

MINUTES
REPUBLIC AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING
DECEMBER 6, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Nocerino at 7:04 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 read the letter received from NYSDOT in reply to this Commission's inquiry for status on the RFP status. Commissioner Nocerino added that this Commission considered this an official letter of documentation stating that the state has no interest in providing commercial service at Republic Airport. He encouraged all attendees to continue to reach out to this Commission with any information obtained to assist in the process.

II. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

The April, June, August and October 2016 meeting minutes were adopted.

III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Commission Chairman, Frank Nocerino, announced that an election was to be conducted for the position of Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2016. Commission Member Vincent Bologna, Jr. nominated Frank Nocerino for Chairman. Commission Member Robert Bodenmiller seconded the nomination. The vote was unanimous in favor of Chairman Nocerino. For the election of Vice Chairman, Commission Member Frank Nocerino nominated Commission Member Vincent Bologna and Commission Member Robert Bodenmiller seconded the nomination. The vote was unanimous in favor of Vincent Bologna. Commissioner Nocerino thanked everyone for the support and continued belief in the Commission.

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 SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2016**

The Operations and Noise Complaint Reports for September and October 2016 were discussed by Robert Yurraspe, Airport Manager. In the month of September, the FAA recorded 18,131 total operations, an increase from the previous year. The Airport Operations Department reported 6,505 landings, a decrease in all categories. Touch and go operations reported were 2,066 a decrease of seven from the previous year. Passenger counts for Atlantic City were lower than last year with 954 reported. Based aircraft reported was 469.

In October 2016, the FAA recorded 18,793 total operations. The Airport Operations Department reported a total of 6,706 landings, a decrease of 99 reflected in all categories except multi-engine aircraft. Total Touch and Go operations reported were 2,270, an increase from last year. Atlantic City passenger count in October was lower with 1,031 reported and the total based aircraft was 470.

In September there were 14 noise complaints registered, an increase of two from the previous year. Nine were reported as daytime, three at night and two 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 nine of the complaints registered and four were from based aircraft.

In October, there were a total of four noise complaints. Two complaints were registered as unknown. One of the complaints were registered by a resident residing in the north quadrant, another in the northwest quadrant, and two in the southeast quadrant of the airport. In October, one of the aircraft complaints was caused by a based aircraft, one caused by transient aircraft and two unknown

Mr. Barnable discussed the Financial Reports for the months of September and October 2016. In Septmeber, revenue was higher than anticipated. Majority came from miscellaneous income, from film shoots Madam Secretary and Billions. Tie downs were lower than forecasted. Landing fees were better than budgeted. Expenses were less than budgeted. Communication expenses were less with the postponement of ordering radios and airport maintenance items were in good supply, In October, the revenue was more than budgeted with rent and fuel fees higher than anticipated and another film shoot in our miscellaneous account. Expense were higher in October mostly due to employee training and fuel expenses higher than anticipated.

2. RECENT/CURRENT EVENTS

The 75th annual Pearl Harbor Ceremony will be held at the American Airpower Museum tomorrow at 10:30 a.m. Free Admission. No recent film shoots scheduled. Mr. Barnable announced the retirement of Airport Manager, Rob Yturraspe to take place at the end of this month. He thanked Mr. Yturraspe for his time and service here at Republic Airport.

B. OTHER NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BUSINESS

1. Runway 1-19 Safety Area Improvements: NYSDOT is still working with the FAA in regard to the construction contract for the shift of runway 1-19 and perimeter road. The hangars are being analyzed for relocation.
2. Northeastern FBO Application: The application is still under review. No approval has been issued. There are still some outstanding items to be addressed. Northeastern did inform us they will be submitting plans to build a hangar next year.
3. RFP by ESD for the long term lease of Five Development Parcels: This is still an open procurement. The is still under an open procurement process. There is no new information to be shared at this time.
4. Sheltair Development in the Breslau Area: Sheltair has resubmitted a plan set. NYSDOT is reviewing and preparing comments. Sheltair will not be building all the hangars at one time, but build as needed.

Commissioner Nocerino addresses Commissioner Barbera regarding the Working Group. Commissioner Barbera announced that the Working Group Committee will re-group in January to review and inquire about all concerns regarding the Sheltair Development Project. The Working Group meeting will be on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 6pm here in this conference room. All Working Group members will be sent notification.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Four (4) individuals commented.

John Lisi, President of Daniel Street Civic Association addressed the Commission with a letter of concern on behalf of a coalition of several civic associations surrounding the Republic Airport community. (A copy of his letter is attached.) Mr. Lisi inquired as to who the NYSDOT representative is at the meeting. Commissioner Nocerino responded that Mr. Gary Barnable is a NYSDOT employee. Commissioner Nocerino asked for a copy of Mr. Lisi's letter. Mr. Lisi stated he will formalize the writing and forward to his attention.

Mr. Lisi asked the Commissioners if Talon has been awarded three of the five parcels. Commissioner Nocerino responded that no such information has been shared with the Commission. He reiterated that the RFP is still an open procurement process. He thanked Mr. Lisi for the statement and assured him that this Commission will review all comments and represent the concerns set forth. Mr. Lisi explained that all the issues presented are contributed by all the civics in the surrounding communities. At this time the civic representatives are all a little weary of the government process considering the history of the process in recent matters. Commissioner Nocerino assured him that the Commission has been around for many years and he anticipates being around for many more.

Commissioner Flaumenbaum expressed her appreciation of the civic coalition statement and encouraged Mr. Lisi to formalize the facts presented and to please share them with this Commission so we can all work together. Commissioner Nocerino acknowledged and agreed with this sentiment and expressed the need to formalize what is fact and what is rumored.

Ms. Nancy Schliwka of the Woodland Civic Association expressed her concern over how nothing has been finalized in regard to the RFP. She asked what would prevent a bid from being

awarded and fast-tracked without a comment period or community involvement. Commissioner Nocerino explained the difference between an Request for Proposal (RFP) and a bid award. He reiterated that this is the first round of RFP's and the first time all five parcels have been put out at once. Ms. Schliwka asked if the parcels are designated in a certain way such as for aviation use verses non-aviation use, can it be changed during this RFP process and what can be done to prevent this. Commissioner Nocerino said he would look into that. Mr. Lisi added that the best case scenario is that the rumors are not valid. He added that if this information has not been received by the Commission, he is happy to have brought it their attention. Commissioner Nocerino thanked him for doing this.

Commissioner Bodenmiller explained that the Commission is doing their very best to represent the best interests of everyone here and each person here has the right to contact their elected officials, legislatures and more. Commissioner Nocerino asked that if any letters are sent, to please cc the Commission so they are apprised on what's going on. Commissioner Bodenmiller encouraged a phone call followed by a snail mail letter instead of email and fax.

Karen Williams inquired who is the NYSDOT representative that has been assigned to replace the former representative who once sat at the dais here. Commissioner Nocerino responded that Subi Chakroborti was designated as Executive Secretary of this Commission who had a voting right. Gary Barnable is the NYSDOT employee, as Airport Director. Ms. Norjen from Woodland Civic Association expressed her concern that there is no NYSDOT representative from Albany sitting in this room tonight and has this vacancy been noticeably absent for many years. She expressed the need for a NYSDOT representative other than the Airport Director and someone from Albany must be on this Commission. She inquired when will the Regional Director attend and become more involved. Commissioner Nocerino explained the nomination and reappointment process. Ms. Schliwka asked if the one person missing on this Commission was the NYSDOT representative. Commissioner Nocerino responded, "Yes." He explained that the Commission has been asking for state representation for quite sometime and will make a formal request to Ron Epstein to look into this further.

Ms. Norjen stated that her recent noise complaint letter did not designate the type of aircraft. She would appreciate this going forward. Ms. Norjen requested that when the Working Group meets, may she designate someone in her place? Commissioner Nocerino stated that would be fine. Ms. Norjen requested a copy of the response letter from NYSODT, Commissioner Nocerino said he would provide it to her this evening. She suggested a letter be addressed to the FAA regarding the property next to Talon Air stating that the parcel is non-aviation parcel and to explain how

the state can change the designation of the parcels.

Richard Groh, Chief Environmental Analyst for the Town of Babylon acknowledged Ms. Norjen and offered to bring her information to their attention.

Commissioner Bodenmiller stated that he attended a meeting last Wednesday at Babylon Town Hall in regard to Babylon/East Farmingdale Downtown Revitalization Plan. The town was only interested in two (2) parcels, one on the southwest Conklin Street and Rt 110 corner and the other north of Conklin by the old LIRR station. They had little interest in the site of the former Stew Leonard's parcel on Route 110. It was his understanding after attending that meeting that the Town of Babylon has no interest on what is being developed on or at the airport. Their concern was focused on if any development at the airport would impact their projects. He expressed that town officials that the airport development projects were located airside and on airport property, not outside and have would have no impact for the town.

Commissioner Nocerino read the response letter to Supervisor Schaefer. Ms. Norjen requested a copy of the letter which was provided to her immediately after the meeting. Ms. Norjen added that Steve Bellone was very involved with Republic Airport and believes the County Executive should be included in all correspondence.

Ms. Norjen referred to a Newsday Article from November 18, 2015 regarding JFI Jets based at Republic Airport having flights to Cuba. Mr. Yturraspe explained the article is inaccurate and Republic Airport is not a gateway airport.

Ms. Norjen asked to be included in any involvement on how the parcels are to be developed. She asked if there will be an Environmental Impact Study on these parcels. Commissioner Nocerino encouraged her to please write her concerns and submit them. She then wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Commissioner Flaumenbaum expressed how the civics have never been shy to contact our elected official and to please continue to do so.

Richard Groh stated that Brian Zitani meets with Supervisor Schaefer regularly and updates him frequently.

Commissioner Barbera requested the Town Of Babylon send a representative to the Working Group Meeting in January. Mr. Groh stated he will pass the request on.

Commissioner Nocerino added that the Town of Oyster bay, Town of Babylon and Town of Huntington have all been invited and asked to participate in Working Group Meetings. We have received no response or interest.

Chairman Nocerino wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday. He adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by:

Gary Barnable on behalf of the Executive Secretary
Republic Airport Commission