

Alan Brighish
34 South Pond Road
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568
((203)858-0522
alan@brighish.com
www.brighish.com

January 11, 2023

Select Board
Town of West Tisbury
Town Hall, West Tisbury, MA 02575

Dear Members:

My name is Alan Brighish, I live in Deep Bottom Pond, and am the chairperson of an informal group of West Tisbury residents located throughout the southern end of the airport. On behalf of the ***Vineyard Airport Noise Abatement Association (VANAA)***, I would like to bring to your attention our nine years effort which led to the creation of an airport-commissioned study beginning now with the appointment of an all-island "Action Committee" to work with airport management and their consultants in conducting an FAA Part 150 Noise Study.

The town of West Tisbury is being asked to appoint an individual to represent the town on this Action Committee as part of an upcoming noise study. The first meeting of the Action Committee will take place on January 31.

Starting in 2014, residents of several neighborhoods in West Tisbury began an effort to advocate with several successive airport managers to make greater efforts to be sensitive to the needs of residents living beneath airplanes arriving and leaving the airport. Our requests fell on deaf ears until Geoff Freeman took over as airport director almost three years ago.

Geoff was sympathetic to our requests, we have learned much of the rules and regulations that cover aircraft. One result was a meeting in May 2022 with the FAA, airport management, Cape Air, and our residents who finally heard our complaints. Subsequently, Geoff worked for funding from the FAA and several other sources to implement the noise study which is about to begin.

Our VANAA group has been in direct contact with top management of several of the smaller airlines that fly here. We are making progress in raising awareness and keeping noise levels down over homes south of the airport. But much work remains to be done.

Six members of our group have already been appointed to the Action Committee and we think it important for me to briefly meet with the West Tisbury town representative before the first meeting of the Action Committee to inform him of the historical context as well as our expectations for what this study might achieve. The airport receives, by far, more noise complaints from WT residents than any other town on island, and we should closely coordinate our thoughts about the increasingly intrusive noise arising from airport operations.

I would appreciate your response after your upcoming meeting.

Sincerely,

Alan Brighish