

**DC METROPLEX BWI COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE WORKING GROUP PUBLIC MEETING**

Special meeting of the DC Metroplex BWI Community Roundtable Working Group

Tuesday, April 27, 2021, 7:00 – 8:09 PM

Meeting held virtually via GoToWebinar

**MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR PARTICIPANTS**

<b>Roundtable Member</b>	<b>District/Organization</b>	<b>Attended</b>	<b>Roundtable Member</b>	<b>District/Organization</b>	<b>Attended</b>
Mary Reese, Chair*	District 30	✓	Marcus Parker, Sr	Alternate for Dan Klosterman, District 32	
Debra Jung, Vice Chair*	Howard County Council, District 4	✓	Austin Holley*	District 33	✓
Allison Pickard*	Anne Arundel County Council, District 2		Nancy Higgs*	District 33	✓
Ellen Moss	Alternate for Allison Pickard, District 2		Brent Girard	Office of Senator Chris Van Hollen	
Debra Macdonald*	District 9	✓	Adam Spangler	Office of Congressman Anthony G. Brown	✓
Jesse Chancellor*	District 9	✓	Ramond Robinson*	Office of Anne Arundel County Executive Steuart Pittman	✓
Howard Johnson*	District 12	✓	Laila Jones	Office of Anne Arundel County Executive Steuart Pittman	
Drew Roth*	District 12	✓	Kimberly Pruiem*	Office of Howard County Executive Calvin Ball	
George Lowe*	District 13	✓	Mandy Rimmell*	Office of Baltimore County Executive Johnny Olszewski	✓
Scott Philips*	District 13	✓	Paul Shank, Chief Engineer	MDOT MAA	
Paul Verchinski	Alternate for George Lowe and Scott Phillips, District 13		Darline Terrell-Tyson, Director, Office of Environmental Compliance and Sustainability	MDOT MAA	✓
Evan Reese*	District 30	✓	Greg Voos	Mid Atlantic Regional Representative, NBAA	
Al Donaldson*	District 32	✓	Kyle Evans	General Aviation Representative, CP Management LLC	✓
Richard Campbell	Alternate for Al Donaldson, District 32		David Richardson	Southwest Airlines	
Daniel Woomeer*	District 32	✓	Reginald Davis	FAA Community Engagement Officer, Eastern Service Center, Operations Support Group (AJV-E25)	
Dan Klosterman*	District 32	✓	Steve Alterman	President, Air Cargo Association	

\*Voting members

## ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS

### Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA)

Bruce Rineer, Manager Noise Section

Karen Harrell, Noise Section

Kevin Clarke, Director of Planning and Environmental Services

### Contractor Support

Royce Bassarab, HNTB

Malcolm Mossman, Assedo

Tim Cooke, Assedo

Alverna "A.J." Durham, Jr., Straughan Environmental, Inc.

## MEETING MATERIALS

Participants received the following materials in advance:

- March Meeting Minutes (V4\_DRAFT\_20210309\_Roundtable\_Minutes)

Presentations at the meeting:

- None

## **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

### Introduction and Roll Call of Attendees

Mr. Bruce Rineer began the meeting at 7:02pm by welcoming everyone in attendance. Mr. Rineer then went over the Virtual Public Workshop slide. He let everyone know that the meeting would be recorded, and it would operate as closely to an in-person meeting as possible. Mr. Rineer stated there would be public comments at the end of the meeting. He asked Roundtable Members to self-mute and remain muted unless speaking and asked attendees to use the question/chat box or the "raised hand" feature to ask questions. Participants should notify organizers if experiencing technical issues by using the question box and/or logging off and logging back in. Finally, Mr. Rineer recommended having only one web browser open during the meeting and close other programs if possible.

Ms. Mary Reese, the Roundtable Chair, introduced herself and that she represented District 30. She announced that there would be a short agenda for the meeting with a goal to be done in an hour. Ms. Reese conducted roll call by announcing Roundtable member's names to ensure that a quorum was present for voting and asked that members answer present, state they were a voting member, and anything else they felt they needed to add.

Ms. Reese stated that she had not received notification from the Anne Arundel County Council on a permanent representative on the Roundtable. Councilwoman Pickard represented the Anne Arundel County Council at the previous Roundtable meeting but was not in attendance for this meeting. Ms. Reese is considering the seat unfilled. Ms. Reese introduced Ms. Mandy Remmell, a new Roundtable member representing the Office of the Baltimore County Executive, and Mr. Scott Philips, a newly appointed Roundtable member representing Howard County District 13. Ms. Deb Jung welcomed Mr.

Phillips and explained that he has sent her excellent emails with great research and believes he will be a great addition to the Roundtable.

Ms. Reese asked if anyone was opposed to the current agenda or if there were additions to the agenda. With no response, Ms. Reese considered the agenda approved.

## **2. VOTE TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup> MEETING MINUTES**

Ms. Reese moved on to the approval of the Meeting Minutes from March 9<sup>th</sup>. No comments or edits were requested. The March 9<sup>th</sup> Minutes were approved.

## **3. ANNUAL ELECTIONS**

Ms. Reese stated that 16 out of the 18 voting members of the Roundtable were present, well over the simple majority needed for a quorum. She announced that Ms. Debbie MacDonald and Mr. Austin Holley had volunteered to run as a slate for Chair and Vice Chair. Ms. Reese announced that, to keep it simple, she would call for a vote for the slate of Ms. MacDonald and Mr. Holley. She explained that members could run as a singleton; however, someone would have to be willing to serve as their Chair/Vice Chair. Ms. Higgs commented that in the previous election voting for a slate was not the practice and wanted to know why the change. Mr. Evan Reese replied that the first three elections were held in the manner of slates but agreed that the last election was not. Mr. Roth suggested that the decision on how to run the election should come from the Charter. Mr. Reese stated that nothing in the Charter relates to the subject. Mr. Roth countered that the Charter describes what is needed for a quorum, and it does not mention voting on slates. Ms. Higgs stated that she recalled being in attendance when Ms. Reese and Mr. Roth were elected, and she reviewed meeting minutes for meetings where elections were held and there was no mention of slates.

Ms. Reese explained that she was trying to keep the vote simple. She replied, to Mr. Roth's prior point, that the Charter did not speak to either method of voting, for slates or individuals. Ms. Reese stated that she was concerned and intends to prevent the scenario where someone is elected Chair but cannot find a Vice Chair to serve with them. Ms. Higgs noted that such a situation is hypothetical until it occurs. Ms. Reese stated that someone could volunteer to be Chair, but the volunteer would need someone willing to support them by running for Vice Chair if they were elected.

Mr. Jesse Chancellor suggested another alternative, nominations brought forth from the floor. Ms. Reese agreed, and stated nominations were welcome. Ms. Reese explained that she was trying to figure out how to hold a vote without knowing if candidates would support both parties or not (those elected to serve with them). Mr. Roth stated that we just leave it to the Roundtable to vote and suggested holding a vote on the Chair and Vice Chair individually. Ms. Reese stated she was fine with voting for Chair and Vice Chair individually, and that her concerns were based on feedback she received leading up to the night's elections. She asked if anyone had any concerns voting for Chair and Vice Chair separately and received no response.

Ms. Reese asked if there was anyone in addition to Ms. MacDonald who wanted to volunteer for Chair. Ms. Higgs stated that she would.

Ms. Reese asked if anyone in addition to Mr. Austin Holley who wanted to volunteer for Vice Chair. Mr. George Lowe was nominated by Ms. Higgs and accepted.

Ms. Reese asked that each of the candidates for Chair to give a few words about themselves and their thoughts or plans on being Chair. Ms. Higgs went first and stated that she sent out an email to all the voting members previously. She said that she is a hard worker, with high energy and the time and means to attend symposiums and/or other Roundtable meetings that may involve travel. One of the things that she wants to do is have an agenda put out to the Roundtable well in advance of the meetings and will ask for input from members. She believes all the Committees should be on every agenda and give an update of their work. As an example, she stated that the FAA's Performance-Based Navigation (PBN) Working Group had met in the previous week, and there was not an agenda item on the night's meeting to let Roundtable members know what happened. Mr. Reese replied that the Technical Committee could not give a detailed report on the PBN meeting that occurred at this time. The Roundtable was not invited to attend the PBN Group meeting, and that he was working to get a copy of the meeting minutes. Ms. Higgs continued that she had 30+ years in the IT field running major projects for major corporations and non-profits, most recently the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and has implemented financial and operational systems and managed teams of 100 people. She stated that every project she managed came in on time and on budget and she believes she is a good leader. Ms. Reese thanked Ms. Higgs.

Next, Ms. MacDonald addressed the Roundtable. She stated that she had been a member of the Roundtable since 2019 and prior to joining she served as the Outreach Coordinator for Maryland State Senator Katie Fry Hester's campaign. Ms. MacDonald is a retired IT consultant who ran a business for a variety of industries from pharmaceutical, government, banking, and non-governmental organizations. Previous experiences with different organizations showed her how things work and how things do not work. She has held executive positions, including President and Vice President, in a user group for a software product. The group was set up similar to the Roundtable with an industry interacting with its customers, negotiating with them on technical points. Running that group, she found that her technical knowledge was useful, but she had to use her organizational skills to take the logistical burden off the technical people.

Ms. MacDonald shared that she was involved in writing the bylaws of the user group and would like to dig into the Roundtable's Charter and flesh out some of the things that have caused some consternation for the group. She believes that bylaws should make our lives easier, not cause problems. Ms. MacDonald has been getting more involved with the Roundtable over the last year and has so much respect for the history of the Roundtable; she stated that it has done a fantastic job. She noted that the technical and legislative knowledge is so deep on the Roundtable and her role would be to handle the logistics of running meetings, facilitating communications, and building up the strength of the committees. She highlighted the Communications Committee as a focus, stating that the Roundtable needs a bigger, clearer voice and that many constituents do not know the Roundtable exists.

Her educational background includes an advanced degree in Environmental Biology. She is very interested in noise pollution, air pollution, and impacts that effect human health and wildlife health, although wildlife has not been a topic of the Roundtable. As Chair, she would continue to facilitate the work of the Roundtable as it is but would like to push forward and expand the working relationships that are getting so much done. As an IT person, she admires how the Roundtable was able to establish a process with its approach to working with the FAA PBN Working Group and how the Roundtable developed solutions for the FAA to address. She closed with saying that as Chair, she would like to help the group continue the work that they do so well. Ms. Reese thanked Ms. MacDonald and believed her words of thanks are well received by the Roundtable members, especially those in the Technical Committee, who have worked so hard to make the Roundtable the group what they are today.

Ms. Reese began the vote for Chair. She called each voting member's name and each member replied with the name of the person they were voting for.

**Ms. Debbie MacDonald** – Mr. Al Donaldson, Mr. Dan Woomer, Mr. Drew Roth, Mr. Scott Philips, Mr. Austin Holley, Ms. Debbie MacDonald, Mr. Jesse Chancellor, Mr. Evan Reese, Ms. Deb Jung, Ms. Mary Reese (10)

**Ms. Nancy Higgs** – Mr. Dan Klosterman, Mr. Howard Johnson, Mr. George Lowe, Ms. Nancy Higgs, Mr. Ramond Robinson (5)

Ms. Mandy Rimmel could not unmuted or heard when called and therefore was marked as abstaining.

Ms. MacDonald received 10 votes and Ms. Higgs received 5 votes. Ms. MacDonald was elected Chair.

Ms. Higgs congratulated Ms. MacDonald, and Mr. Klosterman congratulated Ms. MacDonald, stating that the Roundtable was lucky to have two qualified women running for the Chair position.

Ms. Reese moved on to the vote for Vice Chair. She announced that the candidates were Mr. Austin Holley and Mr. George Lowe. Ms. Higgs stated that she would like to run for Vice Chair. Ms. Reese asked if anyone else would like to run for Vice Chair and received no response.

Ms. Reese began the vote for Vice Chair.

**Mr. Austin Holley** – Mr. Al Donaldson, Mr. Dan Woomer, Mr. Drew Roth, Mr. Scott Philips, Mr. Austin Holley

**Mr. George Lowe** – Mr. Howard Johnson

**Ms. Nancy Higgs** – Mr. Dan Klosterman, Mr. Dan Woomer, Mr. George Lowe

Ms. Reese realized that she had not given the candidates for Vice Chair a chance to speak. She apologized for the oversight, stopped the voting, and allowed each to say a few words.

Mr. Holley stated that he has been on the Roundtable for five years, is a member of the Technical Committee, and has been involved with all aspects of how the harms of NextGen has impacted Anne Arundel County. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Shipley's Choice HOA and is on the Board of Directors for the Greater Severna Park Council. He stated that he is attuned to the local

neighborhoods and the harm they are suffering and attuned to local politics through the Greater Severna Park Council and Anne Arundel County Council. He believes his connections through these groups could help the Roundtable. Mr. Holley stated that his platform would be the Charter of the Roundtable, to support the Chair, and to support the ventures the Roundtable votes to pursue. Mr. Holley was part of the team that created the Roundtable Charter in 2017 and believes the Roundtable Charter, which focuses on reversion to pre-NextGen, is good and the Roundtable needs to stay within its four corners as best we can because that is how the Roundtable can be most powerful, effective, and focused. He has the means to travel and attend outside meetings and symposiums but feels the Roundtable needs to stay focused on what our instructions are, and those instructions were given by the Roundtable itself four years ago. He ensured that he would faithfully follow those instructions. Ms. Reese thanked Mr. Holley for his comments. She also announced that she would start the vote over again after each candidate spoke.

Ms. Reese opened the floor to Mr. Lowe. Mr. Lowe stated that he was retired with 40 years of work experience with the Federal government, mostly with the Social Security Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services. He was in the senior executive service and managed both small and large projects that impacted large portions of the population. He has been a member of the Roundtable for two and a half years and acknowledged that during the last year the Roundtable was unable to meet or accomplish very much. If elected, Mr. Lowe will give the Roundtable all of his energy, and if not, he would be happy to support all of the candidates that are elected. Ms. Reese thanked Mr. Lowe for his comments.

Ms. Reese asked Ms. Higgs if she would like to speak again. Ms. Higgs stated that she agrees with the things the other two candidates said, and she strongly supports the Charter. She lives under a bombardment of planes every day, her community is upset and screaming, and she wants to help. She supports what the Technical Committee is doing and thinks they have done a great job in coming up with solutions and getting FAA to sit at the table and listen.

Ms. Reese restarted the voting for Vice Chair:

**Mr. Austin Holley** – Mr. Al Donaldson, Mr. Dan Woomeer, Mr. Drew Roth, Mr. Scott Philips, Mr. Austin Holley, Ms. Debbie MacDonald, Mr. Jesse Chancellor, Mr. Evan Reese, Mr. Ramond Robinson, Ms. Deb Jung, Ms. Mary Reese (11)

**Mr. George Lowe** – Mr. Howard Johnson (1)

**Ms. Nancy Higgs** – Mr. Dan Klosterman, Mr. George Lowe, Ms. Nancy Higgs (3)

Ms. Mandy Rimmel abstained.

Mr. Holley received 11 votes, Ms. Higgs received 3 votes, and Mr. Lowe received 1 vote.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Holley was elected Vice Chair.

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<sup>1</sup> Note: Ms. Reese stated that the final vote tallies were Austin Holley (12), George Lowe (2), Ms. Nancy Higgs (1)

Mr. Holley thanked those who voted for him and stated that he looked forward to working with everyone on the Roundtable and continuing the good work. Ms. Higgs congratulated Mr. Holley.

### Roundtable Committees

Following the election, Ms. Reese moved on to the Roundtable Committees. She explained that the Committees were formed about a year after the start of the Roundtable and were not in the original Charter. After their formation, each Committee wrote their own Charter, which was approved by the Roundtable. The Committees have been somewhat defunct, with the exception of the Technical Committee, and the membership of the Committees is unclear. She stated that the Technical Committee is full and functioning. She explained that historically, Committee Chairs were chosen from within the Committees, and unless anyone had a problem with that, she feels it is a suitable way to move forward, provided there are enough volunteers for each Committee.

Ms. Reese stated that Mr. Lowe volunteered for the Communications Committee. She asked if there were any additional volunteers. Ms. Higgs volunteered. Mr. Philips asked if Ms. Reese could go through and list all the Committees. Ms. Reese explained that there were three Committees: Communications, Legislative, and Technical. She stated that she could not locate the Charters for the Committees, but it would be a good idea for the Committees to review and possibly edit their Charters and bring them back up for a vote if needed. Ms. Reese stated that the Communications Committee needs to work on the Roundtable's outreach. She identified representatives of the County Executives, County Council Offices, and community associations of potential outreach targets.

Ms. Reese described the work of the Legislative Committee including proposing and advocating for new legislation and reviewing current legislation for ways to improve or mitigate the harms of NextGen. Ms. Higgs asked if the Legislative Committee includes both local and federal legislation, and Ms. Reese replied that it does.

Ms. Reese stated that membership to the Committees can be revisited at any time, and she suggested that members of the Roundtable volunteer for at least one Committee during their tenure to share the burden of work. She asked for volunteers for the Legislative Committee which consists of herself and Ms. Deb Jung. Mr. Johnson, who previously served on the Committee, offered to rejoin the Legislative Committee.

Current Committee and Committee Members:

***Communications Committee:***

- Mr. George Lowe
- Ms. Nancy Higgs

***Legislative Committee:***

- Ms. Deb Jung
- Ms. Mary Reese
- Mr. Howard Johnson

***Technical Committee:***

- Mr. Jesse Chancellor
- Mr. Evan Reese
- Mr. Austin Holley
- Mr. Drew Roth

Mr. Reese asked Mr. Philips if he was ready to volunteer for any of the Committees. Mr. Philips was still unsure which committee would be a good fit for him, and Mr. Reese offered to further discuss with Mr. Philips offline. Ms. Reese suggested that it might be a good idea to have another small group meeting on the history of the Roundtable for new members. Ms. Remmel expressed her interest in attending and stated that she has experience in operations and would be willing to help with communications.

Mr. Chancellor was able to locate the current Charters for each of the three Committees and asked Ms. Reese and Ms. MacDonald if he should send the documents to the entire Roundtable or just to the Chair/Vice Chair. Ms. MacDonald explained that she found past Charter documents online. She suggested a review of the available documents to make sure all tasks are covered and roles are defined. She stated that she did not mind if the existing Committee Charters were disseminated to everyone. Mr. Reese stated that the Technical Committee Charter available online was the most recent. Ms. Higgs stated that she had not seen the Charter for the Communications Committee and suggested that all members should be able to review them. Mr. Chancellor agreed to send a copy of the Committee Charters to all members of the Roundtable.

#### Next Meeting Date

Ms. Reese moved on to selecting a date for the next meeting, asking Ms. MacDonald, the new Chair, if a date in May or June worked better. She also reminded everyone that the MAA had offered to present the modeled noise results from the Technical Committee's proposed procedural changes delivered to the PBN Working Group. Mr. Reese revealed that he confirmed with Mr. Paul Shank that MAA is aware and willing to re-brief the Roundtable. Mr. Reese stated that the Technical Committee would not have anything substantial to report from the recent PBN Working Group meeting. He explained that Mr. Gary McMullin from Southwest Airlines was an attendee at the meeting and told him that no progress had been made in reviewing the Technical Committee's proposed procedural changes, but that the process continues to move forward. Mr. Holley asked if the PBN Working Group meeting involved the Technical Committee's proposed procedural changes or if it was held for another purpose. Mr. Reese explained that he believes it was an administrative snafu on the part of the FAA and PBN Working Group. He stated that the PBN Working Group looked at the policies and procedures and how to address them. The PBN Working Group has had a lot of turnover, so they were concerned that our organization provided them a proposal that could create a lot of work for them, but the FAA realized that our proposal includes the TARGETS analysis and is the complete package that they would have generated.

Ms. MacDonald asked if the next meeting would be virtual. Ms. Reese stated that Mr. Shank was going to update the Roundtable when the MAA policy changes regarding in person meetings but so far as she knows, the meetings would stay virtual. Ms. MacDonald suggested June 8<sup>th</sup> or June 15<sup>th</sup>. The consensus was for June 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Mr. Rineer confirmed that it worked for MAA.

#### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Rineer began the public comment period.

Ms. Anne Cowles – Brookville in Montgomery County. Ms. Cowles expressed her desire to help with the Communications Committee although she is not on the Roundtable. Ms. Cowles stated that as the pandemic is letting up, the increase in air traffic has become more prevalent and more stressful for her. She has noticed that airplanes are flying higher after take-off and that they are quieter. She stated that it does not have anything to do with the amount of pollution, but that it seems a little less stressful for her. Ms. Cowles stated that she lives about 20 miles from BWI Marshall Airport and is along the TERPZ westbound NextGen flight path. Ms. Reese thanked Ms. Cowles for her comment and stated that she had asked MAA to provide input on which flight paths are over her area and if they include flights to or from Martin State Airport. She asked Ms. Cowles if she had received any feedback from MAA. Ms. Cowles replied that she had not, and she tried to contact MAA and had not received any response. She sends multiple noise complaints daily through MAA. Ms. Reese stated that they can continue to follow up with MAA to get more specific information on the flights over her home. Ms. Cowles reiterated that she was available to help with communications and believes helping would relieve some of her stress.

Mr. Rineer read a comment from Ms. Kimberly Gust: “What is the status of the lawsuit with the FAA to revert back to pre-NextGen flight patterns and altitudes? The air noise 10+ miles south of BWI is getting worse. The narrow flight paths and low altitude has created havoc over the Arnold/Broadwater area.” Ms. Reese replied that the lawsuits have been unsuccessful. Ms. Jung stated that Howard County filed two different lawsuits, and both were unsuccessful. A third lawsuit has been contemplated. Her understanding is that the State of Maryland’s lawsuit was dropped or is in abeyance, and she does not think anything will be done on it. MAA was not able to provide feedback. Mr. Holley stated that he could look up the status online, but that he does not recall thinking there was much of a chance for it to be successful and stopped thinking about it. Mr. Woomer stated that the last he heard, it was in abeyance and had been for some time and is probably withering away.

Prior to adjourning, Mr. Woomer made a motion for a round of applause for Ms. Reese for her year as Chair. Ms. Reese thanked everyone and exclaimed that it is an awesome group that does a lot with a little and that she was proud to be a part of it.

## **5. ADJOURN**

Mr. Woomer motioned to adjourn. Mr. Reese seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:09.