Godine and Sebastian Barbagallo.

Also Present: Catherine Sheedy McGonagle of 27 Centre Street, Pat Cogan and Kevin Cogan, both of 64 Frothingham Street and Irene Walczak, CAC Representation from Hyde Park.

Absent: Michael Andresino, Jennifer Goonan, Matt Crowley, Muna Killingback and Chris Zambuto

David Godine made a motion to approve the minutes and Sebastian Barbagallo seconded the motion.

Chairman Schmidt reported on the meeting with Massport that was held on May 12, 2016. Data has been requested of Massport to show how little open sky there is over Milton. There will be follow-up to this meeting at a future date.

Sebastian inquired as to the penalties in the calculation of the noise metric, DNL, that are supposed to be imposed for overnight flights 10PM to 7AM (a penalty factor of 10x).

A discussion of DNL then took place – Federal legislation requires DNL be used as the noise metric. It is supposed to be calculated daily but then gets used as a yearly value. Massport uses actual flight tracks to calculate DNL. FAA and Massport are not using the same software – FAA calculates DNL anytime a new study is initiated.

The status of letters as listed in agenda item four is as follows:

- HMD (IOM) letter has been sent - there is a call for a consensus report to be created.
- Letter to Senator Warren was just signed by the Board of Selectmen
- Vortex Generator letter is in draft stages – intended for elected officials and airlines. Andy will circulate letter for editing.

CAC representative Cindy Christiansen has a project list with which she needs assistance.

- Gene Brown is sending hourly use and wind direction data – Sebastian offered to help with the data input.

- Herb Voight, a Milton Library Trustee and BU professor contacted Cindy Christiansen about prop planes over Milton. Prop planes use leaded gas (AvGas). Cindy suggested it would be good to have a short report on the number, paths and altitudes of prop planes over Milton and thinks that Herb Voight would be helpful. Most of this information can be found in Massport's EDR.
- Two data files from the BLANS report were just published today – project to compare projected DNL's with actuals.
- Cindy reported that air traffic will increase with the GE facility being headquartered in S. Boston. Part of the company's negotiations with the city is to have a helicopter pad and seaplanes will be utilized – seaplanes also use AvGas.
- Laws that protect wild life (bald eagles) and their habitat could be researched as there are eagles nesting by the Neponset River and if there are laws protecting this species, it may be a method by which to mitigate air traffic over this area.

Irene Walczak reported that at the April CAC meeting, the reps were told that DNL below 45 is not accurate. Massport has one noise monitor in Milton. Suggestion that noise measurements by DNL are not accurate and that a different measurement be used to measure noise should be inserted into letter being drafted to Senator Warren. Irene also stated that prop plane traffic over Milton needs to have a data report. Part of the problem is that the metric has not caught up with technology, especially for the concentrated RNAV paths.

David Godine continues to ask what the Town is prepared to do to change the problem that has existed for ten plus years.

Andy and Cindy continue to send reports to Congressman Lynch's office.

The Board of Selectmen are looking at the new RNAVs (4L visual and 4L GPS) and has a limited amount of time to oppose it and the options available with which to fight the 4L RNAV. 33L is the longest runway. 15R (same runway as 33L) is primarily used for take offs at night and 33L is used for arrivals (head-to-head). Low demand determines usage. This configuration is called an "over the water" configuration but the departures and arrivals travel over Hull and Cohasset. The use of 33L gives Massport more credit at night due to the penalties of night time air traffic.

The next agenda item was an update on the petitions being circulated among Milton residents. As of May 26th, there were close to 1000 signatures. Grassroots committee will circulate petitions to those residents that don't have internet access. It was suggested that Milton Academy sign onto a petition or support one. Awareness by residents of the Academy needs to be converted to supportive action.

Barbara Martin volunteered to be the committee's liaison to the Board of Health. Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Health has noise monitors. Question as to whether or not they can measure pollution.

Town of Milton's Health Department has limited funds with which to help with needed studies. Cindy suggested that the State could gather an IOM-like committee and make their own statements.

June 16th and June 30th were the two dates proposed as the next meeting dates. Members to respond to Barbara by Friday, June 3rd as to availability. Agenda items for the next meeting would be the Vortex Generator letter, second letter to Senator Warren and continued help with Cindy Christensen's projects.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

