

Venice Neighborhood Council
Santa Monica Airport Ad-Hoc Committee
Wednesday, August 25, 2010 9:00 A.M.
The Talking Stick, 1411 Lincoln Blvd., Venice

Co-Chair: Amanda Seward

Attending: Stephanie Body; Alice Burston; Sarah Dennison; Martin Rubin; Mindy Taylor-Ross

I. Call to Order Meeting called at 9:10 A.M. by Amanda Seward

II. Introductions and Public Comments VNC Board accepted committee's letter of support for making aircraft departing Santa Monica Airport stay on a flight path over Santa Monica. Ed McQueeney will do a news report on this.

III. Old Business

A. Survey Distribution Alice brought 3,000 printed copies to meeting. Alice will coordinate. Committee will distribute and report to Alice where covered. Online response preferred. Quantity the goal.

B. Jon Rodgers Amanda will follow up with VNC Treasurer

IV. New Business

A. Santa Monica Airport Commission July Meeting Highlights Report

1.) SMO will be closed for several days in September and October for Runway/Taxiway rehabilitation. Committee interested in an action during the closure.

2.) FAA decision on Change To Piston IFR Departure Procedures not in yet. Will they agree to an EIR? Remains an issue.

3.) 2 requests for Commercial Operator Permits were denied by The Commission because the businesses are dealing with the "taxi" type use of aircraft which can be perceived as heading down the slope of commercializing the airport. The City Attorney will have the last word on this. Our committee should be organized to attend whatever Santa Monica City Council meeting will be visiting this issue.

B. Our Response To Santa Monica Community's Demands In Their Petition

1.) FOSP has focused on difference in elevation between Sunset Park and Venice.

2.) We should try to arrange a human to human interaction with Santa Monica community group leaders to mitigate the adversarial stance that develops at various community meetings. Later Alice agreed to begin to outline an agenda for a meeting with Sunset Park.

3.) Understandably Waxman is behind Santa Monica constituents 100%, but at the moment there are no solutions offered.

4.) A FONSI (Finding Of No Significant Impact) is a likely option for the FAA to take. An EIR is preferable for Venice as well as Santa Monica.

C. Questions & Ideas For Meeting with Jane Harmon's Deputy Diane Moss

Waxman is on top of the matter. We are seeking support from Jane Harmon. Table this until we can get a better sense of a time to meet with Diane Moss. Those who want to participate should let Laura know.

D. September 1st Meeting With Henry Waxman

- 1.) Discussed meeting Councilman Rosendahl has arranged between Congressman Waxman and community representatives from Rosendahl's district to discuss Rosendahl's constituency's concerns regarding the Airport
- 2.) Norm Kulla, a good representative of Rosendahl, will be joined by about 10 people including Amanda, Alice, and Marty. They are aware of our concerns.

E. Propose VNC Motion For Rosendahl To Present To LA City Council About Venice Demands Regarding The FAA, The City of Santa Monica, and It's "Fly Neighborly Program" among other things Amanda will work with Laura on starting what needs to be a powerful statement supporting Bill Rosendahl's original powerful letter on the subject. Should get Bill's input on what would be effective with the city council.

F. Status of Committee's Email Database And First Letter Sarah will take up working on developing the system while Susan is absent for 3 months. Need to clarify if the letter went out.

G. Ted Lieu's Motion Marty reports passage by City Council, State Assembly, and Senate. Knowledge of the Santa Monica Airport issues is growing.

H. See D. Above

I. Consider Publicity of Possible Cancer Cluster Caused By Jets East of Airport

We are unaware of official study numbers. That is a long term project. Other areas are affected. We could start developing grass roots statistics now. Perhaps a subject for our second mass Email: start collecting facts for discussion, block by block. Do LA County Health Officials have cancer numbers?

J. Derek Harbaugh's Offer of Website and Social Networking Assistance Can be a valuable tool and may be of help to Sarah with the mass Email system development. Sarah will investigate with him.

K. City Attorney Progress Amanda suggested giving more time for his response is reasonable. Susan Tracey from his office is knowledgeable on LAX issues and wants to go on a tour of Santa Monica Airport.

L. Report on Film Idea, Kathy Levitt Although Kathy has been absent for awhile, there is still committee interest in this area. Mindy has a connection with the UCLA Film Department and will follow up on her suggestion of finding a way to encourage a short student documentary on our subject. Diane Moss has made a documentary on SMO.

O. Other

- 1.) Specific information on the number of flights emanating from the flight schools would be valuable. SMO staff says they don't have it broken out. Alice will draft a letter requesting the information. Who should it come from – Rosendahl's office, the VNC, our committee? Where should it go - Santa Monica Airport Commission?
- 2.) Alice will start to draft the petition for which we plan to gather a large number of responses. The language is important. What substantively do we want to accomplish?

IV. Next Meeting Wednesday, September 15, 9:00am, The Talking Stick.

V. Adjournment 11:00 A.M.