



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
NOISE CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NCAC)  
100 N. ANDREWS AVENUE  
8<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM  
TUESDAY, JULY 26, 2022 – 1:00 P.M.**

**July 2022 – June 2023**

**Attendance**

Eugenia “Genia” Ellis, Chair	P	1	0
William Brown, Vice-Chair	P	1	0
Ralph Stone	P	1	0
Rocco Ferrara	P	1	0
Steven Hudson	P	1	0
Chad McCoury	P	1	0
Dev Motwani	A	0	1
Miquel Pilgram	P	1	0
Tim Petrillo	P	1	0
Renee Quinn	P	1	0

**Call to Order & Determination of Quorum**

Chair Ellis called the meeting to order at 1:01 P.M.

Roll was called and a quorum was present.

**Staff**

Porshia Williams, Assistant Director, Development Services Department  
Stephanie Bass, Code Compliance Supervisor  
Sarah Hannah-Spurlock, Nighttime Economy Manager  
Anthony Fajardo, Assistant City Manager  
Donna Varisco, Executive Assistant to the City Manager  
Major Victor London, Chief’s Executive Officer, FLPD

**Others**

Douglas Price, Quest Technologies  
Carla Blair, Recording Secretary, Prototype-Inc.

**Approval of the May 24, 2022, Meeting Minutes**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Petrillo, seconded by Mr. McCoury, to approve the May 24, 2022, meeting minutes. In a voice vote, the **motion passed** unanimously (9-0).

**New Business**

- **Selection of Vice-Chair**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Petrillo, seconded by Ms. Quinn, to nominate William Brown as Vice-Chair. In a voice vote, the **motion passed** unanimously (9-0).

- **Discussion on Florida Statute 316.3045 - Operation of Radios or Other Mechanical Sound Making Devices or Instruments from Vehicles and Exemptions – Major Victor London**

Major London provided an update on Florida Statute 316.3045. He reviewed the prior challenges with enforcement, which have been eliminated with the change in statute. He confirmed they would be enforcing the audible portion of the statute at 25 feet or more for amplified sound of all mechanical devices. He reviewed the awareness campaign strategy and noted, to date, they issued 32 warnings, 5 citations, and 46 ancillary tickets.

Mr. Brown asked which tactics can be used for marine patrol.

Major London said the City Attorney could speak more on that issue, but they were conducting research to see what was feasible. He said there was currently no municipal or state ordinance to regulate noise on marine vessels. He noted the Committee could make a recommendation to the City Attorney's Office to explore a municipal ordinance.

Mr. McCoury stated he thought the current noise ordinance included watercraft.

Major London clarified the ordinance covers sound being measured with decimal meter from a particular distance. He noted if it was similar to the State statute that was just reenacted it would be more easily enforced. He said they put marine patrol on notice, and they are conducting good neighbor courtesy checks for now.

Mr. McCoury asked if there was data collected on noise from watercraft.

Ms. Williams replied there was no specific data on waterway enforcement as noise on water does not meet the standard.

Chair Ellis said marine patrol frequents the known areas where watercraft noise occurs.

- **Update on Noise Consultant Selection – Porshia L. Williams**

Ms. Williams stated the noise consultant agenda item is scheduled for the August 16 City Commission meeting and, when approved, would begin work in early September. She noted the vendor partners with Florida Atlantic University and the areas of emphasis are the Downtown Regional Activity Centers and the Special Entertainment Districts. She said they shared with the consultant meeting minutes and discussed concerns about bass, outdoor entertainment, ambient sound levels, sound proofing, agent of change, and prior ordinances. She confirmed the Committee will have direct engagement with the consultant.

- **Presentation - Noise Enforcement Best Practices – Douglas L. Price, Florida Association of Code Enforcement Approved Noise Instructor**

Ms. Williams introduced Douglas Price, Florida Association of Code Enforcement Approved Noise Instructor.

Mr. Price outlined his professional background, including 25 years for a sound equipment manufacturer. He developed a training seminar on how to take valid and defensible noise studies for code enforcement officers and police officers. He summarized his presentation goals (attached). He reviewed the following:

- Noise Characteristics
- Typical Sources of Concern
- Sound Wave Propagation
- Human Response
- Typical Ordinance Content
- EPA 1974 Community Levels
- Origin of the dB System
- Typical Sound Levels
- Mitigating Circumstances
- Major Irritants

Mr. Price continued by reviewing:

- Frequency (Hz)
- Frequency Response and Weighting
- Classification of Sound Level Meters
- Sound Level Meters
- Response Time: Slow/Fast
- Measurement Locations
- Ordinance Inclusions
- Mitigation
- Officer Concerns
- Adjusting for the Effects of Background Noise
- Fort Lauderdale Ordinance

A discussion ensued about decibel conversions, LEQ table, noise meters, plainly audible, and enforcement challenges. Mr. Price noted a sound level meter can be an effective backup or support.

- **Trends – Noise Enforcement Cameras**

Chair Ellis referenced the Miami Herald article provided by member, Chad McCoury, and noted it was great information.

**Public Comments**

No one came forth to speak.

**Next Scheduled Meeting Date**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, at 1:00 P.M.

**Adjournment**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Stone, seconded by Mr. Pilgram to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 P.M.

[Minutes prepared by TBaclawski, Prototype-Inc.]