

**MINUTES  
REPUBLIC AIRPORT COMMISSION (RAC) MEETING  
FEBRUARY 8, 2022**

The meeting was held virtually via Zoom video and tele-conference and was called to order by Chairman Frank Nocerino at 7:02p.m. Also present were Commission Members Vincent Bologna, Jr., Stella Barbera, Robert Bodenmiller, Joan Flaumenbaum, and Richard Grant.

Chairman Nocerino began the meeting by stating the following:

- NYSDOT is working with Sheltair's current staff about lease issues.
- No new developments on when FAA's review of the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the 5 parcels will be completed.
- New inquiries were received from the public and elected officials about flights with undocumented immigrants coming to Republic Airport. NYSDOT reported there are no records of any such occurrence.
- A draft of tonight's meeting minutes will be posted on the Airport's website within two weeks. If no corrections are needed and the minutes are adopted at the next meeting, the final version will be then be posted.
- The number of Talon flights was requested by Ms. Nancy Cypser at the December meeting. The information will be provided to her and to anyone requesting it.
- In-person RAC meetings will not be allowed to resume until directed by NYSDOT.

**I. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Airport Director Anthony Ceglio announced the Airport will receive \$3.7 million from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act over several years. The Airport will receive \$763,000 this year and is awaiting direction from FAA on how that money can be spent.

**II. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

Joan Flaumenbaum moved to adopt the December 2021 meeting minutes, seconded by Richard Grant. The motion carried unanimously.

**III. CHANGES AND/OR ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

No changes.

**IV. REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS, & OTHER BUSINESS**

**A. REPORTS**

**1. OPERATIONS, AIRCRAFT COMPLAINTS, & FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2021**

Airport Manager John Lauth discussed the following:

- Total operations were up 38% in November and 46% in December. Landings, Touch & Go's, and Passenger numbers all increased over the previous year. Based aircraft inventory was the same for both months at 472.

- Aircraft noise complaints were lower when compared to the same months in 2020. There were 23 complaints filed by 7 households in November, and 19 complaints filed by 9 households in December. Most complaints were for daytime operations and were related to operations on Runway 32. Residents living southeast of the Airport filed the majority of November complaints, while December complaints came mainly from the northwest.
- Financial Reports for November and December 2021 were discussed. November's total revenue exceeded budget projections due to favorable variances for Landing fees, Fuel Flowage fees, and Rental income. Total expenses were lower than budget projections. December's total revenue exceeded budget projections and included Miscellaneous income from two film shoots. December's total expenses were lower than budget projections.

## 2. RECENT / CURRENT EVENTS

Airport Manager Mr. John Lauth reported on the following:

- All-Agency Airshow Preparation Meeting Held 1/27/22:** New York State Parks Department held a meeting with Airport personnel, FAA, and all agencies involved with 2022 Bethpage Air Show.
- Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at Marriott Hotels:** Installation of electric vehicle charging stations for hotel guests will begin at Marriott Courtyard and TownePlace Suites.
- COVID-19 Declining Rates and Ongoing Mask Litigation:** Local positive test rates for COVID-19 continue to decline.
- Film Shoots:** A film shoot for the show "FBI" took place earlier this week.

## B. RESOLUTIONS

### 1. **Resolution with Respect to Cargo Operations at Republic Airport**

- Ms. Barbera asked the Commission to consider amending the draft to specify "air cargo" in the last sentence. Chairman Nocerino called for a show of hands from Commission members. Ms. Barbera voted in favor of amending the Resolution. Mr. Bodenmiller, Mr. Bologna, Ms. Flaumenbaum, and Mr. Grant voted against.
- Mr. Ceglio polled the Commission members for their vote to adopt the Resolution as written. All members voted in favor and the Resolution was adopted unanimously.
- Chairman Nocerino thanked the Commission members and the Airport for their work on the Resolution.

## C. OTHER NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BUSINESS

Airport Director Anthony Ceglio reported the following:

1. **Alpha Taxiway Project:** Meetings were held with Airport tenants and ATC to discuss the project. The bid should be advertised in March 2022 and construction will begin no later than September 2022.
2. **ALP Update:** No new information.
3. **5-Parcel Development Project:** No new developments.
4. **Main Terminal Boiler Replacement Project-** The boilers are 40 years old and in need of replacement. Project design plans will be completed within the next few months and the boilers will be replaced before the next heating season.

V. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Three (3) individuals commented.

Mr. Bodenmiller motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Barbera. The vote carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by:  
**Anthony C. Ceglio on behalf of Executive Secretary**  
**Republic Airport Commission**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
**REPUBLIC AIRPORT COMMISSION**  
**February 8, 2022**

Ms. Jessica Santangelo asked in Zoom Chat if the operations and complaints reports could be included in full as addenda to the meeting minutes, since they are made available to meeting attendees. It would also be helpful to make them available to the general public.

Ms. Nancy Cypser of the Woodland Civic Association posted the following in Zoom Chat:

In light of several ownership changes after the 5 parcel development award was granted, our coalition believes the bid process is null and void and should begin again. The company that was granted the award is not the company that exists today.

- 1) 2/13/17-Empire State Development, on behalf of the NYSDOT, announces the award to Stratosphere Development Co. LLC, an affiliate of Talon Air, INC. Both the names Talon and Stratosphere are used interchangeably throughout the announcement.
- 2).Spring 2018 (approx.) Adam Katz sells Talon to Apollo Jets.
- 3). 8/19/20 - Talon Air, INC. becomes an inactive corporation, per the NYS Department of State. 5 Talon LLCs remain active.
- 4). 2021 - Apollo Jets is acquired by Vista Global Holding, a Dubai based company, which means Talon is foreign owned and possibly may not qualify for ESD tax abatements.
- 5). Our coalition will be writing a letter to the NYS DOT and ESD, and we would like to know the Republic Airport Commission position on this. We are informing you about our letter.

Chairman Nocerino replied that this is a legal question and will not be answered by the Commission. He asked Mr. Ceglie if he would look into these questions.

Ms. Nancy Schliwka asked in Zoom Chat what procedure does a tenant go through to become an FBO, and does the purchase of an existing FBO automatically qualify the new owner as an FBO? Would it ever be possible for a company not airline related to purchase an existing FBO? Chairman Nocerino responded that this was also a legal question and cannot be answered by the Commission. He asked Mr. Ceglie to look into this question.

Ms. Cypser requested in Zoom Chat that her entire question be read into the minutes, and if the RAC committee doesn't have answers, she asked Mr. Ceglie or Mr. Lauth to answer because they manage the airport. Chairman Nocerino replied that all questions from the public and from Commission members are already part of the meeting minutes. He said that her questions would be reviewed by airport staff.

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