



APPROVED MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2009, MEETING OF THE O'HARE NOISE COMPATIBILITY COMMISSION RESIDENTIAL SOUND INSULATION COMMITTEE

The meeting of the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Residential Sound Insulation Committee was held on September 16, 2009, at the Norridge Village Hall, 4000 Olcott Avenue, Norridge, IL.

Committee Chairperson Frank A. Damato called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. ONCC staff took the meeting minutes.

The following members of the Committee were **PRESENT**:

Frank A. Damato, Designee, Cook County
Alderman Mark Walsten, Alternate, City of Des Plaines
Mr. Ralph Sorce, Alternate, Village of Melrose Park
Mayor Irvana Wilks, Member, Village of Mount Prospect
Ms. Judith Dunne Bernardi, Designee, Village of Norridge
Mr. Steven Cutaia, Alternate, City of Park Ridge
Mr. Donald Storino, Jr., Alternate, Village of Rosemont
Trustee Larry Fritz, Alternate, Village of Schiller Park
Alderman Eugene Wesley, Alternate, Village of Wood Dale

The following member of the Committee was **ABSENT**:

All members were present.

There being a majority of Committee members in attendance, a quorum was present for the transaction of business.

The following staff were present:

Brian Gilligan – O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission; Jeanette Camacho – O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission; Aaron Frame – Chicago Department of Aviation; Maria Gutierrez – Chicago Department of Aviation; Amy Hanson – Federal Aviation Administration and Arlene Williams - Chicago Airports Resources Enterprise (CARE).

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – May 20, 2009, MEETING

There was a motion made by **Mayor Wilks** to approve the May 20, 2009, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by **Trustee Fritz**. The meeting minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

2008 RESIDENTIAL SOUND INSULATION PROGRAM

Ms. Williams reported all home inventories for alternates are now completed. Several requests from past sound insulation areas have requested inclusion in the program and those homeowners have priority over alternates.

Ms. Williams reported that there are three smaller bid packages to attract more bidders in the program. The first bid package is on September 30, 2009 for a 500 units located in Schiller Park and Chicago. The second bid package will be held on October 2, 2009 and includes 200 multi-family units in Bensenville and the Park Ridge alternates. The third package will be held on October 6, 2009 for 100 units in Chicago and all the other remaining units around the airport.

Mr. Damato asked how come the second package is in Bensenville then in Park Ridge.

Ms. Williams responded that there are 125 units in Bensenville and 75 in Park Ridge and would not be a big deal to move around since there are so few homes in that package.

Mr. Damato asked if staff has encountered any multi-unit homeowners requesting various styles and not agreeing on the same keeping the structures more uniform.

Ms. Williams replied that they have not had any issues with any various requests by multi-unit homeowners. She said that they have encountered many foreclosures and they are trying to work with the banks in providing them information.

Construction Specifications for Larger Structures

Ms. Williams briefly gave an example of construction specifications for large structures. She explained that EarthTech has been working to incorporate specifications for large structures. She explained that a building permit is needed when sound-insulating a structure with more than 4 units. She referred to an exhibit which showed a large structure that will be sound-insulated. She said that larger structures also have to be compliant with energy codes. In some cases units require louvers and vents for air flows.

Mayor Wilks asked the location of the structure that was being referenced.

Mr. Frame said that it is located on Cumberland Avenue by the Kennedy Expressway in Chicago.

Mayor Wilks asked if the louvers and vents will create noise when opened and also how HVAC are handled in roof tops.

Ms. Williams replied that the louvers and vents are fully operational and only penetrate when are open. HVAC is no longer offered to multi-units because the cost is double of what it would cost to sound-insulate a single family home.

Mr. Damato asked if there would be a problem if homeowners of large structures aren't available when sound insulation is being conducted in the building.

Ms. Williams replied the homeowner does not have to physically be home and can leave someone in charge when they are not home in order to complete the sound insulation.

Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) Funding Application for 2009-2014 Residential Sound Insulation Program (Assistant Commissioner Aaron Frame)

Mr. Frame explained that the City of Chicago provides upfront the amount of the total cost for sound insulation and is then reimbursed by the Federal Aviation Administration by applying for a funding application. He explained that the application process to request PFC funds started in May 2009. A notice to the airlines was given as part of the application process as well as public comments. The final results of the application status will be given to the City of Chicago by the FAA sometime in October 2009. Mr. Frame said that he would keep the Committee informed regarding the results.

Alderman Wesley asked if the City of Chicago wins the 2016 Olympic Bid will that speed the process for sound insulating the remaining homes in the noise contour.

Mr. Frame explained that the FAA has mandated that all homes be sound insulated by the end of OMP, which is well in advance of the 2016 Olympics.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Informational Data Requests

Mr. Gilligan provided a handout which outlines member information request from staff. He noted that a previous request from Mr. Barr had been fulfilled.

Mr. Gilligan also informed members that the Village of Bensenville has requested to be a member of the Residential Sound Insulation Committee.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS

Alderman Walsten thanked Mr. Gilligan, Ms. Gutierrez and Ms. Williams for the rapid response to a homeowner that recently purchased a home in Des Plaines which the previous homeowner had declined to participate in previous program years and the home was still eligible for sound insulation according to the new noise contour.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Mr. Remblake, a Chicago resident, asked why homeowners have not been contacted regarding participation in the program.

Ms. Gutierrez replied that staff is waiting for the FAA response regarding the grant application in order to notify residents who qualify for program. In the meantime residents who would like to inquire can call the Residential Inquiry Line at (773) 894-3255.

Mr. Bateman, a Chicago resident, asked for the sound insulation timeline and also would like to know if he qualifies for sound insulation.

Mr. Frame explained the program process and how homes become eligible according to the noise contour.

Mr. Luberda, a Harwood Heights resident, complained of low flying aircrafts over his home. He requested that aircraft fly higher therefore, not disturbing him and his wife. He also stated that he has recently had open heart surgery and was not sure how many more meetings he will be able to attend.

Mr. Lennon, a Chicago resident, asked what measures are being taken to have aircraft fly in non-residential areas. He complained that aircrafts are flying over his home until 1 a.m. and then continue again at 4 a.m.

Alderman Walsten suggested that he attend the ONCC full commission meetings to voice his concerns.

Mr. Lennon noted that he attended the last ONCC meeting on September 11, 2009 and residents were only given 2 minutes to comment and felt that it was rude to do so.

Mr. Clemente, a Chicago resident, stated that he has heard that residents that have had their home previously sound-insulated are filing lawsuits because of poor craftsmanship. He stated that he replaced windows in his home two years ago and would like to know where he can see samples of what types of windows are installed in homes that qualify for sound insulation.

Mr. Frame replied that the showroom where homeowners can see the various products is located at 10510 W. Zemke Road in Chicago, IL.

Mr. Clemente asked what is done for homes that have attics.

Mr. Frame replied that attics are not part of the sound insulation process. The FAA mandates to achieve a 5 decibel reduction and noise audits are done after sound insulation.

Mr. Clemente said that more outreach should be done to keep residents informed.

Trustee Lester Szlendak of Harwood Heights stated that ever since the extension of Runway 10/28 his community has experienced more aircraft noise. He asked why newer constructed multi-units are being sound insulated. The villages should have required them to build with more efficient materials.

Mr. Damato replied that the FAA implements the guidelines for sound insulation according the noise contour.

Mr. Frame mentioned that the FAA stated that any new construction after September 30, 2005 does not qualify for sound insulation.

Ms. Schmidt commented that the new contour shows it shrinking and less noise impacts however, she continues to receive loud aircraft noise over her home. She did not understand how neighbors behind her home were eligible and her home does not qualify.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by **Alderman Wesley** and seconded by **Mr. Cutaia**. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.