

MINUTES
REPUBLIC AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING
MAY 2, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Nocerino at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Republic Airport Commission Members Vincent Bologna, Jr., Robert W. Bodenmiller, Richard Grant, Stella Barbera and Joan Flaumenbaum.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Nocerino announced that he spoke to Ron Epstein. They are in the process of compiling the questions from the April meeting. Final comments were due on the 20th. They will be made available soon. He will send them out to everyone on the mailing list. Commissioner Nocerino stated he made a request for an additional meeting. It will not be as formal as the last meeting. Commissioner Nocerino also requested a meeting with the commissioner. He is in contact with Senator Brooks and will meet again to further discuss the project.

The next RAC Meeting will be moved to Monday, June 19th. *(Subsequent to the meeting, the June meeting date was changed to June 20th)*

II. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

The minutes from February 2017 were adopted.

III. CHANGES AND/OR ADOPTION OF AGENDA

No changes were made to the agenda.

IV. REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS, & OTHER BUSINESS

A. REPORTS

1. OPERATIONS, AIRCRAFT COMPLAINT & FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2017

The Operations and Noise Complaint Reports for January and February 2017 were discussed by Rick McElroy, Airport Manager. In the month of January, the FAA recorded 12,377 total operations, a decrease from the previous year. The Airport Operations Department reported 4,297 landings which were lower in all categories except jet operations. Touch and go operations decreased from the prior year with a total of 1,373 reported. Passenger counts were lower from the previous year with 980 reported. There were 472 based aircraft reported in January, which is higher than last year.

In February 2017, the FAA recorded 15,891 total operations, an increase from the previous year. The Airport Operations Department reported 5,416 landings, an increase in all categories except turbo-prop operations. Touch & go's were higher with 1,772 reported. Passenger flights to Atlantic City decreased from the previous year. There were 476 based aircraft in February, an increase from last year.

Commissioner Barbera inquired why the decrease in landing activity in January this year compared to January last Year. Mr. McElroy responded, "High Winds." Commissioner Nocerino noted that the 60 jets recorded, does that include all FBO's. Mr. McElroy responded, "Yes."

There were four noise complaints reported in January, with three reported in daytime hours and one at night. Two of the four complaints reported were from the South quadrant, one from the northwest and one from the southeast. In February, four complaints were reported, two were during the day and two unknowns. One complaint from the north quadrant. One from the south, one from the southeast and one unknown. Two were transient and two unknowns.

Commissioner Nocerino stated he was curious to see how many transients arrive at Republic Airport and whether that number increases in the summer months. He would like to see if there is a pattern of complaints with transit versus based aircraft.

Louis Pigott, a Farmingdale Resident asked where can people complain to. Mr. McElroy responded, "The call in number."

Jessica Santangelo, a Farmingdale resident added that people in her neighborhood no longer call because they are not getting a call back, sometimes for several months. They have thrown their hands up because they get no response. Commissioner Barbera responded that she was surprised to hear that and several months is a long period of time. She stated she was thrilled to have new management and they will address this.

Joan Donnison of Bay Village Civic Association introduced herself and stated she has not received any response to her noise complaints. When she calls the 6133 number and leaves a message, it never gets recognition on that line. I don't see my complaints recorded. Commissioner Nocerino requested a monthly report of all the complaints that came in and all the responses sent. Helen Norjen of Woodland Civic Association inquired what happens to the complaints that are received on the 752 number and select option 4? Commissioner Nocerino responded "the call is rolled over to the 6133 line." Mr. Nocerino addressed Airport Management and inquired what happened to the process that was in place of responding to complainants by letter and phone call. Gary Barnable acknowledged that this is the process. Barbara Loehr of Daniel Civic Association asked if noise complaints can be answered by email and if there is an email specific for noise complaints. Commissioner Nocerino said he would look into that. Linda Berke, a Farmingdale Resident, stated that on Saturday and Sunday there was one plane per minute passing over her house. She asked if there was a way to call in to document the noise for the past three hours. Commissioner Nocerino explained that the calls must be very specific with timeframe so the operations team can identify the aircraft.

Mr. Barnable discussed the Financial Reports for the months of January and February 2017. In January, license fees were higher due to Customs services at the Main Terminal. Rental income was favorable in January due to the new appraisal. The operating expenses for the month were lower than budgeted with the highest savings coming from Professional Services.

For the month of February, landing fees and license fees were higher. Rental fees were higher due to receiving hotel concession fee in February.

The total operating expenses were lower than budgeted with the majority of savings from airport maintenance supplies and the postponement of several projects.

Commissioner Grant commented that Miscellaneous revenue was low and asked if the reason pertained to movie shoots. Mr. Barnable replied, "Yes." Mr. McCormick, Airport Maintenance Manager added that in January the parking lot was rented out by a film company while the filming was being done at a different location on the airport. Mr. McElroy added that there was not much activity in January, but this picked up in March and April. Madame Secretary filmed here a few times. The parking lot and main terminal lobby were rented out while filming took place in other locations. Commissioner Nocerino inquired if they utilize FBO's as well. Mr. McElroy responded, "Yes."

2. RECENT/CURRENT EVENTS

On May 27th and 28th, Bethpage Federal Credit Union will host the annual Memorial Day Air Show at Jones Beach. The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds will be headlining this year and based at Islip.

On Thursday, May 4th, there will be an MWBE Outreach in the Main Terminal Lobby. The Airport is looking to reach out to MWBE's in order to increase our utilization percentage.

B. OTHER NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BUSINESS

1. Runway 1-19 Safety Area Improvements: Nothing to report.
2. Northeastern FBO application is still in the paperwork stages. A Tenant Alteration Application (TAA) was submitted for building their new hangar. We are waiting for me information.
3. RFP by ESD for the long term lease of Five Development Parcels: Commissioner Nocerino addressed this at the beginning of the meeting. It was noted that the airport's website has the March 2nd slideshow presentation and the questions and answers from that meeting.
4. Sheltair Development in the Breslau Area: Sheltair has temporary

fencing up, the project will be in full swing for the summer. They are hoping to open a hangar or two by the end of the year or early next year.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ten (10) individuals commented.

Chairman Nocerino adjourned the meeting at 9:09 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously. The next Meeting is Monday - June 19th at 7:00 p.m. (*Subsequently rescheduled to June 20th*)

These minutes are respectfully submitted by:

**Gary Barnable on behalf of Executive Secretary
Republic Airport Commission**

PUBLIC COMMENT
REPUBLIC AIRPORT COMMISSION

May 2, 2017

Denis Garbo (Lighthouse Point Civic Association) stated that it might be useful to split complaints up between the hours of 8am and 8pm and between 8pm and 8 am.

Commissioner Nocerino indicated that this can be done.

Denis Garbo stated that when we talk about the expansion of the airport, his real concern is where this expansion is going five to ten years down the line. The governor made a comment about making the airport commercial. There must be a guarantee that no future plans will involve commercial service.

Commissioner Nocerino indicated that he wants this issue on my agenda for discussion with the Commissioner. (Commissioner Nocerino discussed the plans that are underway to build a train station)

Alissa Taft (Civic Association of Sweet Hollow) indicated that she sat on that committee and they are planning to build a bus stop connecting through Melville, making a bus lane on Route 110.

John Lisi (Daniel Street Civic Association): Read a letter to the commission thanking them for their support in the past, present and future...The second meeting was held to say that they engaged the residents. The way that the meeting was held shows that they do not consider the residents. There was no opportunity for an exchange.

Commissioner Nocerino requested a copy of the letter. Dennis will send him a copy, the one he has is marked up.

Nancy Schliwka (Woodland Civic Association) stated that we sent a comment from the Woodland Civic Association regarding the Newsday article after the April meeting stating that the environmental process was underway. This was not mentioned in any of the meetings. Where are they in that process? The SEQRA process has steps.

Commissioner Nocerino indicated that there is a process that has to take place. He will address in my meeting with the commissioner.

Alissa Taft asked if anyone had a copy of the EIS? There is a whole section for alternative use. If they didn't include alternative use, it is not a valid environmental.

Brian Zitani (Town of Babylon DEC) indicated that the NYS EIS runs simultaneously with the project. Public meetings are required.

Nancy Schliwka asked if there has been any word about getting a DOT representative on the commission?

Commissioner Nocerino responded that the Commission is working on it; He will bring it up in my meeting with the commissioner.

John Lisi asked Commissioner Nocerino for an email address that he would like to share.

Commissioner Nocerino: fnoc@aol.com

Helen Norjen (Woodland Civic Association) stated that she met with Tom Conoscenti and suggested that the community has an opportunity to meet with the state. In 1995 Commissioner Daly met with us and we were able to convey our concerns directly.

Commissioner Nocerino stated that it was his intention to meet with the commissioner first. He would be willing to travel to Albany at his own expense.

Helen asked, "What is the status on the 60,000 lb. weight limit at the airport?"

Gary Barnable indicated that there had been no change in the injunction status.

Linda Berke (Farmingdale Resident) asked, who gets information on the status of the SEQRA process?

Commissioner Nocerino responded that they would request the status of the SEQRA process.

Jessica Santangelo (Farmingdale resident) stated that during the RWY 1/19 safety area project, that runway will be closed. They will be using the other runway. Given the amount of noise that we have from jets already, how will that impact us. What is the time frame? Will this runway be closed during construction? What outreach has been done to the neighborhoods that will be

impacted?

Gary Barnable stated that there was a lengthy environmental process that included public involvement and addressed the concerns brought up for the project.

Jessica Santangelo asked that information be sent out that specific area affected by the project. I just bought my house and my taxes are going up and the development at the airport is not contributing a dime to the taxpayers. There should be some communication. When is it supposed to start?

Gary Barnable indicated that we are working with the FAA to gain their concurrence to proceed on the project but at this time a timeframe for starting is not set.

Jessica Santangelo stated that the information on the website is not updated. The noise contour maps haven't been done since 2011.

Gary Barnable indicated that the airport has added funds to this years budget to address the issue.

Barbara Loehr stated that she lives in Lindenhurst, with all this expansion being talked about have they considered the ground traffic. Will you discuss this with the DOT?

Commissioner Nocerino indicated that this was part of the SEQRA process.

Would they consider bringing cargo traffic?

Commissioner Nocerino responded, "No"

Barbara Loehr asked what is going on in the area close to the bridge from 109 to New Highway, I see construction equipment?

Gary Barnable: Sheltair is beginning construction on the first two of six new hangars and an FBO building. The two hangars are scheduled to be complete by the end of this year or beginning of next year.

Bill McShane (Sheltair) stated that if anyone provides an email address he can send you information.

Barbara Loehr asked if this commission have a social media page?

Commissioner Nocerino indicated that they are not sure that we are allowed to do this.

Louis Pigott (Farmingdale Resident) asked if the military aircraft coming in and out of this airport?

Commissioner Nocerino responded that military aircraft can land anywhere they want.

Commissioner Robert Bodenmiller added that the Coast Guard transports people here to be transferred to hospitals.

Commissioner Vincent Bologna added that they train in Islip on weekends.

Commissioner Bodenmiller: (discussed the meetings that he has been attending with the town regarding the projects in the vicinity of the airport such as the Acadia development, the rapid transit bus system and Town of Babylon's proposal of zoning changes along Conklin Street. He encouraged the residents to come out to those meetings and voice their concerns. There are too many projects going on at once.)

Adopted 10/10/17

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