



TWEED
NEW HAVEN
AIRPORT

Tweed New Haven Airport Authority (TNHAA)

Environmental Stewardship Committee (ESC)

Minutes of December 16, 2024 via Zoom

Attendance

Members in Attendance: Linda Hennessey, Chuck Licata, Rose Chatterton, Carlos Eyzaguirre, Tom Rafter, Michael Jones, and Jeremy Nielson.

Members Absent: Kenneth Dagliere, David Valentino, and Giovanni Zinn.

Others in Attendance: Malena Zanjani, Felipe Suriel, and Tom Cavaliere.

Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes from October 15, 2024 Meeting
2. Updates
 - a. Noise Website Update
 - b. Sound Insulation Phase Update
 - c. Envirosuite Meeting Recap
 - d. Traffic Calming Update
 - e. REVO
 - f. VALE Grant Application
3. Next Meeting – Date, Time, Topics

Minutes

Chairman Rafter called the Environmental Stewardship Committee (ESC) meeting to order at 2:06 PM. The first agenda item was the approval of the minutes from the previous meeting held on October 15, 2024. Ms. Chatterton moved to approve the minutes, and Ms. Hennessey seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Chairman Rafter called for a vote, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Mr. Rafter then proceeded with updates. Mr. Cavaliere provided an update on the noise website, now integrated with the Envirosuite system. He announced that the WebTrak site had gone live the previous day and a link had been added to the Community Resources page on the airport's website, allowing users to view local aircraft activity and historical data. Chairman Rafter requested that Ms. Zanjani share the [WebTrak link](#) with ESC members.

Regarding the sound insulation project, Mr. Rafter noted that the next phase would cover 12 homes, pending contracts from Jones Payne. Mr. Nielson confirmed that once the contracts are executed, progress would advance accordingly.

Mr. Cavaliere then summarized the recent public meeting on Envirosuite, during which representatives walked attendees through the dashboard. A brochure explaining the system was distributed and will also be available on the website. Mr. Cavaliere stated that the meeting went well, with questions addressed and further communication planned as the program is rolled out.

Environmental Stewardship Committee (ESC) Minutes

On the topic of traffic calming, Mr. Rafter provided an update in the absence of Giovanni Zinn. He explained the city's plan to improve traffic flow at the airport, which involves rerouting pickups through a new rotary at the intersection of Dean and Burr Streets. The goal is to reduce congestion and idling. Mr. Cavaliere added that the public meeting recording and presentation materials are available on the website. Mr. Eyzaguirre acknowledged concerns about increased traffic on Townsend Avenue during school pickup times and assured the committee that these concerns are being evaluated. Ms. Chatterton highlighted the existing congestion near the school, suggesting potential measures to mitigate the impact, such as restricted traffic during peak hours. Mr. Nielson proposed implementing temporary signage to redirect traffic during these periods.

Mr. Jones provided an update on the REVO hydrogen project, noting ongoing discussions with REVO for a hydrogen dispensing unit at the airport. The project aims to convert existing shuttle buses to hydrogen fuel and explore zero-emission alternatives alongside electric vehicles. Mr. Rafter commended the initiative and spoke about the VALE (Voluntary Airport Low Emissions) Grant application. Mr. Jones explained that the application seeks funding for two electric shuttle buses, an electric street sweeper, and two zero-turn electric mowers. The grant submission was made in early November, with results anticipated in early 2025.

Mr. Jones also discussed plans for electrifying ground service equipment (GSE) and installing additional electrical outlets near Lot C to support GSE charging. This initiative aligns with the airport's goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In closing, Ms. Chatterton raised concerns about traffic congestion related to school and church activities on Townsend Avenue. Mr. Rafter and Mr. Eyzaguirre assured the committee that mitigation measures are being considered, and the long-term relocation of the terminal would address many current issues. Mr. Cavaliere reiterated that the traffic plan is a temporary solution until the new terminal is operational.

Mr. Nielson announced that Breeze Airways flights began daily service on December 10th, with quieter and more fuel-efficient aircraft. Mr. Rafter concluded by sharing an update on Ken Dagliere's health, expressing well wishes for his recovery. Mr. Eyzaguirre added that the New Haven Mayor would be discussing the positive impacts of the airport with the New York Times.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2025, at 2:00 PM. Mr. Rafter adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:30 PM, wishing everyone happy holidays.