

**CITIZENS COMMITTEE ON AIRPORT NOISE
PALM BEACH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
MEETING MINUTES
November 16, 2023 - 9:30 AM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

CAROL ROBERTS, District # 1
JOYCE VAUGHN, District # 2
ALICE MCLANE, District #3
JULIE HERMES, District #5
VICTORIA CHOURIS, District #6
MARTIN KLEIN, District # 7
NANCY PULLUM, Good Neighbor Council

STAFF PRESENT:

JOE HARRINGTON, Director of Marketing
MICHAEL GIAMBRONE, Director, Planning & Development
CRAIG DELEGATO, Noise Abatement Manager
ANDREW GAMBOA, Airport Planner

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

The November 16, 2023 meeting of the CITIZENS COMMITTEE ON AIRPORT NOISE (CCAN) was called to order at 9:35am and Department of Airports Noise Abatement Manager CRAIG DELEGATO called the roll. The following Committee members were present: JOYCE VAUGHN, ALICE MCLANE, JULIE HERMES, VICTORIA CHOURIS, MARTIN KLEIN and NANCY PULLUM.

The following member(s) were not present during the roll call: AARON WORMUS, LEWIS CRAMPTON, CAROL ROBERTS and THERESA JOHNSON.

CRAIG DELEGATO informed the CCAN Chairperson, NANCY PULLUM, that a quorum was present.

II. CHAIR'S WELCOME:

NANCY PULLUM welcomed those in attendance to the meeting and introduced ALICE MCLANE as the newest member of the COMMITTEE. MS. PULLUM informed the COMMITTEE that a presentation by Lilium, a German Aerospace Company, which was scheduled for the meeting, had been postponed.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: NANCY PULLUM asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda; as there were none, a motion was made to approve the Agenda. The motion was seconded and the November 16, 2023 Agenda was approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

NANCY PULLUM reminded the COMMITTEE that both the August 10th, 2023 Regular Meeting and the September 7th, 2023 Special Meeting minutes would need to be approved. A motion was made to approve the minutes for both meetings, the motion was seconded and the minutes for the August 10th Regular Meeting and the September 7th Special Meeting were approved.

V. NOISE OFFICE UPDATE:

CRAIG DELEGATO informed the COMMITTEE that since July 2023, all noise monitoring terminals (NMT) were now installed and in operation. Previously, only one or two noise monitoring terminals were reporting data. The COMMITTEE asked for the total number of NMTs. MR DELEGATO replied that there are 10 NMTs servicing PBI and three servicing North County Airport.

The COMMITTEE asked if the NMT at Petty Park was functioning. MR DELEGATO replied that it is.

MR DELEGATO informed the COMMITTEE that an ENVIROSUITE TECHNICIAN began the installation process in July, which included calibrating the terminals and replacing hardware in some of the older terminals. It was not until August that all of the terminals were installed and fully functional.

NANCY PULLUM asked to have the pages on the Noise Office Update report numbered going forward. She noted that General Aviation activity in August was higher than in July.

The COMMITTEE asked for an explanation regarding the NMT report for Elm Road in West Palm Beach as there were 7,400 aircraft events listed in the report for that area. There was a question as to the exact location of Elm Road and the COMMITTEE asked that future reports include a map of the NMT locations.

CRAIG DELEGATO informed the COMMITTEE that the Elm Rd NMT is the closest NMT to the airport. He added that taxiing aircraft from the NetJets facility and airplane engine runs may be contributing to the number of aircraft events reported by that NMT.

The COMMITTEE asked for an explanation of engine runs. MR DELEGATO informed the COMMITTEE that typically for maintenance reasons, aircraft are tested at increased power settings. The aircraft will taxi to a specified location, and then bring its power up. He informed the COMMITTEE that there is an engine run prohibition and that engine runs are typically done during daytime hours and at the west end of PBI.

NANCY PULLUM added that years ago on the east end of PBI, a commercial airline performed an engine run that was so loud it led to hysterical citizens calling 911. MR DELEGATO informed her that particular engine run was pre-approved by Airport administration. MS PULLUM disagreed stating that communication from the Airport is poor and she asked that Airport administration address the COMMITTEE and explain the specific rules/regulations regarding engine runs at PBI. The COMMITTEE asked that the Airport contact local municipalities and homeowner associations when there are known events that will have noise impacts.

The COMMITTEE then discussed the total number of noise complaints in 2023. There were a total of 34 registered noise complaints. CRAIG DELEGATO advised that most complaints are received either via email or telephone. NANCY PULLUM asked to see the number of complaints from previous years. A member of the public, Tonia Rich, asked how to register a noise complaint. THE

COMMITTEE advised that there is a telephone number available on the PBI website that the public can use to inform PBI of a noise complaint. THE

COMMITTEE also advised Ms. Rich to encourage her neighbors to call and register their complaints when necessary.

NANCY PULLUM asked COMMITTEE members to review the PBI website before the next meeting and provide feedback on how easily information on noise abatement can be located.

The COMMITTEE then discussed how the public is made aware of CCAN meetings. PBI Marketing Director JOE HARRINGTON advised of several methods being used to inform the public including postings on the PBI website, the PBC website and social media posts.

The COMMITTEE then discussed meeting dates and times for 2024. NANCY PULLUM suggested that a 930am start time may not be the most convenient time for the public. She also asked the COMMITTEE members for feedback on the most effective way to communicate the CCAN responsibilities to the public.

At 10:13am, JULIE HERMES was excused and left the meeting early with the Chair's permission.

NANCY PULLUM suggested it should be the goal of CCAN in 2024 to explore ways to be more available and accessible to the public.

NANCY PULLUM expressed her concern regarding future changes in flight patterns due to flight congestion. She suggested that a slot management program might be needed at PBI.

The COMMITTEE asked if there is a plan to construct a US Customs Facility at the North County Airport. CRAIG DELEGATO advised he was unaware of any plans for that type of facility at the North County Airport. The COMMITTEE asked if there were now commercial flights at Stuart Airport. JOE HARRINGTON informed the COMMITTEE that Breeze Airways was now offering commercial flights at Vero Beach Airport. He also mentioned that Fort Pierce Airport is beginning the process of determining whether they can accommodate commercial flights in the future.

NANCY PULLUM asked for information regarding the status of any plans for a US Customs Facility at North County Airport.

VI. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE:

PBI Director of Planning & Development, MICHAEL GIAMBRONE provided the COMMITTEE with an update on current construction projects including the central airfield project which include the closing of the crosswind runway 14-32. He stated that runway is expected to reopen near the end of January 2024 and that increased activity on that runway is to be expected.

THE COMMITTEE asked if the Palm Beach Post can be contacted to feature a "What's going on at PBI" article, suggesting that the public should be made aware of construction projects before they begin.

MARTIN KLEIN expressed his disappointment in the limited number of people attending CCAN meetings. He also asked how close PBI is to being saturated. CRAIG DELEGATO said that he would look into that capacity issue. MR KLEIN added that the PBI parking lot is always full and that flights are oversold but he had trouble reconciling how busy the airport is with the lack of attendance at CCAN meetings.

CRAIG DELEGATO advised the COMMITTEE that the new Noise Operating Monitors (NOMS) system should be in place by March of April 2024. He confirmed that AARON WORMUS is on the selection committee for the NOMS system.

CRAIG DELEGATO informed the COMMITTEE that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will be proposing an airspace change on December 7th. The proposed change will allow for more control over airspace. The change is in part due to concerns regarding flights in and out of the Wellington Aero Club. Airspace control will be extended 25 miles to the west of PBI (currently it's 15 miles west) and an additional 5 miles to the east. A public hearing will be held to discuss the proposed change.

THE COMMITTEE asked if 2024 meeting dates have been finalized yet. CRAIG DELEGATO advised the meeting dates have not yet been finalized and that he would send proposed meeting dates to the COMMITTEE members.

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.