



City of Ann Arbor

Formal Minutes

Airport Advisory Committee

801 Airport Dr.
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

5:15 PM

Electronic Meeting

**This meeting will be audio only. To listen or speak at public comment call: 888.788.0099
or 877.853.5247
Meeting ID: 530 745 4665**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Farris called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm. The Chair announced that this was an electronic meeting and provided phone numbers and the process for public comment.

ROLL CALL

Committee members present (location they are participating from): Greg Farris (Ann Arbor), Mark Perry (Scio Township), Rosemary Faulkner (Ann Arbor), Fred Hall (Ann Arbor), Erica Briggs (Ann Arbor), Chris Watson (Ann Arbor)

Committee members absent: Kelly Burris, Melanie McNicholas

Ex-officio members present: Matthew Harshberger, Matthew Kulhanek

Public in attendance: David McCalla, George McCalla

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Perry moved, seconded by Member Faulkner, to amend the agenda to add an item for Wildlife Mitigation to new business. The amended agenda was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The July 19, 2023 meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

A-1

Airport Advisory Committee Minutes - July 19, 2023

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minute limit per speaker)

The Chair welcomed those in attendance and explained the process for public comment. David McCalla and George McCalla spoke on behalf of Broadview Farms and their request for reconsideration by the Committee regarding the elimination of farmland from inside the airport's fenced area. They feel there are other ways of addressing the airport's concerns on wildlife issues and would like to explore what they can do to assist in that effort and still farm the area.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee reviewed three items of correspondence.

- B-1** Airport Operations through July, 2023
- B-2** Airport Fuel Usage through July, 2023
- B-3** Airport Hangar Occupancy through August, 2023

AIRPORT MANAGER REPORT

C-1 Project Update - Environmental Assessment

The Environmental Assessment document has essentially been completed and the consultant has prepared a Finding of No Significant Impact and submitted it to the FAA for review and comment.

C-2 Other Items

The Airport Manager reported on the upcoming FAA Runway Safety Action Team meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 11th at the terminal building lower level conference room from 2-4 pm. The meeting will also allow for participation via Zoom and the FAA will be sending out additional information to airport users. The new public wifi has been activated in the terminal, a recycle dumpster has been added to the NW T-hangar area, and pavement markings restored on the recently replaced concrete on Alpha taxiway. The Manager provided a summary of his attendance at the recent Michigan Association of Airport Executives conference from last week. Some members of City Council and other local elected officials toured the airport on Monday. The FAA will be doing work in October to improve the condition of the access road to the

ASOS and SAWS weather equipment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

D-1 Pittsfield and Lodi Townships Reports - M. Harshberger & J. Godek

Member Harshberger had nothing to report under this item of business.

D-2 Discovery Area Report

Chair Farris reported on continuing work on the non-profit effort and discussions of phasing plans for the work.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

E-1 Noise Concerns - Voluntary Noise Abatement Program Brochure

Member Harshberger thanked the recent efforts of airport users to not fly pattern traffic on the major summer holidays. Labor Day generated no noise complaints and appears to have been very successful. He also inquired to online chatter regarding a new flight school operating at the airport. No one was aware of any such activity and no new flight schools are operating, or have requested operations from the airport. It is possible that flight school operations from other airports have increased use of ARB and that the control tower would probably be the best resource to see if that was the case. The Airport Manager has not yet received the updated draft voluntary noise abatement program brochure for presentation to the Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

F-1 In Person Committee Meetings

The Committee discussed the new option to have up to four meetings per calendar year as in person meetings per a recent City Council action. The members will consider the option with a target of the November meeting to make a decision in conjunction with setting the Committee's 2024 meeting schedule.

F-2 Update Airport Rules & Regulations

The Airport Manager requested that a subcommittee be established to

work with him on reviewing and updating the Airport's Rules and Regulations that were last approved in July, 2013. The Committee discussed the goals of an update and one specific area of focus regarding compliance with the FAA's regulations regarding hangars not having active aircraft in them. With hangar waiting lists becoming more common, this has become an area of emphasis during FAA inspections. Members Hall, Faulkner and Perry volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

F-3 Draft Airport Capital Improvement Plan

The draft Airport Capital Improvement Plan that is required annually by MDOT-Aero and the FAA was reviewed by the Committee. A couple of suggestions regarding converting the beacon to LED lighting and exploring an access drive from the Pittsfield Township Fire Station that abuts the airport were shared.

Wildlife Mitigation

A discussion was held regarding mitigation efforts for deer, geese and other wildlife with the upcoming changes to land use inside the airport's fenced area. The Airport Manager reported on current mitigation efforts and plans for new vegetation to replace the crop areas, including specific grasses to help reduce geese and birds of prey in conjunction with mowing practices. These efforts will not eliminate wildlife but should reduce the frequency of activity within the fenced area.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Annual meeting schedule will be presented at the next meeting.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, November 15, 2023 @ 5:15 p.m. Please call the airport manager's office (734.794.6312) by Monday before the meeting if you cannot attend.

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minute limit per speaker)

The Chair explained the process for public comments. There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm.

All persons are encouraged to participate in public meetings. Citizens requiring translation or sign language services or other reasonable accommodations may contact the City Clerk's office at 734.794.6140; via e-mail to: cityclerk@a2gov.org; or by written request addressed and mailed or delivered to:

**City Clerk's Office
301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104**

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