

AIRPORT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 6, 2017 5:30 pm

3/6/2017 - Minutes

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Chuck Clegg, Ryan Michalkiewicz, Charles Keniston, Katherine Rogers - Chair, Barbara Pelisek, Dale Marks, Eric Farewell

Staff: Jennifer Nanek, Assistant to the City Manager; Alex Vacha, Airport Manager

The Chair called the meeting to order. A quorum was present.

2. Approval Of Minutes

The minutes of February 6, 2017 were reviewed. Dale Marks moved that they be approved. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

3. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

4. UPDATE BY CITY STAFF

4.I. Airport Signage On Hwy 60 Presentation - Alex Vacha

Alex Vacha shared a slide show of properties along HWY 60 to the east and west of Airport Road. He discussed options for locations for signs including billboards. Chuck Clegg asked about a bigger sign where the FDOT signs were. The Chair said the matter has been discussed with FDOT previously and that's what we get. Dale Marks recommended putting together some figures regarding leasing property for a sign to include in the budget for next year. Eric Farewell recommended a two-sided sign at the towing company. Alex Vacha said he would investigate the options.

4.II. Runway Project Update - Teresa Allen

Alex Vacha reported that there is a glitch in the financing that should be resolved in April or May and then the project can go forward.

5. Airport Updates - Alex Vacha

Alex Vacha reported that he spoke to the local Kiwanis Club recently and that they hosted the regional planning meeting of CFAASP. A topic of discussion was the growth of the aviation industry in Florida. He also reported on the county's joint airport zoning board.

A whole family has joined the Civil Air Patrol at the last meeting which should help kick start the effort.

Mr. Vacha reported on the ongoing efforts to transition and cleanup the campground including the fence which has been repaired and partially repainted but is stalled due to lack of paint and they are trying to decide if it should be replaced.

A question was asked about those in the campground who have not gotten their paperwork in. Mr. Vacha responded that some residents still have not gotten information in. Each one will go through the process and they will eventually be removed if they don't comply. Those not in compliance are empty right now.

Mr. Vacha reported that he attended a regional Shell Quality Control Seminar and learned a lot. He received certifications in quality control.

Alex reported that he has a camp host who welcomes new campers for a discount on rent. The agreement is in writing. Eric Farewell recommended a new sign for that and offered to make one.

Mr. Vacha reported that the water and sewer project will be complete June 2018 and explained how the septic system was going to work.

Alex said that he is planning to paint the logo on the south side of the building. The Taxiway lines will be painted by Warner students on their volunteer day in April.

Mr. Vacha reported that the FDOT runway pavement inspection will be March 10 which will be a surface inspection. They will be there 7am - 1pm.

New hangars will be constructed this summer. The funding is tied to the runway extension funds. There are 4 60x60 units on the north side of the parking ramp by the fuel system. Barbara Pelisek said she hoped we can keep construction on schedule as previous projects have taken a long time.

Another portion of the terminal building has been turned over to the City from the skydiving center. The area is multi-purpose can be used for meetings and other things.

6. FBO REPORT

Alex Vacha reviewed the FBO report which is attached to these minutes.

Dale Marks recommended budgeting funds to participate in Sun in Fun. Eric Farewell said a presence from Lake Wales would promote the airport.

Barbara Pelisek asked if the hangar tenants were all in compliance. Alex Vacha responded that as of today they are all in compliance.

A question was asked about the status of the jump planes issue. Alex Vacha explained that there has been a lot of transitions over the past year for the Airport and the skydiving operation. He did discuss the matter with them and explained that two of these planes will be relocated to New York. One plane will be in the blocked space and another in the right corner, southwest side. Alex explained that he is fine with this. Eric Farewell suggested that they still must pay for parking there however if staying there overnight as others would. Dale Marks moved that overnight ramp fees be charged to that tenant and be enforced for all aircraft. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Alex Vacha said it shall be done and it will be communicated via letter. Overall its not a lot of money.

Dale Marks asks what property she has leased out there. Alex Vacha said that her lease ends at the patio area and he has a drawing of it.

7. BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

Ryan Michalkiewicz requested a hose bib near the portable bathroom for washing hands. Some hand sanitizers or wipes were suggested, or handwashing station. He reported that the campground host was seen working on his car which was visible to those coming in and recommended extending the fence.

Eric Farewell reported on the upcoming Icarus Race weekend of March 24 and the Sun in Fun event in April where their aerobatic team will perform and they will have a booth. He reported that his business is growing with training centers elsewhere in the country and internationally. More are moving to Lake Wales to be near the business. Mr. Farewell reported on a Youtube TV Series that came and filmed remote control planes recently. An event called FliteFest will happen in November and may draw 5000 people to Lake Wales. They would like to rent the new hangars for their company for their customers who come in overnight. He is still pursuing getting an aerobatic box to use for stunts. They are buying the first airplane for their non-profit flying club and flight school to promote aviation. He conveyed appreciation to the board for working together to promote aviation.

Chuck Clegg asked about the AWOS system which is mal-functioning. Alex Vacha stated that we are in line for it to be repaired as other airports are dealing with this too. He will update the board when it is fixed.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned. Next meeting is April 3, 2017.

ATTEST

Commission Secretary

Chair