



City of Ann Arbor

Formal Minutes

Airport Advisory Committee

801 Airport Dr.
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Wednesday, January 18, 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), Melanie McNicholas (Ann Arbor), Mark Perry (Scio Township), Fred Hall (Ann Arbor), Theresa Whiting (Ann Arbor), Erica Briggs (Ann Arbor), Chris Watson (Ann Arbor), Rosemary Faulkner (Ann Arbor)

Committee members absent: Kellie Burris

Ex-officio members present: Matthew Harshberger, Matthew Kulhanek

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

INTRODUCTIONS

With three members participating in their first meeting, the Chair requested that current and new members give a short introduction of themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The November 16, 2022 meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

A-1 Airport Advisory Committee Minutes - November 16, 2022

The minutes were approved by the Committee and forwarded to the City Council due back on 2/21/2023

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minute limit per speaker)

The Chair welcomed those in attendance and explained the process for public comment. There was no public comment.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee reviewed five items of correspondence as presented.

- B-1** Airport Operations through November, 2022
- B-2** Airport Fuel Usage through November, 2022
- B-3** Airport Hangar Occupancy through December, 2022
- B-4** Project Grow Correspondence - 12/22
- B-5** AAC Membership Roster - 01/23

AIRPORT MANAGER REPORT**C-1 Project Update - Environmental Assessment**

The public hearing on the draft environmental assessment (EA) for the Runway Safety Extension Project was held on December 13, 2022 and was attended by 46 members of the public. The public comment period closed on January 13, 2023 with approximately 225 comments received. Agency comments are due on January 18, 2023. The consultant will review the comments, make any necessary edits to the draft EA and provide the response to comments and final document to the FAA and MDOT-Aero for consideration and eventually, issuance of a Finding of No Significant Impact. The current target is late March/early April for this task.

C-2 Other Items

The Airport Manager updated the Committee on the transition of the FBO building at 719 Airport Drive from Aviation Center to Beacon Aviation. Unfortunately it has not gone smoothly and we are working through the City Attorney's Office to complete the process. Staff is currently working on the FY24/25 Airport budget as part of our two year budget cycle. A rate increase for the t-hangars is expected this year and the final amount

will be vetted out through the budget process and market analysis.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

There was nothing new to report on this agenda item.

D-2 Discovery Area Report

Chair Farris will send a project summary and concept drawings to the three new Committee members.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

E-1 Airport Noise - Voluntary Noise Abatement Procedure Brochure

As requested, a review of the possibility of making the Airport's current voluntary noise abatement program into a mandatory program was researched. In short, federal legislation approved in 1990 (Airport Noise and Access Restrictions), made it extremely difficult to implement mandatory noise abatement procedures. No airport has been approved for mandatory noise abatement since the legislation was adopted. In addition, the airports noise contours that are considered by the FAA (65 DNL) are all well within the airport property. Additional efforts to refresh the existing voluntary noise abatement program, specifically looking at traffic patterns, should be ready for discussion at the next Committee meeting.

E-2 Airport Agricultural Activity

There was significant discussion on the various options under consideration for changes to the agricultural activity at the airport. These included questions about what type of ground cover would replace the crops, mowing frequency, what types of ground animals may become common place and would they be an attractant for predatory birds. The Airport Manager will do additional research on these concerns.

NEW BUSINESS

F-1 Airport Meeting Room

There was discussion about the public wifi in the terminal building and specifically the lower level conference room. Public wifi has been

provided at no cost by Solo Aviation for many years, but the coverage in the basement is poor. Committee members asked that the Airport Manager research the best way to improve the public wifi in the building and determine the associated costs of that improvement. The other issue raised was the coordination of late running meetings at the terminal and handling ingress/egress after the building is closed for the evening. Meeting rentals have keys to the building and they should coordinate directly with the FBO if they are going to be in the building after normal business hours. The building entrance would remain unlocked and then be locked up by the meeting coordinator at the end of the meeting. Meeting attendees could also leave through the rear stairwell door to the emergency egress door at that location.

F-2 Election of Officers for 2023

A motion was made to nominate Greg Farris for the Airport Advisory Committee Chair position for 2023. No other nominations were received. A motion to close nominations and approve the selection of Greg Farris as Committee Chair for 2023 was unanimously approved.

A motion was made to nominate Melanie McNicholas for the Airport Advisory Committee Vice-Chair position for 2023. No other nominations were received. A motion to close nominations and approve the selection of Melanie McNicholas as Committee Vice-Chair for 2023 was unanimously approved.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

The Airport Manager may have a preliminary FY24/25 Airport budget presentation for the March meeting.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

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

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minute limit per speaker)

The Chair explained the process for public comment. There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 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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