

**MINUTES**  
**REPUBLIC AIRPORT COMMISSION (RAC) MEETING**  
**7150 REPUBLIC AIRPORT, ROOM 201**  
**EAST FARMINGDALE, NEW YORK**  
**FEBRUARY 7, 2023**

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

**I. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements.

**II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Airport Director Anthony Ceglio asked for a motion to elect the RAC Chairman and Vice-Chairman. A motion to elect Mr. Nocerino as RAC Chairman was made by Ms. Barbera and seconded by Mr. Bologna. The motion carried unanimously. A motion to elect Mr. Bologna as Vice-Chairman was made by Mr. Nocerino and seconded by Mr. Bodenmiller. The motion carried unanimously.

**III. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES FROM OCTOBER AND DECEMBER 2022**

Mr. Bodenmiller motioned to adopt the October and December minutes which was seconded by Mr. Grant. The motion carried unanimously and the minutes were adopted.

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

No changes.

Chairman Nocerino stated that there are 2 new State Senators, Monica Martinez in the 4<sup>th</sup> District and Alexis Weik in the 8<sup>th</sup> District. There have been no developments in Albany about new appointments to fill the vacancies on the Commission.

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

**A. REPORTS**

**1. OPERATIONS, AIRCRAFT COMPLAINTS, & FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2022**

Airport Manager Mr. John Lauth discussed the following:

- Mr. Lauth referred to a possible error with the number of complaints on the October 2022 Airport Complaint report that attendee Nancy Cypser had questioned at the December meeting. Ms. Cypser was in attendance at tonight's meeting and clarified that an error may exist with the data reported in the Northeast and Northwest locations, not with the number of complaints. Mr. Lauth said he would investigate further.
- Total Operations were down 12% in November and up by 7% in December compared to the previous year. November Landings decreased 15%. December Landings increased 2%. Touch & Go's were down both months. Jet landings decreased 26% in November and 15% in December. Passenger volume decreased 20% in both months. An audit of

based aircraft was conducted to account for aircraft owners who seasonally migrate to other locations. Total Based Aircraft increased by 5% in November and decreased by 3% in December.

- Total aircraft noise complaints in November and December were lower than those reported in 2021. There were 14 complaints from 8 households in November and 11 complaints from 4 households in December. Most complaints related to daytime operations, jet aircraft, multi/single engine aircraft, and transient operations. Residents living northwest of the Airport filed most of the complaints in November and December.
- November Revenue was unfavorable overall. Income from Rent, Fuel Flowage, and film shoots were lower than anticipated. Rent was unfavorable due to Molloy College vacating Building 32. November Expenses had favorable variances in Labor, Utilities, Vehicle Maintenance, and Airport Maintenance. December Revenue was favorable in Landing Fees, Fuel Flowage, and film shoots. Rental Income was unfavorable, again due to Molloy. December Expenses were favorable due to open positions in Operations and less than expected Utility consumption. Data Processing, Professional Services, Vehicle Maintenance, and Airport Maintenance expenses were also favorable.

## 2. RECENT / CURRENT EVENTS

Airport Manager Mr. John Lauth reported on the following:

- a. Winter Preparations Completed-** all vehicles and winter equipment are up and running.
- b. Airport Emergency Plan (AEP) & Tabletop Review-** held on January 31<sup>st</sup> with representatives from East Farmingdale Fire Department (EFFD), Customs & Border Protection, New York State Police, and Key tenants.
- c. Modern Aviation New Sign Installation-** signage was updated from Sheltair to Modern.
- d. SCBA Refill Station Received from EFFD-** Mr. Lauth thanked East Farmingdale Fire Department (EFFD) for donating their used SCBA (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus) fill station to the Airport's Rescue and Fire Fighting personnel.
- e. Air Show Winter Planning Meeting-** Airport attended a meeting on February 3<sup>rd</sup> hosted by NYS Parks Department for pre-planning of the 2023 Air Show at Jones Beach.
- f. Michael J. Russo, Northeastern Aviation-** Mr. Lauth expressed the Airport's condolences for Mr. Russo, founder of Northeastern Aviation, who passed away recently.
- g. Film Shoots:** "Billions" at the Main Terminal on January 6<sup>th</sup> and "Blue Bloods" at Hangar 7 on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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

Airport Director Mr. Anthony Ceglio reported on the following:

1. **Alpha Taxiway Project-** Project is scheduled to begin in late March and should take about a year to complete. The main construction entrance will be off Route 110 just north of TTM Technologies/Telephonics. Construction hours are expected to be between 9am - 3pm.
2. **Conklin Street Property Demolition-** no new developments.
3. **5-Parcel Development Project-** No new information. FAA's review of the Environmental Assessment (EA) is expected to be finalized before the next RAC meeting in April.

V. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

One (1) individual commented.

Chairman Nocerino adjourned the meeting at 7:42pm.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
**REPUBLIC AIRPORT COMMISSION**  
**February 7, 2023**

Ms. Nancy Cypser of the Woodland Civic Association said that, in an effort to see if the community can help get additional members on the Board, she looked up the conditions for being on the Board. She read the requirements from New York State Transportation Law Section 402. She noted that one member is appointed by the Governor, but the majority of appointees come from the Speaker of the Assembly and the President of the Senate. She asked to know their names. Chairman Nocerino explained the Commission's appointment process and asked Ms. Cypser to send any recommendations to him and he will send them up. Ms. Cypser said that even if she does not have a specific person to recommend, she would like to directly contact the local Senators and urge them to act on it. She added that, because former Commission Member Joan Flaumenbaum was a Farmingdale resident from the Nassau side of Farmingdale School District, one of the first people we need to find is a Farmingdale resident from the Nassau side. Ms. Cypser said she did not know the residency of any of the current Commission members.

Chairman Nocerino stated that he is from the Nassau side of the Farmingdale School District and that Ms. Barbera and Mr. Grant were appointed by the Assembly for Suffolk County. Mr. Bologna and Mr. Bodenmiller are from West Babylon. Mr. Nocerino said the Commission has sent letters about filling vacancies prior to Ms. Flaumenbaum leaving the RAC.

Ms. Cypser said her understanding was that flights could be dictated by FAA. But if conditions were put on the FAA to inhibit flights for certain periods of time, it could affect funding to the Airport. She read from NYS Transportation Law Section 402 and said it was still effective in 2023: "The arrival or departure of aircraft to or from the airport between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., except in the case of emergency, are hereby prohibited, provided, however, that such prohibitions may be altered, modified or changed by resolution adopted by a majority vote of the members of the commission after giving public notice of such alteration...and holding public hearing thereon." She said it gives the Commission a lot of power, and she does not recall there being a public hearing. Ms. Cypser said she submitted a noise complaint online last night about something loud that took off after midnight.

Airport Director Anthony Ceglio responded that the Federal Government passed the Airport Noise and Capacity Act (ANCA) of 1990 which does not allow local governments to prohibit or restrict flights at night or impose noise restrictions at local airports. The federal law supersedes the state law. Mr. Nocerino asked Ms. Cypser to send him a copy of the information she read.

Regarding candidates for the RAC, Commission Member Stella Barbera said that she doubts the newly elected State officials know that they are entitled to nominate candidates for appointment because they are learning the job. Ms. Cypser asked what criteria they use to make their appointments, and that the community would like to see someone from Farmingdale or in the area of the Airport. Chairman Nocerino answered that candidates will need to be involved in the community and be interviewed.

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