

**AIRCRAFT NOISE ABATEMENT TASK FORCE MEETING
ST. PETE-CLEARWATER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

April 21, 2021

St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE), Aircraft Noise Abatement Task Force (NATF) Committee, a/k/a Task Force, met at 3:00 p.m. virtually via the GoToMeeting platform, with the following members present:

Present:

H.D. Holland, Feather Sound Resident
Tom Jewsbury, Airport Director
Erin Johnson, Airport Operations Manager
Jerry Karp, Clearwater Resident
Andrew Knapp, Oldsmar Resident and City Council Member
Ernie Nevin, Allegiant Chief Pilot
Steve Ochsner, Feather Sound Resident
John Padavich, Safety Harbor Resident
Hank Samuel, Palm Harbor Resident
Steven Santamaria, Airport Operations Supervisor
Sean Schrader, City of Clearwater at Large Resident
Cheryl Soszka, Airport Administration
Mark Sprague, Deputy Director, Operations and Facilities
Deen Walker, Sheltair
Jeff Yost, Allegiant Air
Michael Zas, County Attorney's Office

Absent:

Russ Argus, Federal Aviation Administration, Air Traffic Control PIE
Joseph Lassen, US Army Reserve
Barbara Markley, Pinellas Park Resident
Keith Blair, U.S. Coast Guard
Michael Yuska, Federal Aviation Administration, Air Traffic Control

Guests in Attendance:

James Arrighi, Federal Aviation Administration
Don Casey, Del Oro Groves
Lou Claudio, Safety Harbor
Reginald Davis, Federal Aviation Administration
Christian Karns, Federal Aviation Administration
Michael O'Harra, Federal Aviation Administration
Tomasz Oszczypala, Oldsmar
Geraldo Rios, Oldsmar
Kay and Dallas Rose, Oldsmar
Vicki Turner, Federal Aviation Administration

AGENDA

1. Introduction and Opening Comments
2. FAA Metroplex Update – Mr. Michael O’Harra
3. 2021 Task Force Members
4. Move Minutes of January 20, 2021
5. Quarterly Noise Compliance Report & Complaint Summary
6. Flights within Voluntary Quiet Window
7. Action/Discussion Items
 - Welcome Mr. Andrew Knapp, City of Oldsmar representative
 - MLB and Noise Abatement Procedures
 - Visited Mainlands
 - Website Updates
8. Citizen’s Comments
9. Adjournment

INTRODUCTION, MEETING DATES, AND MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Sprague welcomed those present to the NATF Meeting. Mr. Sprague reviewed the *2021 NATF Task Force Members* and moved the *Meeting Minutes* of January 20, 2021 into the record.

FAA METROPLEX UPDATE

Michael O’Harra and his team from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) provided an update on the Metroplex procedures that would go into effect April 22, 2021 and reviewed PIE’s Noise Abatement Departure Procedure. The Arrival Procedures will not change. After the presentation, the FAA answered questions from the Task Force and citizens regarding the changes.

QUARTERLY NOISE ABATEMENT COMPLIANCE REPORT AND COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Mr. Sprague referred to the *Noise Abatement Compliance Report* for the 1st Quarter 2021. In January, 164 aircraft arrived on Runway 18; of those able to use a Noise Abatement Procedure (NAP), 126 aircraft did, while 23 did not. In February, 271 aircraft arrived on Runway 18; of those able to use a NAP, 162 did, while 36 did not. In March, 353 aircraft arrived on Runway 18; of those able to use a NAP, 302 aircraft did, while 16 did not.

There were 1,866 complaints received during the 1st Quarter from 46 different households. The top three cities submitting complaints were Oldsmar, Safety Harbor, and Clearwater. The top three reasons for complaints were excessive noise, did not use NAP, and low flying aircraft.

FLIGHTS WITHIN VOLUNTARY QUIET WINDOW

The number of flights during the Voluntary Quiet Window (VQW) for the 1st Quarter ranged between 4-11%.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Andrew Knapp, City of Oldsmar representative

Mr. Knapp is looking forward to serving on the Task Force and seeing what positive impacts he can make for the City of Oldsmar with the Airport in the future.

MLB and Noise Abatement Procedures

Major League Baseball Charters will be flying in and out of PIE. This will include the Tampa Bay Rays and the Toronto Blue Jays, who are playing in Dunedin with the Canadian border being closed at this time due to the pandemic. The Charters will be flown by Delta, Air Canada, and United. Mr. Sprague proactively reached out to provide them with PIE's Noise Abatement Procedures (NAP), though they still require FAA approval.

Visited Mainlands

Mr. Sprague visited the Mainlands community due to the number of complaints submitted. When Mr. Sprague makes these visits, he confirms the aircraft are flying at the altitudes they should be and speaks to citizens in the area.

Website Updates

The Fly2PIE website will be updated, including the noise page. The noise complaint form has been updated with three new fields: weather, activity disturbed, and time disturbed. The complaint form can be found on the Flight Tracking page to allow the individual the ability to fill in the pertinent tracking information of the flight the complaint pertains to. Mr. Sprague asked for feedback on the new noise page once the new website goes live.

Mr. Sprague added that new NAP signs have been added to the Airfield at the departure end of Runway 18-36. The NAP brochure has also been updated and is available at both Fixed Base Operators and online at https://fly2pie.com/docs/default-source/noise-abatement/spairport_noiseabate.pdf?sfvrsn=25da2b26_7

NATF MEMBERS AND CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Steve Oschner, Feather Sound NATF Member, inquired about Coast Guard helicopters circling over Feather Sound. Mr. Sprague stated his Operations Manager advised the Coast Guard was doing helicopter training that day.

Hank Samuel, Palm Harbor NATF Member, inquired about two F-18's escorting a white aircraft. Mr. Sprague advised he did not know anything about that, and they did not land at PIE.

Kay Rose, Oldsmar resident, stated she logs her complaints on a piece of paper and then calls to report all the complaints at one time. She wanted to confirm that they are counted as every flight she is complaining about and not just one complaint. Mr. Sprague confirmed they are counted for every aircraft she lists. Mrs. Rose further stated that the altitude listed on the website now shows the aircraft's altitudes as 1,900 - 2,000 feet, but what she sees visually is not any different. Mr. Sprague advised the aircraft's visual altitude has not changed, but the new software is compensating for density altitude, which accounts for temperatures and pressures.

Tomasz Oszczypala, Oldsmar resident, stated he was outside when two F-18's took off from PIE and flew over his home. He indicated due to the fly over he experienced severe ear pain, suffers from tinnitus, and has permanent hearing loss. Mr. Sprague noted his complaint and advised he can elevate his complaint to his state elected officials.

Geraldo Rios, Oldsmar resident, referred to a study dated January 13, 2021 published by the FAA regarding the impact of aircraft and helicopter noise causing damage to individuals health. Mr. Sprague again advised that this information be shared with his state elected officials.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:43 p.m.