

NEW JERSEY NOISE CONTROL COUNCIL (NCC)
JANUARY 13, 2015
MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDEES: Arnold Schmidt (Chairman, Public Member), Joseph Lepis (Vice Chairman, Public Member), Jerome Feder (Secretary, Public Member), Steven Szulecki (Public Member, Ecologist), Norm Dotti (Public Member, Industrialist), Dr. Iris Udasin (Public Member, Medical Doctor), Randy Hauser (Department of Labor), Dr. John Kapferer (Public Member) and David Triggs (Department of Environmental Protection, Noise Control Council Liaison).

I. MEETING MINUTES

Only the November meeting minutes were reviewed. Vice Chairman Joseph Lepis requested that some wording be added to the section regarding condominium noise. He also distributed three handouts to support “legislative intent” regarding this. The minutes were then approved.

Norm Dotti suggested adding attachments to the meeting minutes that are posted on the NCC website. While the suggestion has merit, further discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

II. CHAIR REPORT

- The NCC meeting schedule for 2015 was reviewed and approved.
- Chairman Schmidt will be looking for volunteers to take meeting minutes until Jerome Feder resumes his role as secretary. David Triggs will continue to take the meeting minutes until such time.

III. OLD BUSINESS

- *Council Member Appointment:* Discussed in Executive Session.
- *Website Update Regarding Municipal Model Noise Ordinance (Model):* The NCC’s approved language regarding the reduction in the penalty amount in the Model was sent via e-mail on December 19th to New Jersey’s municipal clerks with the help of The Executive Board of New Jersey Clerks. At least one municipality (West Windsor) has adopted the updated version of the Model since the e-mail was sent.
- *Meadowlands Commission (MC) Noise Policy:* Joseph Lepis reported that a new state law is “waiting for the Governor’s signature” to combine the Meadowlands Commission with the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority. Once the new law is signed or vetoed, the NCC can look further into how the MC handles noise complaints within its jurisdiction.

IV. GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

- The guidance document was approved with minor grammatical and structural changes. Norm Dotti wanted the minutes to reflect that he, “*strongly disagrees with the interpretation of the procedures for motor vehicles on site in Section I.*” Joseph Lepis also wanted the minutes to reflect that he, “*strongly objects to Sections D and L as both require additional refinement to properly reflect the objective of the State.*” Jerome Feder was “*uncomfortable fully supporting the document as he believes the use of “at or within” dilutes the complainant’s protection.*”

A Motion to vote on approving the document was made by John Kapferer and was seconded by Norm Dotti.

In Favor: Arnold Schmidt, John Kapferer, Steve Szulecki, Dr. Iris Udasin, Randy Hauser and Norm Dotti

Against: Joseph Lepis

Abstaining: Jerome Feder

The motion passes. Once the final revisions are made the document will be forwarded to DEP management for review and approval.

V. PART 150 NOISE STUDY

Jerome Feder reported that the FAA is proposing new “slot rules” (the number of aircraft taking off and landing) for JFK, LaGuardia and Newark airports. This may include an increase in passengers but not flights by using larger planes. Joseph Lepis reported that two versions of by-laws were submitted to the By-laws Committee for review. A resolution drafted by Mr. Lepis requests that two members of the NCC (Mr. Lepis and Mr. Dotti) be appointed to the Port Authority roundtable discussions. Review of the resolution was tabled until the next meeting, pending a decision on the by-laws.

VI. STAKEHOLDERS MEETING (EMERGENCY GENERATORS)

No date has been set although the regular June 9th NCC meeting is still the likely choice. Steve Szulecki is waiting to hear back from Rutgers’ faculty regarding reserving the room. While attending the League of Municipalities Annual Conference, Joseph Lepis retained four business cards from companies that install emergency generators.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- *League of Municipalities:* Joseph Lepis attended the League of Municipalities Annual Conference in Atlantic City in November. His table answered noise questions from approximately ten people. He also reported that the DOT and “towns” intend to do more road construction at night.
- *Council Member’s Biographies for NCC Website:* Chairman Schmidt suggested that each NCC member submit a brief bio that can be viewed on the NCC website. David Triggs will send previously submitted bios back to the members for updating.

VIII. AGENDA ITEMS NOT DISCUSSED DUE TO TIME CONSTRAINTS

Bylaws review/revisions

IX. OPENING OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

No one from the public was in attendance.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**XI. NEXT MEETING**

Weather permitting, the next meeting date is scheduled for February 10th

Respectfully submitted:

David E. Triggs, NJDEP, Liaison to the NCC