

**VAN NUYS AIRPORT CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Tuesday, November 7, 2017**

A meeting of the Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Elliot Sanders. Members present: Elliot Sanders, David Rankell, Jason Price, John Parker, Kathy Delle Donne, Ron Merkin, Mel Roberts, Gerald Silver, Wayne Williams, Roger Oeland, Laurence Rabe, Cindy Goodfellow, Harold Lee, Wendy Saunders

Absent: Craig Welzbacher

The Council vacancies as of November 7, 2017 are as follows: Two appointments from Councilmember Monica Rodriguez Council District 7; one member from Councilmember Bob Blumenfield Council District 3.

The minutes from the October 3, 2017 meeting were approved with one opposition.

**1.) STAFF REPORTS**

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to the VNY statistics: she reported 19,258 aircraft operations in September 2017 and this represents a 4.73% decrease in operations compared to September 2016. Year-to-date operations are up 3.28% as compared to 2016.

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to the airport's tracking of early turns since the FAA SOP went into effect in August 2017. Ms. Margheritis reported a steady decline in early turns.

Ms. Margheritis reported on the Van Nuys Airport (VNY) hurricane relief effort and indicated over 8,000 items were collected. Ms. Margheritis indicated VNY partnered with the tenants of the airport, including subtenant Pegasus Aviation who donated a Gulfstream aircraft so the items could be transported from VNY to the East coast.

Ms. Margheritis reminded the council about the upcoming CAC Holiday Party taking place at the Airtel Plaza Hotel on December 7, 2017.

Lt. Lau addressed the council on security at the airport and reported no significant incidents since the last CAC meeting in October.

Ms. Debbie Bowers with the LAWA Commercial Development Group (CDG) addressed the council as it relates to the LA County Fire Department's desire to consolidate their air operations and obtain a long-term lease with the Van Nuys Airport. Ms. Bowers stated they hope to present this to the BOAC in January 2018.

Mr. Sanders indicated Ms. Bowers' presentation was not on tonight's agenda and therefore council would not be able to take any action on it, but it could be added to January's agenda.

Mr. Sanders addressed the council as it relates to the issue of recording the meeting minutes. Mr. Sanders indicated both City Council and the BOAC do nothing more than the VNY CAC is doing now. Mr. Sanders indicated the general consensus of the City Attorney is that what the VNY CAC is doing is fine.

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council on the issue of the meeting minutes and indicated the recordings are made available to the public and may be accessed at the VNY Administrative office. Ms. Margheritis also indicated the minutes will not be taken verbatim.

**A. BOAC Agenda Items Concerning VNY – Discussion/Action**

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to the October 5, 2017 for which there were no items pertaining to VNY; the October 19, 2017 BOAC meeting was cancelled; there was one item pertaining to VNY at the November 2, 2017 meeting. The next meeting will take place November 16, 2017. Ms. Margheritis indicated there may be BOAC meeting held at VNY sometime after the first of the year, but she does not know of an exact date.

The council unanimously decided to schedule the next CAC meeting for January 9, 2018.

**2.) REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

Mr. Sanders addressed the council as it relates to the ad hoc committees and the upcoming changes to be discussed at a later date.

**A. Working Group Reports – Discussion/Action  
Membership – John Parker, Chairperson**

Mr. Parker addressed the council as it relates to the two vacancies to be filled under Council District 7.

Mr. Sanders addressed the committee as to Mr. Khorsand’s resignation from the VNY CAC and indicated this is his last meeting.

**Outreach & Communications – Ron Merkin, Chairperson**

Nothing to report.

**VNY Noise Issues – Gerald Silver, Chairperson**

Mr. Silver addressed the council as it relates to airport noise and neighborhood complaints.

**VNY Helicopter Issues – Wayne Williams, Chairperson**

Nothing to report.

**Social Media Outreach – Vahid Khorsand, Chairperson**

Nothing to report.

Mr. Sanders requested that Jason Price take the seat as Chairperson for Social Media Outreach.

**Environmental Issues – Craig Welzbacher, Chairperson**

Mr. Welzbacher is absent.

**3.) PUBLIC COMMENT – NON-AGENDA ITEMS - Discussion**

Ms. Brad Schreiber, member of the public, addressed the council as it relates to aircraft noise in Studio City.

Ms. Suzanne Hedges, member of the public, addressed the council on airport noise and particularly the smell in her Van Nuys area residence.

Mr. Claude Birch, member of the public, addressed the council on airport noise and fumes.

Ms. Kim Turner, member of the public, addressed the council on the possibility of varying flight patterns.

#### **4.) NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A. Gate Access Fees for Trash Collection at Van Nuys Airport – Discussion/Action**

Ms. Goodfellow addressed the council as it relates to solid waste disposal at the airport (Attached)

Mr. Rankell introduced a motion as follows:

**“Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council opposes any trash collection gate access fees for opening or closing any gates on airport leaseholds. The security of Van Nuys Airport is paramount and the charging of access fees for gates on airport property is unreasonable. If trash collection companies are unable to waive gate access fees, then Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation should investigate direct collection at rates comparable to former rates.”**

The motion passed with 8 in favor; four against; and three abstentions.

#### **5.) OLD BUSINESS**

No items were discussed.

#### **6.) EMERGENCY ITEMS SINCE POSTING OF AGENDA – Discussion/Action**

No items were discussed.

#### **7.) ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS’ COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Sanders thanked Mr. Khorsand and wished him luck in his new endeavor.

Mr. Khorsand thanked Mr. Sanders as well as the council for the last three and a half years. Mr. Khorsand spoke on behalf of Ms. Diana Sanchez, VNY PR Director, and indicated she is participating in the Valley Presbyterian Hospital’s Women in Philanthropy event next Wednesday, November 15, 2017, where she will be one of their models in their fashion show and invited council members to attend. Mr. Khorsand asked members who are interested to email him.

Mr. Oeland requested agenda at the next CAC meeting the issue of helicopter noise reduction.

Mr. Silver requested that council look up the U.S. Supreme Court’s New York vs. Sullivan.

Ms. Sanders wished Mr. Khorsand well. Ms. Sanders also offered her help in finding ways to modify the minutes.

Ms. Rabe wished Mr. Khorsand well.

Mr. Williams wished Mr. Khorsand well.

Ms. Del Donne wished Mr. Khorsand well.

Ms. Goodfellow wished Mr. Khorsand well. Ms. Goodfellow also indicated the hurricane relief effort was remarkable. Ms. Goodfellow also thanked Mr. Rankell for his help with tonight’s motion.

Mr. Parker wished Mr. Khorsand well.

Mr. Rankell wished Mr. Khorsand well. Mr. Rankell also indicated the council is advisory only and they can work with the airport and other elected officials on ways in which the public can voice their opinions and complaints.

Mr. Merkin congratulated Mr. Khorsand. Mr. Merkin addressed the council as it relates to neighborhood complaints and the CAC's role as advisors. Mr. Merkin spoke on the FAA and protection of the airport in regards to the waste management issue. Mr. Merkin expressed his desire to keep the issue of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) in the forefront.

Mr. Sullivan wished Mr. Khorsand well.

Mr. Price wished Mr. Khorsand well.

Mr. Roberts wished Mr. Khorsand well.

**8) ADJOURNMENT:**

9:04 p.m.