

Airpark Liaison Committee - Minutes

for May 28, 2014

5th Floor Front Conference Room Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue

Start time- 4:00 PM
Adjourned- 5:15 PM

Committee Members Attending – Howard Layer (Chair), Robert Anderson, Roy Bevington, Michael Boone, Robert Gawler, Donald Gray, Keith Miller, and Jeff Zyontz

Guest – Brian Benhaim

- 1 - Chairman Layer welcomed those attending and turned to Keith Miller to present the next 4 items on the agenda.
- 2) The current project to re-seal, repair, and restripe paving on the runway, taxiways, and parking area will be completed by May 29, 2014. Under the MAA grant, all work must be completed and paid before June 30, 2014.
- 3) Webb tract construction will require cranes for 2 structures that may effect instrument flight operations (altitude but not flight patterns). The MAA and the FAA approved a crane for the school systems food program (building 2a) with appropriate height limits, and markings. The crane will be up during the day and removed at night for 6 to 7 months.

The MAA has approves and FAA approval is pending for an additional crane for a parking structure (building 3b) under the same conditions as the 2a building except that the duration may be up to 10 months.

The Revenue Authority will give appropriate notice to pilots of the cranes. **IF a change in flight operations is required by the FAA, the Revenue Authority will give notice to both pilots and the community of the specific changes.**

- 4) The FAA inspected the Airpark for compliance with the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and issued a report which documented required changes. The 2 most substantial problems are the lack of an elevator in the main building and non-compliant bathrooms. The Revenue Authority will seek a grant to design and to determine the feasibility of the design to correct those problems. The Authority will also request a grant from the FAA to correct door width and water fountain problems. Handicapped parking accommodations will be adequately addressed by parking lot restriping (being completed) and signage.

- 5) Upcoming projects at the Airpark will focus on on-site trees (25 acres parallel to the runway), which the FAA has declared to be a hazard to navigation. The Revenue Authority is in the process of seeking compliance with environmental and forest conservation laws. If the natural resource inventory finds wetlands, any action on the trees will be delayed until wetland issues can be addressed. After the tree issue is addressed, grants will be sought to re-align how the taxi way connects to the runways (angles and points on entry).

Mr. Anderson reported that he had received a number of complaints about aircraft departures before 6:00 am. **He asked Mr. Miller to consider barring such departure before 6:00 AM and after 11: 00 PM except in the case of emergencies. Mr. Miller said he would investigate the feasibility of that request.**

- 6) Mr. Zyontz reported that Montgomery Village Master Plan Amendment, which will cover Town Sector zoned property in Montgomery Village, will start in October 2014 with a Planning Board draft expected by October 2015. The focus of the plan as currently envisioned will be issues related to the Montgomery Village golf course and commercially developed areas. The new plan will not change zoning on the Web tract or around the Airpark.
- 7) Mr. Anderson handed out Montgomery Village Foundation's Transportation Policy, FAA "Fly Neighborly" guidelines, an FAA Aviation news article to please fly neighborly, a FAA Safety News release posted October 20, 2005 to please fly neighborly, AOPA Noise abatement guidance, and a 1991 letter from the Revenue Authority to the Planning Board warning that the east village will be subject to airplane noise. He related an incident where a pilot's map should no congested area on a flight map. He proposed that the Airpark Management and the Pilots Association voluntarily take additional actions that will improve the situation for people who live under the KGAI-RW-32 flight path by flying neighborly.

Mr. Anderson asked Mr. Miller to ask the FAA to designate the neighborhoods around the airpark (Montgomery Village East, Hunters Woods, East Gate, Hadley Farms, North Gate, Flower Hills) as a congested area.

Mr. Gawler indicated that every opportunity to alert pilots to noise abatement procedures is already taken. He indicated that a congested area designation would not change flight operations (flight paths or required altitude).

Mr. Miller indicated that the Airpark will continue to provide "Fly Neighborly" material to pilots.

Mr. Miller indicated he would consider the request to ask the FAA about a congested area designation and asked for help in getting the community to learn more about airpark activities. Mr. Anderson said he would help with that effort.

- 8) During the course of the meeting, Mr. Anderson asked about touch and goes from plans in transit from other airports. It was agreed that the issue could be address at a future meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM.