

**NEW JERSEY NOISE CONTROL COUNCIL MEETING  
JULY 8, 2014  
MINUTES**

**(There was no quorum present to approve the minutes)**

**NCC ATTENDEES:** Arnold Schmidt (Chairman, Public Member, Registered Environmental Health Specialist), Steven Szulecki (Public Member AAC, Ecologist), Dr. Iris Udasin (Public Member, Medical Doctor), Dr. John Kapferer (Public Member), Norm Dotti (Public Member), Eric Zwerling (Director of the Rutgers Noise Technical Assistance Center), David Triggs (Department of Environmental Protection, Council Liaison).

## **I. NOISE CONTROL COUNCIL (NCC) INVITED GUEST**

Joseph DiFillippo of the Middlesex County Public Health Department could not attend the meeting due to work related obligations. Mr. DiFillippo may be a candidate to replace John Surmay as the “Local Governing Body” member. The NCC would also like to interview potential candidates with a police background.

## **II. MEETING MINUTES**

The draft minutes for the June, 2014 meeting were not approved since the NCC did not have a quorum. All of the members should e-mail David Triggs with any recommended amendments prior to the next meeting.

## **III. CHAIR REPORT**

- Chairman Schmidt will poll the NCC via e-mail regarding their availability for an August meeting. It is likely that there will not be a meeting, as the chairman and vice chairman have both indicated that they cannot attend.

## **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

- Chairman Schmidt will contact NCC members that have not attended meetings in over six months to determine whether they want to remain on the NCC.
- The wording accompanying the link to the Model Noise Ordinance on the DEP noise website will likely be updated once the June meeting minutes are approved. The recommended wording will be as follows: *“The Model Noise Ordinance was last updated in 2010. While we highly recommend that municipalities re-adopt the most up-to-date version, any prior-approved DEP noise ordinance is considered valid.”*
- The DEP again stated that it has not received written confirmation from their DAG regarding the reduction of the maximum penalty in the Model Noise Ordinance from \$3,000 to \$2,000. This has held up any notification to the municipalities regarding the change.

## **V. GUIDANCE DOCUMENT**

- Chairman Schmidt recommended adding an introduction, headings with roman numerals and a page listing each topic with the applicable page.
- The wind speed section was discussed. The height of the microphone is important to note and a section on temperature variations should be added. Instead of calling the section “Wind Speed” it may be more appropriate to call it “Weather Conditions.”
- Eric Zwerling is drafting the section on C-Scale measurements.
- It was agreed that the sections on nuisance codes and church bells should be removed.

- The section on generators may not be added until after the stakeholders meeting which may be scheduled in April during Spring Break to accommodate parking and room scheduling at Rutgers. It should discuss both portable and built-in units.
- Norm Dotti will refine his section on planning and zoning to be added to the document.

## **VI. PART 150 NOISE STUDY**

NCC Vice Chairman Joe Lepis and Secretary Jerome Feder attended a Port Authority Roundtable Meeting on June 30<sup>th</sup> at Newark Liberty International Airport regarding the Part 150 Noise Study. Neither Mr. Lepis nor Mr. Feder attended the July NCC meeting to discuss the outcome.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A proposed seismic study to be conducted off the New Jersey coast by using underwater air gun blasts as high as 250 decibels is being proposed by Rutgers University to map the ocean floor. The NJDEP opposes the study on the grounds that it may injure marine fisheries and marine mammals. The NCC has not been contacted for their technical opinion regarding this although NCC Liaison David Triggs was. Mr. Triggs indicated that he did not have the technical expertise to offer scientific reasoning to debate the pros and cons of conducting the study although his personal opinion was that the 250 decibels would be extremely loud and potentially injurious to marine life.

## **VIII. AGENDA ITEMS NOT DISCUSSED**

Bylaws review

Model Noise Ordinance review and update

## **IX. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2014.

Respectfully submitted in Secretary Jerome Feder's absence:  
David E. Triggs, NJDEP, NCC Liaison