

MINUTES OF THE NOISE ABATEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 2005 AT 6:00 PM  
BRANNON CENTER, 105 S. RIVERSIDE DR, NEW SMYRNA BEACH, FLORIDA

Fred Gunter, Chairman, called the meeting to order with the following answering present:

Norm Decker  
Wendy Michels  
John Baker  
Steven Zeh

Members Absent:

Andrei Raevsky  
Tyler Mayo  
Patricia Doyle  
Greg Arnett  
Theo Mundell

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the June 2, 2005 meeting were approved as written.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Fred Gunter discussed with board members, Andrei Raevsky's recommendations outlining ways to minimize noise impact. Mr. Gunter stated that he would like all recommendations submitted to the committee in advance. Suggestions were made by Fred Gunter to members to organize work teams to establish flight rules and look at solutions that would be copied to Rhonda Walker for distribution and then would become public record.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND COMMENTS**

Albert Leibowitz of 2227 Turnbull Bay Rd., regarding count of so many flights per hour. Fred Gunter reiterated from his chairman's statement at June 2, 2005 meeting that was included with the agenda of such, "that everyone who participates, interacts with, or addresses the committee should submit or bring their concerns in writing, along with a possible solution and what the "impact" on the surrounding community would produce as well. He asked that submissions be made (2) weeks in advance of the regular quarterly meeting to the airport office, and if not possible, be prepared to leave a written copy with the committee. This will allow the committee to review the issues and place them on the agenda for the next meeting."

Fred Gunter stated "Mr. Leibowitz' issues of cutting right and left hand traffic patterns shorter over houses has been referred to the FAA for actual safety validation." Mr.

Leibowitz also stated that when Embry Riddle students come back to class the touch and go and air traffic greatly increases and there are planes in the pattern over his house every 5 minutes. He proposed that the touch and go be eliminated and asked why they were stopped for a period and now allowed again. Rhonda Walker stated that when the Air Traffic Control Tower was under construction, the touch and go were not allowed, but once it was operational, as a matter of policy from the previous airport manager, they were allowed again. Chuck Criswell, Air Traffic Control Tower Chief, explained that touch and go are still regulated by the tower as to safety and amount so not to hold up ground flow. There was a discussion by Mr. Leibowitz and Larry Sauser of the ATCT regarding increasing the pattern approach and take-off to 1000 feet instead of 500 feet. Larry mentioned that this would require using full power longer to reach that altitude and would only make the noise worse. Mr. Leibowitz then suggested an 800-foot pattern. Chuck and Larry said they would discuss for next meeting.

John Baker asked about the possibility of a noise study. Fred Gunter said he would not be comfortable voting on that and said that it could be taken as a suggestion to the Airport Advisory Board to look into the cost. John Baker said that he would research the Federal Aviation Administration criteria to be met for the study to be done. Rhonda Walker stated that she has information regarding the noise impact study that would be available. Fred Gunter made the suggestion that Andrei Raevsky has such information and has time to help with teamwork. (FAA information has been sent to all board members from Rhonda Walker for further study as of August 16, 2005)

Regina Leibowitz expressed concerns regarding the pollution/ecology danger. Mrs. Leibowitz stated it has been taken to the EPA and they've contacted the City Attorney. Mr. Gunter stated the committee has no bearing on pollution issues.

Mr. Calabrese, of 656 Wellesley Ct., asked if pilots are told about airport rules and policy as a matter of communication with the ATCT.

Mr. Criswell replied that they monitor the pilots, and that the Air Traffic Control Tower would be responsible to report them for low altitudes. Mr. Criswell also explained their radar will be installed in the next two weeks that will allow them a precise reading of the plane's exact altitude at all times. In answer to Mr. Calabrese's question, Mr. Criswell said there isn't a specific statement in place that the tower advises as a matter of reminder to traffic.

Randy Hitchcock asked what Embry Riddle's plans were once classes resumed and if the airport had any plans to limit growth as a "good neighbor" consideration. Mr. Leibowitz and Mr. Hitchcock proposed that Sunday be a day off.

Wendy Michels said that Sunday is a "make-up" day for the students, but expects that the traffic would be less because the instructors are off. After discussion with Ms. Michels, she volunteered to research and talk with Embry Riddle Aeronautical University regarding their flight policy for touch and go, quantity, and times of day.

Mr. Hitchcock then asked what was going to happen once the airfield lighting project is completed, would there be more night flying by students, and would the airport change

their hours of operation. Ms. Michels said the students probably would be flying later at night once it is complete.

Rhonda Walker responded that the hours of the ATCT are 7:00 am until 10:00 pm. She stated that the airport is growing as the city continues to grow. She also stated that the students of Embry Riddle along with some of their parents are also aircraft owners that store their planes at our airfield. Fred Gunter stated that as the city grows in value, then there is a natural increase in air traffic.

Ms. Morisa Tyner, of Fairgreen, asked if there were any zoning variances that would restrict new housing in direct line with the airport runways and flight pattern areas to prevent future noise complaints as additional residents moved into the area. She suggested that the committee make a recommendation to the City Commission. Ms. Tyner also thanked Mrs. Walker for her help and positive attitude.

Fred Gunter asked that Ms. Tyner please bring a statement in writing to the next meeting.

Fred Gunter asked Chuck Criswell what authority the tower has over low flying planes and if there were any means of discipline in place.

Mrs. Leibowitz suggested that contractors building in the area should be required to better insulate the homes for noise.

Mr. Decker suggested that realtors would bear a certain responsibility to educate the buyers about the noise issues also.

Mr. Hitchcock asked what had been accomplished since the last meeting – seems like there are still the same issues.

Mr. Gunter stated that this was the first “real meeting” and that the committee will be assigning research projects and familiarizing themselves with the documentation that was available.

Mr. Criswell replied that, at Rhonda Walker’s request, they have set up an alternate for runway 6-24 in “calm wind” use that has helped restrict the quantity of patterns in one direction over houses all the time. Mr. Hitchcock and Mr. Leibowitz agreed that it has evened out and helped some.

John Baker suggested to Chuck Criswell implementing an addendum to pilot’s automated broadcast tower communication as a reminder of our Noise Abatement Procedures.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Fred Gunter thanked the public for their input and moved the committee into a **Work Group Session** to divide work into the focal points of the meeting.

**To Be Researched:**

FAA Noise Study Criteria - John Baker volunteered.

- What would be necessary for study
- How to proceed
- How it impact's the City of New Smyrna Beach

Touch and Go Policy - Wendy Michels volunteered

- Cost and benefits to community - how to mitigate and spread out impact
- Why stopped and started
- Embry Riddle's status and schedules
- Air Traffic Control Tower shift of runways in calm winds

Airport Discipline Policy - Assigned to Greg Arnette and Andrei Raevsky

- Enforcement issues to pilots
- Notice to pilots and flight schools as "reminders" and rules of the FAA, Airport and policy of the City of NSB

Real Estate Proximity Disclosure Policy -Steve Zeh and Norm Decker volunteered

- Suggestion to Board of Realtors
- (Zoning issues of new building in runway areas deferred to next meeting)

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:50 BY MR. GUNTER

Next meeting scheduled for September 15, 2005.