

MINUTES
REPUBLIC AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING
DECEMBER 2, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Nocerino at 7:02 p.m. Also present were Republic Airport Commission Members Stella Barbera, Robert Bodenmiller and Richard Grant Joan Flaumenbaum and Vincent Bologna, Jr.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Nocerino announced that last month, he was called by Governor Cuomo's office to attend a press conference at Vaughn College near LaGuardia Airport. Airport Director, Michael Geiger was also called to attend. Vice President Joe Biden, along with many heads of transportation were present, including NYSDOT and the Port Authority. The revitalization of four (4) New York Airports; JFK, LaGuardia, Stewart and Republic Airport was discussed. The Governor announced that all cargo would be relocated to Stewart to alleviate congestion at JFK. JFK and LaGuardia would be improved to include hotels, conference halls and other amenities including the possibility of ferries from Connecticut to LaGuardia. The Governor stated that Republic would be a tax free zone, that there is over 100 acres available for development at Republic Airport and an RFI would be issued for a search for new airport operator within 30 days.. That Request for Information (RFI) was released yesterday for public inquiry. That's all the Airport and this Commission know at this time. Any further information is available on the Governor's website.

Ms. Helen Norjen inquired how this would be possible without a change in legislation and if the RFI is available for review. Commissioner Nocerino responded that the meeting was surprise to him and he will contact Ron Epstein, Senator Michael Venditto and anyone else he can to discuss the issue further.

II. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

The October 2014 meeting minutes were adopted.

III. CHANGES AND/OR ADOPTION OF AGENDA

No changes and/or adoption of the agenda were made.

IV. REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS, & OTHER BUSINESS

A. REPORTS

1. OPERATIONS, AIRCRAFT COMPLAINT & FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2014

The Operations and Noise Complaint Reports for September and October 2014 were discussed by Ms. Shelley LaRose-Arken, Airport Manager. In the month of September, the FAA recorded 18,090 total operations, a decrease from the previous year. The Airport Operations Department reported 3,966 landings, a decrease in all categories except for helicopter landings. Touch and go operations reported were 823 a decrease of 276 from the previous year. Passenger counts for Atlantic City were higher than last year. Based aircraft reported was 505.

In October 2014, the FAA recorded 18,732 total operations. The Airport Operations Department reported a total of 3,787 landings, a decrease in all categories except turboprop and jet operations. Total Touch and Go operations reported were 879, a decrease from last year. Atlantic City passenger count decreased in October and the total based aircraft were updated and verified. Based aircraft were 488. The change was as a result in an inventory audit. Decreases in based inventory were predominantly from Sheltair and Talon Air. Commissioner Grant inquired if this was due to the aircraft possibly being relocated. Ms. LaRose-Arken responded that it could be relocation or the aircraft may have been sold.

In September there were 15 noise complaints registered. Eleven during the day, one at night and 3 unknown. The complaints were predominantly caused by jet aircraft which were reported by residents residing in the northwest quadrant of the airport. Transient aircraft accounted for 8 of the

complaints registered, four were a based aircraft, three unknown.

In October, there were a total of 4 noise complaints. Two complaints registered were caused by daytime jet aircraft events, one night and one unknown. All reported by residents residing in the northwest quadrant of the airport. In October, one of the aircraft complaints was caused by a based aircraft, two were caused by transient aircraft and one unknown. Commissioner Barbera mentioned that this was a huge decline from the previous year. Ms. LaRose-Arken responded that it may be as a result of fewer operations compared to the previous year or the possibility that individuals are not calling to complain.

Mr. Geiger discussed the Financial Reports for the months of September and October 2014. Rental income was higher due to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment. Miscellaneous income was lower due to less than forecasted television and movie shoots. Expenses were lower due to adequate fuel supply.

In October, rental income was higher due to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment and miscellaneous income was higher due to a special event promotion.

Expenses were lower in the month of October. Data processing costs were lower due to the postponement of a software upgrade. Janitorial services were higher due to carpet cleaning expense. Insurance expenses were lower due to a premium adjustment which was approximately \$12,000.00 in savings. Maintenance was lower due to fewer fence hits. Overall, revenue has been higher due to rental payments and savings across the board.

Commissioner Grant inquired if the Airport has any plans for additional filming aspects at Republic Airport. Mr. Geiger responded that John Arancio recently gave a tour of the airport. A lot depends on the productions' needs. Commissioner Nocerino commented that the amount of time and equipment used over the course of two (2) days for a short two-minute clip of film is unbelievable. Ms. LaRose-Arken

acknowledged this and added that the airport charges by the hour. Commissioner Flaumenbaum inquired if there was any other interest lately. Mr. Arancio responded yes. Scouts have been looking at the site for filming of a TV series called, Madam Secretary. If the location is suitable, they could start filming in a few weeks.

2. RECENT/CURRENT EVENTS

On December 7, 2014 the 73rd annual Pearl Harbor Ceremony is scheduled at the American Airpower Museum. Four Pearl Harbor survivors attended last year. It is a nice event which begins at 11am. The museum is accepting non-perishable food donations for homeless veterans.

Roy Douglas of the Long Island Republic Airport Historical Society also mentioned that on December 7th, 1966, it will be 48 years since the establishment of Republic Airport.

RESOLUTIONS

No Resolutions.

B. OTHER NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BUSINESS

1. Breslau Modernization and Redevelopment Update: The SEQRA Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/ NEPA Environmental Assessment (EA). The FAA is still reviewing the documents to address a discrepancy before the environmental document can be released.
2. Talon Air FBO Application: The application is still under review. No approval has been issued. There are still some outstanding items to be addressed.
3. Northeastern FBO Application: The application is still under review.

No approval has been issued. There are still some outstanding items to be addressed.

4. 56th Fighter Group Restaurant: This property has been incorporated into the RFI issued by direction of the Governor's office.

V. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Three (3) individuals commented.

Chairman Nocerino wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday. He adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by:

**Michael Geiger on behalf of the Executive Secretary
Republic Airport Commission**

PUBLIC COMMENT
REPUBLIC AIRPORT COMMISSION
DECEMBER 3, 2014

Tina Diamond of Concerned Citizen Association of Farmingdale (CCAF) asked if there were any interest in the restaurant property. Mr. Geiger responded, "Yes." Commissioner Nocerino added that in the Governor's statement last month, the airport property would be considered a tax free zone. Helen Norjen of Woodland Civic Association insisted that this Commission fight that issue. Commissioner Nocerino agreed and encouraged the community to do the same.

Ms. Norjen inquired as to where the 100 acres were on airport property. Ms. Norjen added that she came up with approximately 50 acres in total.

Ms. Diamond asked if the Farmingdale School District received any Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT). Mr. Geiger responded that the hotels on the property pay PILOTS. Commissioner Nocerino added that the library and fire departments are also recipients of PILOT. Ms. Diamond expressed her concern that if this area becomes a tax free zone then nobody in the community would benefit from the Airport. She added, schools and property owners would suffer greatly.

Ms. Norjen asked if Senator Marcellino can help. Commissioner Nocerino said he would inquire.

Mr. Geiger mentioned the Ebola concerns brought up at the previous meeting. Customs and Border Protection announced that all aircraft from countries in question would be processed at JFK by the US Coast Guard. If an aircraft landed here in error, CDC, local authorities and hazmat providers would address suspicions individuals or flight.

Ms. Diamond inquired which Long Island hospitals would be designated for Ebola cases. Ms. Larose-Arken responded, "Glen Cove." Commissioner Nocerino added that Fire and Emergency Services have been trained and mandated for continuing training within the last 48 hours to address Ebola or suspicious cases. Ms. Norjen expressed her appreciation to the Commission for following up on this Ebola concern and was happy to hear a procedure was in place.

Ms. Norjen asked the Commission to please share any and all new information received about the new operators and airport revitalization plans. Commissioner Nocerino assured her that as soon as he knows, he will let everyone know. It's important to all of us

(Unknown attendee) inquired about the status of the Asian Long-Horned beetle. Ms. LaRose-Arken responded that Department of Agriculture is still working on the issue. Mr. Geiger added that maple trees at the 56th Fighter Group Restaurant, the wooded Breslau area on the airport have been mitigated as well as the cemeteries, Newsday's property on Melville Road, and areas around the Southern State Parkway. Commissioner Nocerino added that several trees in Massapequa Park and south Massapequa were also mitigated. Mr. Geiger added that activities are more preventative now.

Ms. Norjen mentioned the toxic plume at the Grumman site in Bethpage. She asked about the status of the plum under Republic Airport. Commissioner Nocerino responded that he is involved with the individuals and Town Of Oyster Bay for testing the Bethpage site. Officials are testing ball fields and playgrounds in addition to the Grumman site. Mr. Geiger added that the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is responsible for monitoring and testing ground water and wells at Republic Airport. Ms. Norjen asked what DEC did as part of the clean-up. Mr. Geiger responded that DEC has all that information and anyone could contact their office regarding the project. Ms. LaRoase-Arken added that this was a superfund site in the 1990's. Clean up was done under the direction of the DEC.

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