

Citizen Noise Advisory Committee
Advocacy for the Public - Advisory to the Port
Portland International Airport (PDX)
c/o Noise Management Department
Port of Portland, PO Box 3529, Portland, Oregon 97208

Meeting Minutes - March 12, 2015

CNAC Members in Attendance (alpha order by first name)		
Beverly Bruender	At-Large (City of Portland)	
Bob Braze	Washington County	
Brad Robison	Clackamas County	
Brian Freeman	City of Gresham	
Craig Walker	Clark County	\boxtimes
Joe Smith	Multnomah County	
Karen Meyer	At-Large (City of Maywood Park)	
Kelly Sweeney	City of Portland, CNAC Vice Chair	
Laura Young	City of Portland	\boxtimes
Mark Clark	Fairview/Troutdale/Wood Village, CNAC Chair	
Ron Schmidt	City of Portland	
Mike Merchant	City of Vancouver	\boxtimes
Mike Yee	City of Vancouver	
Tina Penman	At Large (Port of Portland)	\boxtimes
Staff Members in Attendance		
Phil Stenstrom	Port of Portland Noise Program Manager	
Jerry Gerspach	Port of Portland Noise Management	\boxtimes
Technical Members and Guests in Attendance		
Lt. Col. Dave Christensen	Oregon Air National Guard	
Members of the Public in Attendance		

Introductions & Previous Meeting Notes

Craig Walker served as Acting Chair and opened the meeting. CNAC Members Mark Clark and Joe Smith were absent due to their attendance at a concurrent Port meeting at Troutdale Airport. Other members previously advised their conflicts for tonight's meeting and all members were accounted for. The CNAC membership is at 13 total so a quoroum was not present. The guest speaker was rescheduled to September.

Craig introduced Lt. Col. Dave Christensen from ORANG who was attending CNAC while Tony Bierenkoven is traveling for duty.

Phil Stenstrom advised that Beverly Bruender had decided to resign from CNAC due to her increasing challenges in getting to the meetings. CNAC will sign a card for Beverly at the next meeting. Action: Phil is proceeding with advertising for replacement members.

Phil noted the teleconference option requested at the February planning meeting was established and live for tonight's meeting. No attendees were heard on the phone. Mike Merchant arrived late and reported that he'd tried to call in prior to arriving. He only heard a series of beeps and could not successfully connect. Action: Phil will troubleshoot the teleconference issues with Jerry before the next meeting.

Public Comment and Questions

No members of the public were present. Jerry Gerspach noted that he heard a spoken promotion of tonight's CNAC meeting on the radio. It was good publicity but also suggested that citizens could "come to get their aviation noise problems solved". The group discussed how this message could be misinterpreted or misleading. Action: Phil will look into how the station determined their message, although the Port has little message control after sending out the press release.

Approve Charter Changes

Approval of the charter changes was deferred to the lack of a quorum.

ORANG Update

Lt. Col. Christensen advised that the unit is training out of town until March 20th. Operations will return to normal levels after that. Night flying is scheduled for the end of March until April 1, April 20-23 and May 11-14 with takeoffs about 8pm due to sunset times. The typical 6-ship formations in mornings and afternoons change to some 8-ship mornings and 4-ship afternoons due to training needs.

The group discussed afterburner takeoffs and the noise tradeoff between gaining speed and altitude close-in to the airport versus lower-power departures that generate more noise farther away. Pilots may use afterburner when carrying excess fuel to increase safety margins.

There was discussion of the Functional Check Flights (FCF) that are vertical maneuvers performed after maintenance periods. Vertical climbs are also used for alerts and occasionally for ceremonial flights if approved in advance.

Discussion of sonic booms. Supersonic flight is prohibited over land in the US. One military training area in Nevada does allow limited supersonic speeds at high altitudes. ORANG typically goes offshore to military training areas, although they are prohibited from supersonic flight towards the coastline because the sonic wave travels onshore similar to any wave energy. The group noted that "sonic booms" aren't a single event but a continuous wave energy that travels ahead of the aircraft the entire time it's exceeding the speed of sound.

Bi-monthly Complaint Report

Jerry Gerspach presented the complaint summary for the Jan-Feb period. A total of 504 complaints were received with trends similar to previous periods. Higher average temperatures this winter likely have more people outdoors but complaints have not increased as a result.

Both PDX parallel runways have experienced a series of closures for lighting maintenance and this will continue through April. The Noise staff is sending Noise Alerts for those closures.

CNAC Chair Update

Craig Walker, Acting Chair, had no updates for the group.

Noise Manager Update

Phil Stenstrom asked the group to review and provide input on the draft "2014 Year in Review" document that summarizes Noise Program activities in the community. Phil noted comments and will update the document, then post it on the Port's public website when finalized.

Tina Penman verified that the Outreach Subcommittee's subsite was working but wasn't certain about the next activity for the group. Action: Phil will provide the NextGen messages to the group for their review, then discuss presentations for the "high-profile" city groups that CNAC wanted to schedule.

Phil passed out Joe Smith's draft letter to the Port Commission requesting support for a statewide aviation-noise real-estate disclosure law. Due to the small group size and Joe's absence, it was decided to defer this discussion until May.

Phil passed out a copy of Brad Robison's CNAC card and the group discussed whether business-style cards are a helpful tool during community discussions. The consensus was that fridge magnets worked well. Anyone desiring cards can ask Phil or Brad.

Phil reported that the Noise Symposium was a good event; the CNAC and HARE members reported learning a lot. Bob and Brad will brief the group on their observations in July.

Phil showed the documents relevant to tonight's meeting in the ePort site Documents Library and noted he stores documents there prior to every meeting, rather than sending them weekly with the ANR. CNAC members who want to find current articles and news about aviation noise can browse any CNAC Meeting Date. Videos can't be stored in the Documents Library – those are posted on the front page as Announcements. He thanked all CNAC members forwarding articles and videos.

Meeting adjourned: 7:45pm. Meeting Notes by P. Stenstrom.