



Tweed New Haven Airport Authority (TNHAA)

Environmental Stewardship Committee (ESC)

Minutes of August 20, 2024 via Zoom

Attendance

Members in Attendance: Tom Rafter, Jeremy Nielson, Linda Hennessey, Rose Chatterton, Kenneth Dagliere, Chuck Licata, Justin Donaldson and David Valentino.

Members Absent: Michael Jones, Giovanni Zinn, and Carlos Eyzaguirre.

Others in Attendance: Malena Zanjani and Felipe Suriel.

Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes from June 18, 2024 Meeting
2. Updates
 - a. Noise Website Update / Envirosuite Update
 - b. Sound Insulation Phase 7 Update
 - c. LNAV Departure Procedure
 - d. Public Meeting with ATC – Rescheduled
 - e. Air Quality Monitoring
3. Rental Car / Electric Chargers
4. Next Meeting – Date, Time, Topics

Minutes

Chairman Rafter called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM. The first agenda item was the approval of the minutes from the previous Environmental Stewardship Committee (ESC) meeting held on June 18, 2024. Ms. Chatterton moved to approve the minutes, and Mr. Dagliere seconded the motion. Chairman Rafter asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Mr. Rafter initiated the discussion by providing updates regarding the noise website. He inquired about Envirosuite, asking Mr. Nielson to elaborate on the product and the current status of the contract. Mr. Nielson responded, noting that a draft agreement with Envirosuite is nearly finalized, with execution anticipated by early next week. Following this, internal training will be scheduled, and a community venue for public education on the system is expected to be arranged by mid-October. The Envirosuite platform will be integrated into the airport's updated noise website, providing tools for the public to better understand noise contours and the sound insulation program. The system will allow the community to check eligibility for sound insulation and review data on aircraft operations.

Mr. Rafter confirmed that the website will enable residents to input their addresses to determine possible eligibility and to access detailed information on aircraft operations. Mr. Nielson clarified that Envirosuite, also used by Westchester, provides a robust system for noise monitoring, using mobile

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monitors rather than fixed ones. He mentioned the ability of the system to track aircraft within a 40-mile radius of the airport, displaying detailed information such as altitude, speed, and noise footprint.

The meeting progressed with Mr. Rafter discussing the sound insulation program's Phase 7 update. The FAA has confirmed a grant of \$539,910, with the Board expected to approve the execution of this grant by early September. Mr. Rafter also provided an update on the LNAV departure procedure, a method to minimize overflights over densely populated areas, which is currently being developed with the FAA. Mr. Rafter also noted that the ATC Community Meeting has been rescheduled to October 1, 2024.

Mr. Nielson informed the committee that air quality monitoring equipment has been installed and is live on the administration building at the airport. Additional monitors are active on the arrivals building and at the tide gates. Mr. Suriel confirmed that a link to this data could be provided on the airport's website. The discussion also covered the recent activation of electric charging stations for rental cars at the airport, which are currently in use and performing well.

Mr. Rafter mentioned ongoing efforts to establish a community roundtable in collaboration with the FAA, aimed at addressing noise concerns. Mr. Dagliere raised concerns about low-flying planes and their potential impact on homes, questioning the procedures for addressing such complaints. Mr. Rafter explained that the FAA would be responsible for investigating such matters, with the noise monitoring system providing valuable data to support any investigations.

The meeting also addressed the expected increase in flights with the addition of Breeze Airways, which is anticipated to add approximately three flights per day. The A220 aircraft used by Breeze is noted for being quieter than older models, which is a positive development. The committee discussed the ongoing environmental and legal challenges related to the airport's runway extension project, including appeals filed by Save the Sound, 10,000 Hawks, and the Town of East Haven. Despite these challenges, the design phase is progressing, with construction possibly starting in a year.

The meeting concluded with Mr. Rafter announcing that the next ESC meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2024, at 2 PM. A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Chatterton and seconded by Mr. Dagliere, with all members in favor. The meeting was then adjourned at approximately 2:30 PM.