



Minutes Tempe Aviation Commission January 8, 2013

Minutes of the Tempe Aviation Commission meeting held on January 8, 2013, 6:30 p.m., at the Public Works Conference Room, Garden Level, City Hall Complex, 31 E. Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Shannon Dutton
Amy Fish
Mark Garrigan
Gordon Gauss
Karyn Gitlis
Barbara Sherman
Alyson Star
David Swanson

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Sally Clements (Excused)

City Staff Present:

Oddvar Tveit, Environmental Quality Specialist

Meeting convened at 6:35 p.m.

Amy called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

Brian Murray with the Summit Consulting Group Inc., <http://www.summitgroupnet.com/>, a public affairs consulting firm working for Weitzman Group Inc. in New York City, talked to the members about a potential FAA rule change that could severely impact existing and future surface construction heights around airports. The Summit Consulting Group had over the last months worked with members of Congress to get the FAA to change their minds anticipating a rule change. Becoming aware that the FAA might choose not to go through with a formal rule change to include the One Engine Inoperable (OEI) rule in aeronautical studies done under FAR Part 77, the group made a two track approach and worked with Congressman Matt Salmon, who had a meeting with DOT Secretary LaHood to express the real estate industry's concerns, and with Senator Flake and Senator Hutchinson, the Chair of the Commerce Committee.

Karyn joined the meeting at 6:38 p.m. and Shannon at 6:40 p.m.

Brian said the group does not know where the FAA currently stands or where it is heading with the OEI in aeronautical studies. One of the concerns is that the change could make insurance on existing tall buildings more expensive. In Tempe an existing building that could be impacted is the West 6 Apartments towers being 209 feet higher than the OEI imaginary surface. The group has worked with the Urban Land Institute, which is worried about how the FAA initiative could hurt the financing of the planned project at the Hayden Ferry Lakeside empty pad. The

implementation of OEI in aeronautical studies could impact most developments east along the Rio Salado. Brian gave Amy copies of a white paper on the anticipated policy change by the FAA to include OEI in the evaluation of safe construction heights around airports. He asked the members to recommend the Tempe Mayor and Council to act by bringing the issue up with representatives in the House, since both Senator Flake and Senator McCain are well aware of the significant impacts a rule change or a change in the FAA's policy could have.

Agenda Item 2 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes (December 11, 2012)

Barbara moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Karyn. The December 2012 minutes were unanimously approved.

Agenda Item 3 – Election of Officers

Since no nominations occurred at the December 2012 meeting Dave proposed to nominate Barbara, then Shannon and finally Amy for the office of chair. The nominations were turned down by the candidates. Mark nominated Dave as chair. Dave accepted the nomination provided there were no other candidates that had not previously served as chairs of the commission. The nomination was seconded by Barbara. By a unanimous vote Dave was elected as TAVCO chair for 2013. Shannon moved to nominate Barbara to continue on as vice-chair. Barbara accepted the nomination. The motion was seconded by Karyn, and Barbara was unanimously elected as TAVCO vice-chair for 2013.

Agenda Item 4 – Updates from staff

GP 2040 update:

Staff updated the members on the January 3, 2013 General Plan 2040 Community Working Group meeting. The working group commented on the drafted elements of the new plan that included noise and air quality. The group asked about what was carried over from the 2030 Plan. They suggested a consolidation of strategies and to make them more targeted so accomplishment towards planned goals could be measured. Rather than giving input on drafted language, they expressed preference for giving more input on the new plan's visions for Tempe.

Agenda Item 5 – Aircraft Noise Survey

Staff showed bar graphs of responses received to date on the aviation noise survey after it was announced on the city web site in December, 2012. Based on the twenty two responses received so far, it appears that residents in north Tempe are a bit more bothered by incoming arrivals and low flying airlines than the departure traffic. The expressed concerns over news helicopter operations in Tempe corresponded to the trend in aircraft noise complaints received in 2012. The members commented on the fact that a couple of residents completed the survey even though they were not bothered by noise from aircraft operations, and that the layout of demographic information in the presentation should be changed. They also agreed that the commission should keep track of the times the survey is advertised as a hot topic on the city web.

Follow up: Staff would check if the residents could be reminded about the survey again on the city home page.

Agenda Item 6 – Commissioners' Business (topics for future discussion)

In addition to having the ASU Decision Theater on the agenda at the February meeting, staff was asked to check when it would be possible to bring up the announced Energy Efficiency Code update. Karyn suggested the GP 2040 as a discussion item for the Commission, and that

the members look at the strategies for noise related to aviation. She mentioned that a General Plan 2040 public neighborhood meeting is coming up on January 22, 2013 in the Tempe History Museum. Preferably the Commission should provide input on the energy efficiency before addressing input on the General Plan. They agreed to put the OEI issue on the agenda to get more information about how the aeronautical study process has been conducted and how the city has been handling the building heights.

Barbara talked to the members about the noise measurement program by Mestre Greve, Landrum and Brown and provided the members with the sites and schedules she had received from the consultant. She commended the PHX consultant for being responsive to NTNA suggestions for sites to do noise measurements in Tempe, and asked that a review of the data or samples of what is collected should be a topic for future discussion provided that the measurements are made accessible to the public for review. Staff reminded the members that what goes into the INM is data from the PHX NFTMS, and that the measurements are used to compare with the data the system provides for the noise contour modeling exercise.

Agenda Item 7 – Schedule next TAVCO meeting

The next meeting was scheduled to February 12, 2013.

Agenda Item 8 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Prepared by: Oddvar Tveit

Reviewed by: Don Hawkes

Authorized Signature
Deputy Public Works Director - Water Utilities