

Airpark Liaison Committee
Minutes
December 6, 2017
6th Floor Front Conference Room
Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD

Meeting start time: 4:00 PM
Meeting end time: 5:10 PM

The following attended:

Committee Members:

Howard Layer, Chair; Rosemary Arkoian; Michael Boone; Steve Findley; Robert Gawler; Donald Gray; Michael Hounslow; Suzi Kaplan; Keith Miller; Terry O'Grady; Richard Peppin; Nancy Shenk; Chunhua Wan; Richard Wilder; Jeff Zyontz (Staff)

Other County Staff: Catherine Matthews

Other Council Staff: Susan Mabie

- 1) Chairman Layer had everyone introduce themselves. He then described the function of the Committee for the benefit of new Committee members.
- 2) Mr. Miller presented an update on Airpark renovations and operations.
 - Phase I of the construction project was to be completed December 7, 2017. A grant of \$4 million has been awarded for Phase II, which will hopefully commence in the spring.
 - Touch-and-gos have been prohibited during construction, but residents continue to complain that they are happening. Mr. Miller explained that many pilots are going to other airports to practice their touch-and-gos, but some are practicing full-stop landings and flying out again; the time difference in the 2 practices is only 2 minutes (6 minutes for touch-and-go, 8 for full-stop). Although it appears that pilots are doing touch-and-gos, they are in fact doing full-stop landings.
 - A shortage of pilots is predicted. MCPS is starting a new Aviation Engineering Program (developed by AOPA).
 - The taxiway lighting system is all updated.
 - A number of pilots at the Airpark volunteer and fly for programs such as Wounded Warrior, Angel Flight, etc. Mr. Miller will send out a list of the organizations represented.
 - The next Airpark open house will be next fall.
 - The long term trend on the number of operations (landings plus take-offs) is down to 66,000 per year. In the early 1990's there were approximately 250,000 operations.
- 3) Mr. Hounslow will send out a website address to determine the types of aircraft operating at the Airpark. (<http://www.gcr1.com/5010web/airport.cfm?Site=GAI&AptSecNum=2>)
- 4) The Committee discussed the bright lights at the Public Safety Training Academy; Mr. Hounslow said that the lights are much more intense than the Airpark's and it has taken some adjustment for pilots approaching at night. Catherine Matthews will contact Policy Training Academy officials to ask if they can be dimmed.
- 5) Chairman Layer adjourned the meeting at 5:10 PM.