

DeKalb County Airport Advisory Board (AAB) Minutes

The DeKalb County Airport Advisory Board met on Monday, December 14th, 2020 at 5:30 PM via Zoom Video Conference call.

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

Members Absent: Christopher Richard (AAB Chair)

Others Present: Airport Director Mario Evans, Deputy Airport Director Hunter Hines, and Noise and Environmental Analyst Korey Barnes

The meeting was called to order at 5:31p.m. by AAB Vice Chair, Larry Scheinpflug.

- I. Approval of Minutes: **Motion to approve the November, 2020 minutes was made by Board Member Mike Reeves and seconded by Board Member Dan Zanger. Motion passed.**
- II. Information/Old Business
 - A. **Airport Director's Report:** Airport Director Mario Evans reported the following:
 1. Airport Master Plan Update:
Evans deferred to Jim Duguay of Baker International: Jim deferred to Donya Elder from Smartegies to discuss last week's public meeting on Dec. 10th. Donya reported that there were 40 attendees - largest attendance so far. Donya stated that the presentation was shown twice since it was long, and to accommodate attendees who came late to the meeting. Participants were invited to fill out and submit a comment card. As of meeting, two comment cards have been returned. Smartegies will be sending out surveys to all committee members tomorrow regarding their feedback on the Master Plan proposals. The Master Plan website will be updated with information. Jim Duguay added: Video of the Public Open House Zoom meeting will be available on the public website.
 2. RIM PHASE 2 update:
Evans deferred to Deputy Airport Director, Hunter Hines. Hines reported that a construction meeting was held to discuss the RIM Phase II Project. A decision was made to start the project in the first weeks of January. The PAPI (Precision Approach Path Indicator) equipment has been installed. FAA must now conduct Flight Checks before all PAPI's can be turned on. This impacts PAPIs on 3L, 21L and 21R. The Flight check schedule has not been established.

Noise and Environmental Analyst Report: - N&E Analyst, Korey Barnes delivered the following report: **The November 2020 Noise Report** will be posted on the website in its entirety: **Total operations were 11,855** which is a decrease of -19.02% as compared to November of 2019. There were 344 voluntary curfew operations. Total 2020 year-to-date operations are **127,306** as compared to the total 2019 operations as of November 2019 of 149,291. In November, 28% of operations were on a southerly flow, 68% were to the north, and 4% were on the NW/SE runway. **Noise complaints:** 14.4 households made 115 complaints. The majority of the complaints were made between 12:00 PM and 05.59PM. (43%). The Complaint Percentages by Zip Code chart shows that 43% of the complaints originated from the **30341** zip code. A total of 142 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, 51 advisory letters were sent to the operators whose aircraft exceeded the high noise event threshold(s).

- Airport Director Evans asked where N&E Analyst Barnes thought the airport operations number would be at the end of 2020. Barnes: predicted that it would not go over 140, less than 2019.

Motion to accept the November 2020 Noise Report was made by Doug Miller and seconded by Dan Zanger. Motion passed.

B. **Other:**

Per the AAB by-laws, a new AAB Chair and Vice Chair must be elected each calendar year. AAB Vice Chair, Larry Scheinpflug shared that Christopher Richard and Larry would be happy to switch their current roles for the new year if there was no objection, and if there wasn't anyone else on the Board who wanted to be Chair or Vice Chair. Larry opened this up to the Board. No one on the Board responded. Larry said that he and Chris are honored to serve in their switched roles: Larry Scheinpflug will be Chair, and Christopher Richard will be Vice Chair in 2021. Doug Miller accepted the motion, Dan Zanger seconded.

III. **New Business:**

NONE

IV. **Public Comments:**

- Jordan Fox asked if there was any progress in getting meeting recordings on website? Korey Barnes answered: It is upcoming.
- Evanthe Papastathis, Managing Partner of Skybound Aviation flight school at PDK wanted to make comments that she didn't get to make at the Public meeting. Evanthe shared that she knows the community doesn't like flight schools and big planes. She referred to an AJC article in which PDK is portrayed as not pulling its weight. She offered that the community does not realize what the airport contributes to the community in taxes. Evanthe suggests that the millions of dollars that go to the community needs to be made better known to the community. She asked the Board's opinion on addressing the concerns of the local community? Board Vice Chair Larry Scheinpflug stated that the economic impact on community via ad valorem is substantial – about \$300K per year. Larry asked Mario Evans to provide a more accurate number. Mario said he has to get that number from the Tax Assessor's office. Board Member Doug Miller wanted to confirm that the ad valorem paid was all on aircraft based at PDK and on value of aircraft? Board answer: Yes. Board Member Dan Zanger said he makes regular reports with the City of Chamblee, and they report to the City Council. Evanthe expressed concern that complainers not get too much of a foothold without equal response from the airport. Member of public Jaime Dutro representing Sagamore Hill commented: taxpayers appreciate all the money that comes in, they don't want to get rid of flight schools, just not add flight schools.
- Mario Evans commented: that the county gets 29% of revenue and 16% goes to the City of Chamblee.
- Doug Miller stated that he wished there were more questions vs comments in the December 12th Public Meeting. He thought the presentation was well done by Smartegies.
- Larry Scheinpflug asked Deputy Airport Director Hunter Hines about: Gate 11 on North Ramp: It was recently repaired, now not working again. Who fixes it? Hunter said they are working with the installer of gate to try to get a more stable fix since the gates are still under warranty. Larry also asked about Gate 16. He saw the gate beeping, opening and closing partially, going back and forth. He called security, they decided to disengage and close it permanently. Hunter said the issue is with a sensor: it will be replaced. Sensors will be replaced on all gates.

Motion to adjourn was made by Dan Zanger and seconded by Doug Miller. Motion passed at 6:07 p.m.

Submitted by:

Lori Bell

Lori Bell (Secretary)

Approved as Submitted:

Larry Scheinpflug - Vice Chair

Christopher Richard (AAB Chair)