

MINUTES
REPUBLIC AIRPORT COMMISSION (RAC) MEETING
APRIL 12, 2022

The meeting was held virtually via Zoom video and tele-conference and was called to order by Chairman Frank Nocerino at 7:00p.m. Also present were Commission Members Vincent Bologna, Jr., Stella Barbera, Robert Bodenmiller, and Joan Flaumenbaum. Richard Grant was unable to attend.

Chairman Nocerino began the meeting by stating the following:

- RAC received copies of 2 letters sent by the Republic Airport Civic Coalition for Integrity and Compliance to NYSDOT. The letters expressed concerns about the 5-parcel bid award process.
- NYSDOT Deputy Executive Commissioner Ron Epstein retired on April 8th.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements.

II. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 2022

Mr. Bodenmiller moved to adopt the February 2022 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Bologna. 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 JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2022

Airport Manager John Lauth discussed the following:

- Airport Operations in January were down overall from last year, but were higher in February, including landings, touch & go's, and passenger volume. Based aircraft inventory was up 8% from the previous year.
- Aircraft noise complaints were lower compared to the same months in 2021. There were 18 complaints from 8 households in January, and 29 complaints from 11 households in February. Most complaints related to daytime operations of jet or multi/single engine aircraft. Residents living southeast of the Airport filed the majority of January complaints, while February complaints came mainly from the northwest.
- Financial Reports show favorable revenues from Landings, License, and Fuel Flowage fees in both January and February. Total expenses in January exceeded budget projections due to unfavorable variances in Janitorial Services and Airport Maintenance. In February, total expenses were lower than budget projections due to favorable variances with Labor, Employee, Utilities, and Professional Services expenses.

2. RECENT / CURRENT EVENTS

Airport Manager Mr. John Lauth reported on the following:

- a. TSA Extends Face Mask Requirement to April 18, 2022:** Face mask mandate within transportation networks may be extended further.
- b. Bethpage Air Show:** Preparations are underway.
- c. Film Shoots:** Hulu show "Ramy" at Sheltair on April 6th; another film shoot is tentative for late April.

B. RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution with Respect to Cargo Operations at Republic Airport

- Airport Director Anthony Ceglio read the Resolution. All 6 members present voted in favor; Mr. Grant was absent. The Resolution was adopted.

C. OTHER NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BUSINESS

Mr. Ceglio reported the following:

- 1. Response to Republic Airport Civic Coalition for Integrity and Compliance:** NYSDOT received letters from the Republic Airport Civic Coalition for Integrity and Compliance dated 2/12/22 and 4/11/22. Mr. Epstein sent a response to the first letter on 3/22/22 which stated that leases for the 5 Parcels are between NYSDOT and Stratosphere Development and any change in the partial ownership of Talon Air has no impact on the development of the 5-parcels. The State will provide a response to the second letter. There is no information about Mr. Epstein's replacement at this time.
- 2. Alpha Taxiway Project:** Project plans were made available to potential bidders and a pre-bid meeting was held today (April 12th). Bid opening will be held April 21, 2022. Construction is expected to begin late Summer 2022.
- 3. 5-Parcel Development Project:** No new developments.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Two (2) individuals commented.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39pm.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS
REPUBLIC AIRPORT COMMISSION
April 12, 2022

Ms. Nancy Cypser asked when she will receive information on the number of Talon Charter flights, which she requested at previous meetings. She asked for it to be added to the operations report on a monthly basis. Airport Operations Manager Glenford Kidd said the numbers were available. Airport Manager John Lauth said the information will be sent to Ms. Cypser, and that Talon's numbers are included with those of many other charter flights in the Operations Report.

Ms. Nancy Cypser stated that Airport Director Anthony Ceglio was going to look into procedures a tenant goes through to become an FBO and asked to know the vetting process. Mr. Ceglio responded that requirements to become an FBO at Republic Airport are described in the Airport's *Minimum Standards for The Conduct of Aeronautical Activities*, which can be found on the Airport's website. He added that the purchase of an existing FBO must be submitted for approval to NYSDOT as required in the lease. The submittal is reviewed in accordance with the requirements contained in the published Minimum Standards including experience, personnel, and equipment. There is no requirement for a company to be an airline to purchase or become an FBO. The company must meet all requirements in the Airport's Minimum Standards.

Ms. Jessica Santangelo asked if the airport or any aircraft operators use a piece of equipment that runs at night. Households in her neighborhood started hearing a humming or vibrating sound beginning in mid-March, primarily at night. Is it coming from the airport? Commission Member Robert Bodenmiller said he believes the noise is coming from an asphalt plant on New Highway north of Conklin Street.

Ms. Cypser commented that she looks forward to having in-person meetings and that it is difficult to have a discussion in the Chat.

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