

## DeKalb County Airport Advisory Board (AAB) Minutes

The DeKalb County Airport Advisory Board met on Monday, July 13, 2020 at 5:30 PM via Zoom Video Conference call.

Members Present: Christopher Richard (AAB Chair), Mike Reeves, Reuben Jones, Doug Miller, Kevin Fowler, Larry Scheinpflug (AAB Vice Chair), Dan Zanger

Members Absent: Larry Scheinpflug (AAB Vice Chair), Eugene Henry

Others Present: Airport Director Mario Evans and Noise and Environmental Analyst Korey Barnes

The meeting was called to order at 5:37p.m. by AAB Vice Chair, Christopher Richard.

- I. Approval of Minutes: **Motion to approve the June, 2020 minutes was made by Board Member Doug Miller and seconded by Board Member Mike Reeves. Motion passed.**

- II. Information/Old Business

- A. **Airport Director's Report:** Airport Director Mario Evans reported the following:

1. Master Plan Update: Evans deferred to Michael Baker International representative, Jim Duguay.
      - Committee meetings scheduled for June 30<sup>th</sup> were canceled due to issue over advertising under the Open Meetings Act. Project status: halfway through Phase 2. Focuses currently are Stakeholder engagement, Implementation Plan, Final Deliverables.
      - Impact of COVID-19: Traffic is down almost 70% in commercial aviation since the pandemic began. General Aviation has been seeing a slow rebound since the pandemic started. GA jets were down 70%, now down by 30%. Turbo-props were originally down 60%, now down 10%. Piston and Heli were down 50%, now fully recovered – nationwide.
      - Noise and Environmental Analyst, Korey Barnes presented an Impacts of COVID-19 on PDK Operations slide presentation. These will be posted on the AAB website.
      - Angel Flight Soars: In addition to continuing to provide flight support for people with financial needs, they are also helping to transport COVID-19 testing supplies. There has been a significant increase in pilots donating their time during the quarantine to move supplies.
      - Environmental considerations in the Master Plan: Any project that receives Federal funding requires a level of NEPA review. Jim displayed and walked through a presentation which will be posted on the airport website. The actual NEPA process occurs after the Master Plan (airport layout plan) is approved by the FAA and GDOT. Further environmental review will happen before the project(s) can actually be implemented.
      - CAC/TAC/IGC Meetings upcoming.
    2. AAB Bylaw Change Request: Christopher Richard deferred to Board Member Dan Zanger: Dan spoke with Chamblee Council members but has not been able to connect with the Commissioner. City Council has given their approval, but final approval needs to come from Commissioner. Recap on issue: Our AAB Charter should show that this seat is reserved for a Chamblee resident. Dan asked if any other Board member has had a chance to speak with their Commissioner. Christopher Richard suggested that this be tabled to August meeting, in order for Dan to get approval from Commissioner. Mike Reeves asked if an 'elevator speech' can be provided for each Board member to go back to their Commissioner. Dan responded: speech should just simply suggest that at the Mayor's request, Seat 9 should be reserved for a Chamblee resident.
      - Member of Public Jordan Fox question: If someone from Chamblee does not want to take seat, would the seat remain open? Board Member Dan Zanger responded that he wants someone to be appointed who wants the job. Board approved motion to table the Bylaw change to the August meeting.
    3. CARES Act: presented by Hunter Hines. The airport was awarded \$157K grant funding through the FAA for general operations of the airport. Approval process will go to the BOC for discussion/vote tomorrow. Board Member Mike Reeves asked how amount was

determined. Airport Director Evans answered that the FAA determined the amount through an airport state statistical equation.

- 4. RIM PHASE 2 update: presented by Hunter Hines. Received word from FAA that project will be 100% funded as originally stated.
- 5. VIP Movement schedule on Wednesday: temporary air restriction from 1400 to 1800.

**Noise and Environmental Analyst Report:** - N&E Analyst, Korey Barnes delivered the following report: **The June 2020 Noise Report** will be posted on the website in its entirety: **Total operations were 12,666** which is a decrease of -6.48% as compared to June of 2019. There were 355 voluntary curfew operations. Total 2020 year-to-date operations are **65,270** as compared to the total 2019 operations as of June 2019 of 76,775. In June, 55% of operations were on a southerly flow, 42% were to the north, and 3% were on the NW/SE runway. **Noise complaints: 4.1** households made 87 complaints. The majority of the complaints were made between 0:00a.m. and 05:59a.m. (32%). The Complaint Percentages by Zip Code chart shows that 48% of the complaints originated from the 30341 zip code. A total of 153 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, 39 advisory letters were sent to the operators whose aircraft exceeded the high noise event threshold(s).

- Member of public Joseph Snyder asked: Have noise complaints dropped over the last three months at the level of dropped flights? N&E Analyst Barnes answered: Yes. Fox asked: Are letters sent via mail or email? Barnes answered: Letters are usually mailed to where aircraft is registered.
- Public question: Is there a portable NOMS system? Barnes answered: Not portable, but we can do virtual.

**Motion to accept the June 2020 Noise Report was made by Mike Reeves and seconded by Doug Miller. Motion passed.**

- B. **Other:**  
Board Member Doug Miller asked: Did the sale of Epps Aviation prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, go through? Evans answered: No.

III. **New Business:**  
NONE

IV. **Public Comments:**  
Evans stated that Public Comments section for Virtual meetings will not be used since we are entertaining questions throughout the meeting. Christopher Richards opened the floor to any additional public comments: there were none!

**Motion to adjourn was made by Mike Reeves and seconded by Doug Miller. Motion passed at 6:39 p.m.**

Submitted by:

*Lori Bell*

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Lori Bell (Secretary)

Approved as Submitted:

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Christopher Richard (AAB Chair)