DeKalb County Airport Advisory Board (AAB) Minutes

The DeKalb County Airport Advisory Board met on Monday, February 11, 2019 at 7:00 PM in Room 227, Airport Administration Building at DeKalb-Peachtree Airport.

Members Present: Larry Scheinpflug (AAB Chair), Kevin Fowler, Mike Reeves, Christopher Richard, Robert Smith, Eugene Henry, Dan Zanger
Members Absent: None
Others Present: Airport Director Mario Evans, Deputy Airport Director Marshall Taggart and Noise and Environmental Analyst Nate Schattner

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by AAB Chair Larry Scheinpflug

I. Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the January 14, 2019 minutes was made by Dan Zanger and seconded by Mike Reeves. Motion passed.

II. Information/Old Business

A. Airport Director's Report: Airport Director Mario Evans reported the following:
   1. Runway Incursion Mitigation (RIM) project: Airport Director Mario Evans stated that 21 hold bar lights will be installed. Once the project begins, it is projected to take 90 days. The project is 90% FAA funded, 5% State, 5% Airport revenue.
   2. Surge Event: PDK had 657 total operations, Wed. 1/30 through Mon. 2/4. Atlanta TRACON stated that Monday 2/4 was their busiest day since 2013.
   3. Master Plan Update: Evans deferred to Jim Duguay from Michael Baker International. Jim shared that Michael Baker has finished the 20 year aviation forecast inventory report for the airport. It will be submitted to the Airport Director for review and comment on 2/12. The report will then go to GDOT for their review and comment.
      - PDK 101 presentations will be held at the end of February or at the first of March.
      - Citizens Advisory Committee meeting will be held by the first of March.
      - Technical Advisory Committee Meeting: not scheduled yet.
      - A member of the public asked if the Citizens Advisory Committee could review the next meetings material before the meeting date. Board member said: Yes. Same member of the public asked if the meeting could be held at the administration building since the library where it is usually held, closes early. Board member answered that this would be looked into.
      - Annual Noise Report: Discussion of moved to March Board meeting.
      - Smartegies reports that there were 300 comments and 200 sign-ups for notification on the Goals Envisioning survey.

The January 2019 Noise Report will be posted on the website in its entirety: Total operations were 11,085 which is a decrease of 8.61% as compared to January of 2018. There were 301 voluntary curfew operations. Total 2019 year-to-date operations are 11,085 as compared to the total 2018 operations as of January 2018 of 12,129. In January, 42% of operations were on a southerly flow, 47% were to the north, and 11% were on the NW/SE runway.
Noise complaints: 39 households made 713 complaints. The majority of the complaints were made between 12:00p.m. and 17:59p.m. (32%). The Complaint Percentages by Zip Code chart shows that 79.10% of the complaints originated from the 30341 zip code. A total of 76 advisory letters were sent to aircraft operators who flew during the Voluntary Curfew Period who were not identified as MedEvac and/or other emergency flights. Regarding High Noise Events, 13 advisory letters were sent to the operators whose aircraft exceeded the high noise event threshold(s).
- Total operations for December 2018 (not available at January meeting due to Government shutdown) were 8,871, which was a decrease of 16.12% compared to December 2017. Total 2018 year-to-date operations were 151,132 as compared to the total 2017 operations as of December 2017 of 159,066.
- Larry S. commented that the 500+ complaints received this month from one resident is the most ever received from one citizen. He expressed concern that use of computer "apps" that report noise events, may be growing. Larry then asked Nate how much time he spends per month on correlating flights for Noise complaints. Nate answered that about 70% of his time is spent on this task. Airport Director Evans explained that the Noise Complaint reporting structure is designed to report a noise event that has created a disturbance for them. It was not designed for computer-generated programs that run 24/7 and lodge complaints. Evans also explained that prevailing winds cause Air Traffic Control to change air traffic flow throughout the day. Board Member Dan Zanger, suggested a reach-out to the individual who lodged 500+ complaints, and invite him to come in person to a Board meeting for a discussion.

- Member of the community asked if Military can do touch and go's? Evans said Yes, but they don't typically. Another member asked if the Military has to file a PPR (prior reservation request). Board answered: No. Military aircraft may be coming in when the airport is closed. Regarding two F-16s that flew in recently, another member asked if notice can be given so people could bring their kids to see them. Board answered that this was not possible, as military flight information is often masked.  

- Member of community asked if PDK would be creating an "app" for residents to record noise complaints. Evans answered: Yes, improvements have been made to airport NOMS system and should be implemented within the next 2 months. Member of community asked if funding had to be pulled from other projects for this implementation. Evans answered: Yes.

- Member of community asked if the airport sees any results from voluntary curfew letters sent out. Evans responded: Yes.

- Member of community asked what percentage of voluntary curfew non-abiders were base tenants. Board did not have an answer at that time.

- Evans communicated that the City of Chamblee has approved the building of new condos very close to the airport. No one from the City or the Developer contacted the airport to discuss the impact of living next to an airport before approving the new construction.

- **Motion to accept the December 2018 Noise Report** was made by Mike Reeves and seconded by Christopher Richard. Motion passed.

- **Motion to accept the January 2019 Noise Report** was made by Christopher Richard and seconded by Larry Scheinpfug. Motion passed.

C. **Other:** Good Neighbor Day – pushed to the Fall (September) to work in conjunction with school starting and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) programs, in an effort to address the shortage of pilots and mechanics. Format will be more of an aviation festival.

III. **New Business:** None

IV. **Public Comments:**
- A member of the community asked if there were any updates on the 2013 Environmental Study: Nate directed the member to the PDK website, under the 'What's New' tab.

Motion to adjourn was made by Larry Scheinpfug and seconded by Mike Reeves. Motion passed at 8:25 p.m.

Submitted by:  
Lori Bell (Secretary)

Approved as Submitted:  
Larry Scheinpfug (AAB Chair)