

MINUTES
REPUBLIC AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 8, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Frank Nocerino at 7:07 p.m. Also present were Republic Airport Commission Members Vincent Bologna, Jr., Stella Barbera, Richard Grant and Joan Flaumenbaum. Commissioner Robert W. Bodenmiller, was absent.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Members, Vincent Bologna, Jr., and Joan Flaumenbaum have been re-appointed to the Republic Airport Commission for a period of two years. Chairman Frank Nocerino has been re-appointed for a period of four years.

Chairman Nocerino announced that several letters have been sent to Albany. One letter was sent to NYSDOT Commissioner Matthew Driscoll concerning the RFP and long term lease parcels. No response to date. The commission will be courteous and patient as summer comes to an end and will follow up in September. If no response is received after the follow-up, the commission will address all concerns to the Governor.

Nothing more to report from Albany regarding information of our past concerns which leads to believe that Albany has placed their focus elsewhere.

This commissions' next focus to address is Empire State Development (ESD) to make sure the parcel development meets our concerns and that we follow this matter closely.

II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Commission Chairman, Frank Nocerino, announced that due to lack of quorum, the elections will be held at the next meeting.

III. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Due to lack of quorum, the April minutes were not adopted..

IV. CHANGES AND/OR ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

V. REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS, & OTHER BUSINESS

A. REPORTS

1. OPERATIONS, AIRCRAFT COMPLAINT & FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR MAY AND JUNE 2016

The Operations and Noise Complaint Reports for May and June, 2016 were discussed by Mr. Robert Yurraspe, Airport Manager. In the month of May, the FAA recorded 17,292 total operations, a decrease from the year before. The Airport Operations Department reported 6,087 landings, a decrease of operations in all categories except jet operations were which slightly higher than last year. Touch and go operations increased from the prior year except in the multiengine category. Passenger totals decreased from the previous year. Based aircraft inventory was up within one additional aircraft based here over last years inventory.

In June 2016, the FAA recorded 21,656 total operations, an increase of 2,841 from the previous year. The Airport Operations Department reported 7,532 landings, an increase from the previous year. Touch and go operations were higher in all categories except turbo prop and helicopter operations from the previous year. Passenger counts were lower than last year. There were 467 based aircraft in June, up from the previous month and from the previous year.

There were 29 noise complaints registered in May, an increase from the prior year. The complaints were recorded as 20 daytime, five nighttime and four unknown. The majority of complaints were attributed to jet aircraft events reported by residents residing in the northwest quadrant, one complaint from the south, four from the southeast and 3 unknown. Six noise complaints were attributed by based aircraft, 12 transient and eleven unknown. In June, there were 31 noise complaints reported. The

complaints were recorded as 19 daytime, three nighttime and nine unknown. The majority were from jet aircraft, one turbo prop, three helicopter and nine unknown. The majority of the calls registered were from the northwest quadrant. Seven of the noise complaints were caused by based aircraft, 13 transient and 11 unknown. Chairman Nocerino noted that the number of transient noise complaints have increased. He inquired if the transient aircraft were repeat offenders. Mr. Yturraspe responded, "Not to my knowledge."

Chairman Nocerino added the increase in helicopter noise is an issue this time of year. He experiences the same issue in his own backyard. Chairman Nocerino expressed concern over transient aircraft not being addressed as they are guests in our area. He asked Mr. Yturraspe to please research this further.

Commissioner Barbera added that the increase in jet operations were much higher than the year before and asked if the airshow was a contributor to this increase. Mr. Yturraspe responded that this is quite possible. There were three jet team performers this year which could very easily add to the peak in complaints. He added that there is one individual who calls in over 75% of the noise complaints. This is not the general population of the surrounding area. Chairman Nocerino requested further information to see if this is a common thread with specific complaints. He would like to address this issue and ensure that everyone follow the noise abatement procedures. Mr. John Lauth, Airport Assistant Manager stated he would look into this and check to see if a specific operator is violating the terms. He will speak to them.

Ms. Nancy Schliwka of Woodland Civic Association noted that the transient numbers increased as well as based aircraft. Mr. Lauth added that Commissioner Barbara's comment noted the airshow as a possible contributor is a valid assessment. Although the airshow is very well advertised and annual occurrence in the Long Island area, the airport still receives an increase in noise complaints at this time each year.

Mr. Gary Barnable discussed the Financial Reports for the months of April, May and June 2016. Overall, the airport is doing better than originally budgeted. Revenue was higher in May due to increase in tiedowns, rent and fuel flowage. Miscellaneous income was lower than anticipated. Expenses were lower than anticipated due mainly to savings in labor expenses, office equipment purchases, utilities and vehicle and airport maintenance and insurance. Commissioner Flaumenbaum noted that the expense report shows a drastic difference in the insurance premium. Mr. Barnable explained that the general liability premium payments were the reason. Commissioner Grant inquired about the lower than anticipated numbers for miscellaneous income in May. Mr. Barnable explained that no promotions were forthcoming. Chairman Nocerino inquired about movie shoots. Mr. Yurraspe responded, “no prospects at this time.”

For the month of June, Landing fees, Licensing fees, fuel flowage, utilities, sales, tie down fees and rental income were lower than anticipated. Revenue was lower than anticipated mainly due to delayed rent billing and will most likely be made up next month. Miscellaneous income was higher than budgeted. Expenses were less than anticipated due to savings in labor expenses, vehicle maintenance and airport maintenance. Expenses for June were lower across the board since it is still early in the airport’s fiscal year, staff is diligent in implementing cost saving measures and the airport is adequately supplied.

2. RECENT/CURRENT EVENTS

No recent or current events.

B. OTHER NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BUSINESS

1. Runway 1-19 Safety Area Improvement: The airport is waiting on the FAA concurrence for the runway shift and perimeter road. Hangar 2 & 3 relocation is still in the discussion phase. Work was to begin July/August. No firm date yet.

2. Northeastern FBO Application: Still ongoing. No changes.
3. RFP for Development of Parcel at Republic – Empire State Development Corporation (EDSC): ESD is still working through the process. The Airport is waiting on response to letter that was sent.
4. Sheltair Development in Breslau Area: Still working on plans which are expected to be completed by end of summer. A recharge basin is required which will eliminate one hangar from the design plan. Projected construction to begin Spring/Summer 2017. They will start with one or two hangars and build as needed. Bill McShane has been working closely with the community to share and explain information.

Commissioner Nocerino added that two (2) pieces of property are looking to be developed again. One is the old Stew Leonard's location on Conklin and Carman and the other is the old Town of Babylon recycling plant property on the north side of Conklin along the LIRR tracks. Both of these properties are located in the Runway Protection Zones (RPZ). The RPZ rules have not changed. Mr. Barnable added that the this is the same issue as in the past. Ms. Schliwka asked if anything could be built on these parcels. Mr. Barnable replied that certain compatible development can be, but the concern is to not bring people to the RPZ area due to concerns of runway over shoot. Ms. Helen Norjen of the Woodland Civic Association added that the Farmingdale School District might be very interested in the development of these parcels considering that the P.I.L.O.T. process doesn't contribute for the community. Chairman Nocerino ensured that the Commission will look this over carefully and get back to the Airport Director with all concerns. Chairman Nocerino responded to Ms. Norjen's inquiry last meeting about Stew Leonard's property tax payments. He looked into this with the Town of Babylon and was informed that Stew Leonard's is not on airport property and is not entitled to P.I.L.O.T They are paying taxes to the Town of Babylon.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Two (2) individuals commented.

Rev. Patty Furino of the Center for the Differently Abled asked the Commissioners if they had given any consideration to the June 8, 2016 email/letter she sent in regard to the project she has been working on for the past ten (10) years. Her proposal for development of the Conklin area property consists of many suggestions including a parking lot and transportation hub. She received a copy of the RFP and understood that her proposal does not fit the state's criteria. Rev. Furino implored the Commission to seriously recognize the importance of Republic Airport in their role as an emergency service operation facility. She observed the emergency relief efforts first hand at this Airport during Hurricane Irene and Super-Storm Sandy and recognized the vital role this airport serves in disaster relief for the Long Island area. She added there are over 8 million people on Long Island, 280,000 people with disabilities. All require emergency relief services. Chairman Nocerino responded that this airport has been declared an emergency service and reliever airport by both FEMA and NYS. He added that all of the emergency services are already in place and have been since 2010. The airport staff had been displaced by FEMA and several other government agencies during each disaster event. This Commission is not in the position to tell the government officials what to build but we can help improve it. Rev. Furino inquired to the lack of feedback from the Commission regarding her proposal and how can this Commission get the RFP to do something to serve the people of Long Island. The Commission will look into her concerns further however the level of influence this Commission has over government matters is not as large as it may appear. Chairman Nocerino suggested she present the proposal to Congressman King, Senator Gillibrand and Senator Schumer.

Ms. Helen Norjen of the Woodland Civic Association asked if the correction to the minutes regarding square footage were approved. Mr. Barnable replied, "Yes."

Ms. Norjen began to read from a document about the Transfer Legislation and asked the Commission if they were, "happy about the 40 year contract with AFCO Management." Chairman Nocerino responded that the commission had no part in that decision process. Ms. Norjen explained the Transfer Legislation clearly states that the Republic Airport Commission must be part of the process. Chairman Nocerino explained that the Commission was included in the first set of interviews but not this one. She added that this Commission must have been involved. If not, then this must be brought to the Governors attention. She insisted on knowing why this commission was not consulted for the 40 year contract. Mr. Yturraspe added that two

(2) applicants submitted proposals; AECOM and AFCO. AFCO was selected. Ms. Norjen explained that this Commission is the body that has the right to make advisory comment if they accept or not.

Ms. Norjen inquired if anyone has brought the ALP (Airport Layout Plan) to the attention of the state. Mr. Barnable replied that the information was included in a letter sent to NYSDOT Commissioner from the Republic Airport Commission. Ms. Norjen requested a copy of the letter.

Chairman Nocerino adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously. Next Meeting is scheduled for October 4, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by:

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

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