

NEW JERSEY NOISE CONTROL COUNCIL (NCC)
FEBRUARY 9, 2016
MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDEES: Arnold Schmidt (Chairman, Public Member), Steve Szulecki (Vice Chairman, Public Member, Ecologist), Randy Hauser (Department of Labor), Salvatore Fama (Motor Vehicle Commission), Joseph Lepis (Public Member, Civil Engineer), Norm Dotti (Public Member, Industrialist), John Kapferer (Public Member), Jerry Feder (Public Member), Joseph DiFillippo (Public Member Candidate) Eric Zwerling (Director of the Rutgers Noise Technical Assistance Center) and David Triggs (Department of Environmental Protection, Noise Control Council Liaison).

PUBLIC: Jack Zybura (Lewis S. Goodfriend and Associates).

MEETING MINUTES:

The meeting minutes for December were approved (Norm Dotti moved and Jerry Feder seconded). The approval of the January minutes was tabled pending adding comments made by Jack Zybura regarding where to take sound level readings.

CHAIR REPORT:

- Certificates of completion for the Ethics training are still needed from Dr. Udasin, Norm Dotti and new member Salvatore Fama.
- Bios are needed from John Lago and new member Salvatore Fama. Chairman Schmidt will convert bios written in first person to third person. Joseph Lepis again requested that his bio reflect that he spent twenty years on the NCC as either chairman or vice chairman.
- An updated NCC member contact list was distributed for review.
- John Kapferer suggested establishing a call chain for canceling meetings due to inclement weather. Chairman Schmidt recommended e-mailing, texting or calling his cell phone if in doubt.
- New NCC member representing the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) Salvatore Fama was introduced. Mr. Fama, is a graduate from St. John's University and has been with the MVC for eleven years, currently serving as a program manager. He has a background in noise and has taken the Rutgers Noise Certification Course. He replaces Susan Debiec.
- No news on Joseph DiFillippo's submittal for membership. Mr. Zwerling has brought up the vacancy left by Carl Accettola at his noise certification classes but so far no one has expressed an interest. Ideally, the NCC would like someone with an enforcement background. Jack Zybura also remains a viable candidate with an extensive background in acoustical engineering.
- Chairman Schmidt questioned whether Joseph Lepis should represent the NCC on the League of Municipalities web link for answering noise questions. Some members suggested designating David Triggs as the contact since he already answers the public's noise questions on behalf of the NJDEP. Mr. Triggs has no objection to providing this service as long as the number of inquiries is reasonable.

OLD BUSINESS:

- *Motor Vehicles Entering/Exiting Facilities:* Norm Dotti has not heard back from the consultants he e-mailed about meeting to discuss the issue. He will follow-up with another e-mail and try to set something up immediately following the March meeting.
- *Helicopter Noise:* A recent article indicated that New York will be enacting stricter regulations on helicopter flights which could impact New Jersey by diverting more takeoffs and landings on the Jersey side of the Hudson where there is a residential housing boom. Kearny and Jersey City could become major hubs.
- *Penalty Assessments:* The NCC offered suggestions for the draft noise enforcement template for issuing penalties. Some recommended changes include: differentiating between the \$2,000 (Model Ordinance) and \$3,000 (State Code) maximum penalty, make it clear that a NOV had already been issued and the grace period had passed before the first offense NOVA is issued, use dB not dBA, a scale of 10 decibels above the day/night permissible limit should be used as a trigger, specify that these are recommendations not mandatory requirements to follow, remove the row for “five complainants or less,” increase the penalty from 15% to 25% for more than five violations coming from separate properties.
- *Emergency Generators:* No comments were made on the draft consumer guide and there was no vote to accept it as Joseph Lepis left the meeting at 11:15 and therefore, there was no quorum. It would be nice to see a letter or card included with each generator purchased that states the noise regulations may apply to its use.
- *Roundtable Part 150 Study:* The “Technical Advisory Committee” meets every two months.
- *By-Laws:* Chairman Schmidt asked if anyone was aware of the original “Adopted” date of the By-Laws as he has never seen a copy of the By-Laws with a date on it.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for March 8th

Respectfully submitted by: David E. Triggs, NJDEP Liaison to the NCC