



## Minutes Tempe Aviation Commission November 10, 2009

Minutes of the Tempe Aviation Commission meeting held on November 10, 2009, 6:30 p.m., at the Public Works Conference Room, Garden Level, City Hall Complex, 31 E. Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona.

**(MEMBERS) Present:**

Dick Collins  
William Justus  
Gloria Regensberg (Chair)  
Barbara Sherman (On Phone)  
Alyson Star  
David Swanson (Vice Chair)  
Duane Washkowiak

**Citizens Present:**

Darlene Justus

**(MEMBERS) Absent:**

Sally Clements (Excused)  
Tara Ellman (Excused)  
Karyn Gitlis (Excused)  
Gary Goren (Excused)  
Curtis Ritland (Excused)  
Connie Thompson (Excused)

**City Staff Present:**

Oddvar Tveit, Environmental Quality  
Specialist

**Meeting convened at 6:43 p.m.**

Gloria called the meeting to order.

**Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances**

Darlene Justus informed the members about a public information request from the North Tempe Neighborhood Association regarding recent bird strike incidents reported in the media. Of particular interest was the strike where a passenger airline was involved. The Neighborhood Association was concerned about the safety of north Tempe residents, and would appreciate the role of TAVCO be expanded to include aviation safety for Tempe residents in addition to aircraft noise. She also mentioned the Tempe Historic Preservation Foundation's task to develop the programming of future events at the Eisendrath House. Aircraft noise is a concern, and the idea is to make a formal information request to the airport to get flight scheduling history and trends in departure and arrival operations to find times of the day, on a month-to-month basis, when major conflicts with the aircraft noise could be avoided. The members thanked Darlene for the information and advised her to make a written request to the City if she wanted the Commission to address the aircraft noise over the Eisendrath House at a future meeting.

**Agenda Item 2 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes (October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009)**

Barbara moved to approve the October minutes. Duane seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 3 – Updates From Staff**

*Recommendation on scope and membership:*

A memorandum dated October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009, had been sent to the Mayor and Council after the members made recommendations at the October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting to reduce membership and expand the mandate for the Commission.

*Budget Information Meetings:*

The City would be conducting budget community forums November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Interested members were advised to attend the forums and look up [www.tempe.gov/budgetplan](http://www.tempe.gov/budgetplan) instead of making individual requests to the City for information or asking staff for a budget briefing.

*Bird Strikes:*

Recent reports in the media about bird strikes after departures from Sky Harbor had been investigated by staff to determine if the involved MD90 had problems following a normal climb and flight path east within the area of noise abatement in Tempe. Flight tracks showed that the airline had no problems after take-off from the north runway climbing towards the riverbed area, and turning north after reaching 4DME. Statements made in media and information received after the strike indicated that the strike occurred far north of the airport at about 11,000 feet altitude. Another bird strike appeared in media a couple of days later. This one happened near Show Low to smaller Beech cargo plane on its way from Sky Harbor.

**Agenda Item 4 – Update of the Tempe history with the airport**

The members reviewed a draft history update made available to the members prior to the meeting, and suggested that changes be made on pages 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7.

Dave moved to recommend that the final version of the updated history be posted on [www.tempe.gov/aircraftnoise](http://www.tempe.gov/aircraftnoise). Barbara seconded the motion. The members voted unanimously to pass the motion.

As a follow up, Barbara moved with a second from Duane to have the updated history forwarded to the Mayor and Council in a letter from staff, requesting it be posted on the Tempe in Touch website. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**Agenda Item 5 – Recommend a public outreach program for the City to increase awareness about airport issues**

Individual suggestions for program ideas to discuss and recommend were handed out, but not discussed. Members pointed to how the City on a regular basis communicates with residents through mailings, and the importance of giving Council access to information about noise, as assembled by staff in monthly noise reports, to help them understand the issues. Staff informed the members about the City's Neighborhood Advisory Commission Outreach Committee, and a suggestion was made to invite the Chair of the Committee to address the Commission, before discussing further a letter of recommendation to the Mayor and Council on suggestions for increasing neighborhood awareness about airport issues. The members agreed with the proposal, and asked staff to follow up with an invitation to Mr. Wilson.

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

The members suggested the following Q and A items:

- Activities of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission Outreach Committee
- Sky Harbor air traffic reductions and the options reductions give controllers in directing air traffic and making use of the runways.

Staff was asked to extend an invitation to the PHX ATCT manager.

**Agenda Item 7 – Schedule Next TAVCO Meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled for December 8, 2009.

**Agenda Item 8 – Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Prepared by: Oddvar Tveit

Reviewed by: Don Hawkes

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Authorized Signature  
Water Utilities Department Manager