

Air Pollution Control Commission – Minutes
Tuesday February 9, 2016, 6:00 P.M.
Juanita Helms Administration Center
Assembly Chambers

APCC Commissioners Present

Kathleen Hook – Chair
Mark Sherman – Vice Chair
Larry Duffy
Mike Pollen

APCC Commissioners Absent

Thomas Douglas
Kent Severns
Gwen Holdmann

Others present

Mayor Kassel

FNSB Transportation Department / Air Quality

Glenn Miller
Ron Lovell
Todd Thompson

6:00 pm Meeting Called To Order

INTRODUCTION

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Chair, Kathleen Hook, and the Commission was introduced.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approved meeting minutes from November 17, no changes.

MESSAGES FROM THE BOROUGH MAYOR

Mayor Kassel – Gave an update on the first citation issued for an air quality violation, tried to avoid issuing it, but after dealing with this individual for 3 months it was necessary.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Patrice Lee – Resident of the Borough, speaks about the progress of the AQ comprehensive plan, would like to see the final result soon. Says it feels like progress is being made.

Jeanne Olson - Resident of the Borough, of all of the voluntary commissions in the Borough, believes that the APCC is the most important commission the Borough has, because of health and safety and economics. Encourages the commission to meet more often, monthly.

Nancy Kuhn – Resident of the Borough, speaks about how her smoke and her neighbors smoke rolls downhill from where she lives, and contributes to the pollution in North Pole, wants to know how where she lives is not included in the Non-Attainment area. Would like to see a more proactive education of military families, they don't know about our bad air.

NEW BUSINESS

-Air Quality Program update:

Ron Lovell: Update on the new marketing program contract and current advertising efforts. Details on education outreach efforts through attending events throughout the year. Update on social media outreach and air quality advisory efforts. Wood stove change out details and stats: 1,719 SFBA's replaced; 53 Hydronic Heaters replaced; 108 Fireplaces replaced; 203 SFBA's removed without replacement; 75 Outdoor Hydronic Heaters removed without replacement; 16 Indoor Hydronic Heaters removed without replacement; 71 EPA repairs/catalysts. Monitoring site details. Complaint response details.

-Presentation from the Citizens Monitoring Program, presented by Patrice Lee:

Patrice Lee – Citizens Scientist Monitoring is made up of groups from local citizens around the community, and are connected with Met One, and have been working with them and their equipment to measure PM2.5 around Fairbanks. Primary goal is to provide data for the public for health and safety. Handed out some graphs to show collected data points from different sites.

Jeanne Olson – Speaks to the use of their monitors, affordable options for measuring PM2.5, and its technology.

Some feedback and discussion among commissioners and Patrice and Jeanne.

-Discussion of PM2.5 Non-Attainment area separation:

Commissioner Hook refers to ADEC document to EPA for request for splitting of the FNSB non-attainment area. Commissioner Hook states that she feels she should remove herself from any kind of voting decision on this topic because of where she works and how the impact of splitting the non-attainment area could affect her business. Commissioner Duffy suggests that they table the item until the next meeting to allow for more commissioners to be able to weigh in on it.

Public Comment:

Jeanne Olson – Resident of the Borough, speaks to the splitting of the FNSB non-attainment area. Understands the reasoning behind the why of this separation, but feels that North Pole and Fairbanks are not all that different in air quality, North Pole is worse, but Fairbanks is not all that clean.

Patrice Lee – Resident of the Borough, speaks to the splitting of the non-attainment area.

Commissioner Duffy make a motion to table the recommendations for this item till a later meeting. Commissioner Pollen seconds. All in favor, all vote aye, item is tabled.

-Discussion of APCC RESOLUTION NO. 2016-10:

Commissioner Hook gives background work and review of APCC Resolution 2016-10. Resolution focuses on solid fuel burning Hydronic Heaters. Studies done by CCHRC showing they are high emitters. Also the City of Fairbanks adopted ordinance that no new hydronic heaters could be installed in the City of Fairbanks. Other contributing factors helped write this resolution for regulating hydronic heaters. Comm Hook said this resolution encourages the Mayor and the Assembly to take additional action on hydronic heaters.

Public Comment:

Steve Vincent – Resident of the Borough, speaks to the resolution, opposes any resolution that furthers government intrusion beyond what is in place.

Nicolas Geiger – Resident of the Borough, would like to know what the emissions are from Superior Pellets when they are making pellets, or if their emissions have been looked at.

Jeanne Olson – Resident of the Borough, not fond of more regulations, speaks to issues concerning hydronic heaters. Some discussion with commissioners about issue.

Patrice Lee – Resident of the Borough, speaks about hydronic heaters, has studied and given testimony in DC about them.

Nancy Kuhn – Resident of the Borough, if everyone in this community lived by the golden rule, we would not need to have this resolution.

-Commission recommendations for resolution APCC Resolution 2016-01:

Commissioner Hook called for a vote on resolution with amendments, all commissioners voted aye, unanimous. **See last page of minutes for final resolution.**

-Continued discussion and development of: -- Draft FNSB Air Quality Comprehensive Plan – “Framework for Healthy Air, People, and Economy”.

Commissioner Hook explains that the document is at FNSB Legal for review. Commissioner Sherman will reorganize the order of the document for better flow. Will review at next meeting and make recommendations.

Public Comment:

None.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Duffy – Appreciates that air quality topics are in the newspaper, before the assembly, and hopes that the work on this framework helps keep it in the public eye..

Commissioner Hook – Feels that the commission has worked hard over the last 6 months, and that this meeting feels like it has been one of the best, with the diverse agenda, public comment, and is the kind of commission meeting she likes to see. Appreciates all the commissioners.

Commissioner Sherman – Says has been on this commission for a few years now, has learned more than thought possible about air quality, and very grateful from what he has taken away. Appreciates the AQ staff and the Mayor for being there. Can’t say enough for his fellow commissioners and their time and effort put into this. “It is with

great regret that I am going to have to resign from the commission due to family and business.” If time permits, maybe in the future, consider being a part of this again. Thanks for the opportunity to serve!

Commissioner Pollen – Very proud of this commission and what we did tonight. And thanks Kathleen for bringing the resolution forward, and hopes the Assembly adopts it. I will miss you Mark, we will all miss you.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

With my signature, I certify the accuracy and completeness of the minutes above.

DATE: _____

Commissioner Hook, Chair, FNSB Air Pollution Control Commission

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL COMMISSION

APCC RESOLUTION NO. 2016-01

A RESOLUTION FROM THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH AIR POLLUTION CONTROL COMMISSION (APCC) REGARDING THE INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF HYDRONIC HEATERS, (DEFINED IN FNSBC 8.21.010) IN THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH

WHEREAS, a portion of the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) was designated in December 2009 as noncompliant with the Clean Air Act as a result of PM2.5 air pollution problem.

WHEREAS, if we are to protect FNSB health and economy it is vitally important that we reduce air pollution in our community.

WHEREAS, the FNSB has instituted a number of PM2.5 control measures which include wood stove change out program, phased burn restrictions, and a split, stack, store and save campaign.

WHEREAS, FNSB air quality monitors this winter season are still collecting data above the National Air Quality standard of 35 µg/m³.

WHEREAS, it is expected the FNSB will be designated a serious non attainment area in June 2016 that will place additional economic impact on the FNSB community.

WHEREAS, the FNSB has limited resources to address this issue.

WHEREAS, a preponderance of the available data indicates that hydronic heaters emit a disproportionate amount of the total tons of PM2.5 per year produced from solid fuel burning appliances. And improperly designed and operated hydronic heaters increase emissions to an even greater amount.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Air Pollution Control Commission encourages the Mayor and Assembly to take additional action regarding hydronic heaters Borough wide. Consider but not limited to the following actions; future installation of hydronic heaters are not allowed in the FNSB. Borough inventory by what ever means possible the current location of hydronic heaters located in the Fairbanks North Star Borough, and to continue incentives to replace hydronic heaters with emphasis in the non attainment area.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS __ DAY OF _____, 2016.

Kathleen Hook
APCC Chair