



## TAUNTON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING  
December 28, 2005

Commissioners: Charlie Menard, Chairman  
Ed Fowler, Treasurer  
Maryan Nowak, Vice Chairman  
Bob Adams  
Carolyn Basler

Airport Manager: Dan Raposa  
Assistant Airport Manager: Joe Lawlor  
Recording Secretary: Gwen Borden

Others in Attendance: Mike Bruzzi, Chris Morey, Nelson Woodward, Charlie Pickett, Steve Manchester, Dick Rodier, Dick Griffith, Fred Terra

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Menard.

**Airport Engineers Edwards & Kelcey, Projects Update** – Charlie reported that Ned is on vacation, but if there were any news good or bad on any airport business, Ned would have informed us

**Minutes: November 30, 2005** - Charlie spoke on the November minutes requesting that minutes be amended. The purpose of the amendment is to attempt to summarize the lengthy discussions that took place regarding the Airport Safety Group. At the October Airport Safety Group the next meeting was scheduled for December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005. This December date was listed in the October and November airport commission agenda and also in the November Airport Managers Newsletter. This communication is sent out with all airport billing and is posted on airport. On November 18<sup>th</sup>, although no official meeting had been announced or posted, a small group of airport users met with Mary Gabriel of FAA. Minutes were published and individual actions taken as a result of this

unofficial meeting. Uninvited airport users, the airport manager and commission all expressed their concern with this break in protocol. Future meetings will take place after the accepted practice of notification to all interested parties has been followed. **Carolyn: motions to accept the amended minutes. Bob: seconds. All in favor, unanimous. So voted.**

**Treasurers Report** – Ed reported on the financial status of the airport noting **Income of \$47,294.22 and Expenses of \$29,947.64 for a Monthly Positive Cash Flow of \$17,346.58.** Ed asked if there are any comments or questions on the report? There being no questions or comments, **Maryan motions to accept the Treasurers' Report and to authorize Ed to submit the bills for payment. Carolyn: seconds. All in favor, unanimous. So voted.**

**Airport Managers Report** – Dan reported on the following:

1. **Fuel Survey** – Dan again obtained the fuel survey on line at 100LL.com, and reported that TMA current price is \$3.65/gal. on credit, and \$3.55/gal. cash, and in line with prices of nearby airports.
2. **Airport Safety Group** – There was no meeting in December, but there is still continued interest in having this meeting. Dan would like to get in touch with the committee that was formed a couple of years ago that hasn't been meeting and try to schedule a meeting for January 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. Dan will be sending out the billing and newsletter and would like to include the meeting announcement.
3. **Ascent Technology – Fuel Nozzle correspondence** – Dan received an e-mail from David Munger of Ascent with regards to the use of automatic shutoff nozzles (automotive). Mr. Munger stated in his letter that automotive dispensers are not authorized for use on aircraft fuel dispensers according to ATA 103, Phillips 66, and NFPA 407. The basic reasoning behind this mandate is because automotive nozzles allow for hold open devices and they do not generally have the correct sized filter screen. Sediment and other particulate could possibly enter the aircraft fuel system if this screen is not in place. Although this type of system is used in a number of locations, this practice is neither promoted nor endorsed by Ascent, Phillips 66

or any other responsible supplier of aviation fuel. The letter also stated that if any customers have further questions, they are free to contact him at 800-272-3681.

4. **Replacement Carpets installed in terminal building** – letter of request submitted from Bristol Aviation for slip resistant carpets in the hallway of terminal building. Dan responded that there had always been rubber backed carpets in that area but had not been put back since the transition of previous flight school and Bristol aviation renovations. The lack of carpeting could be a safety issue with snow, ice, wet shoes and boots etc., and Dan had the carpet replaced.
5. **Property of Gregorious on Middleboro Avenue** – Dan contacted Claude Giroux and will conduct and inspection and put together and estimate for the commission for a price of \$500.00 and will submit after the holidays.
6. **Brush Clearing** began today by Al's Tree Service. They will clear the culvert down beyond the last hangar that has been constructed. They will work in light rain but not really bad weather.

#### **Old Business**

1. **Westcoat Drive Signs** – Dan had the opportunity to speak with Greg Cronin and he is still in the process of investigating the different types of signs that may be available. Also,
2. **Airport Building Directory Signage** – Charlie believes that Greg is preparing the building signs.
3. **Emergency Management Plan Review** – Maryan has been talking with Rick Ferreira of TEMA and is not having much success. Maryan has been writing things down that we may want to add into our own emergency plan.
4. **FAA Response for SOPP changes** – As of today we have not received a response on the changes that were tabled pending her review, (Touch & Go's). The changes been approved by the commission, but we are waiting for FAA approval before incorporating into our SOPP's.

5. **Request to City for Tax Title Land on Caswell St./Bettsy Rd.** – The Commission was requested to appear before the committee, the request came a little too late. The committee is questioning what our intended use for the land is. There were also some comments about their ability to sell that land and the committee is going to investigate whether they can sell the land to abutters of the property to generate revenue for the city.
6. **Terminal Office Space Interest – Business Proposal/Mike Bruzzi** – Dan noted that everyone has a copy of the proposal distributed this evening. After review of the proposal, Charlie asks if anyone has any questions? Ed asks Mike if he has gone to the extent of seeing how many members he can pick up? Mike said that many people have expressed interest in the pilots lounge. Mayan asks if Mike's pilot lounge will be communicating with pilots in any fashion by radio? Mike responded that at this point he is not sure but he wants to work with Dan, and if there is something that the commission doesn't want them to do, they won't do it. Maryan stated that he is particularly concerned about offering weather information especially if it is not an official weather report, ie wind speed. Chris Morey stated that the information they may offer would not be any proprietary system that they would have but a public system that is available to all pilots. Charlie said that the only comment that he has is that Mike and Chris have made the statement that in the future they will be looking into generating some aviation type businesses out of the space. Charlie asks if they understand that as it is now, that the pilots' lounge is a non-profit association and there would not be a Business Registration Fee. If they get into doing business offering a product or service for sale, then they would need to talk to Dan, change the text of the lease, and be considered a business and meet the criteria for a business and pay the BRF and provide the insurance. Mike and Chris understood what is expected of them now and for future expanded operations.

#### **New Business**

1. **Ultra-Lite Correspondence** – Charlie reported that a month or two ago we received a letter from Donna Witte of the FAA regarding a complaint that was filed with the FAA on TMA policy of not allowing ultra-lites. Years ago they were here, and were stopped for safety

reasons, and they have not been authorized to fly here for several years. We have met with Donna Witte, we reviewed the airspace, our SOPP's, and talked about what could happen should the ultra-lites be allowed here. We requested an FAA study that was done by the Flight Services out of Boston. They came down and visited the airport on the day of the fly-out. In their opinion is that Ultra-lites can operate at TMA in a safe and effectively easy manner. We have been told that we need to change our SOPP's to allow ultra-lites. Having been told that Charlie had the conversation with Donna Witte that we are in the process of preparing SOPP's and operating procedures and guidelines for ultra-lites at Taunton. She has accepted that, and we have prepared this information and will be distributed to the commission members tonight for their review and comment. Pending review and comments, our final product will be sent to Donna Witte for her approval and comment before we make the final change. Please review and get back to Dan with any comments. Charlie believes that they meet with the criteria and broad spectrum of requirements for ultra-lites and allow us some input into the ultra-lite operations at TMA. Anyone wishing a copy can get one after the meeting, and comments are welcome.

**2. TAA Requests Signage Update – reported earlier.**

Charlie wanted to acknowledge that the TAA will be having their Annual Meeting and Scholarship Dinner at the Jockey Club on January 10. Anyone interested can see any of the TAA members present tonight or take a look at the TAA flyer.

**Next meeting January 25, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Bob: motions to adjourn at 7:37 p.m.. Ed: second. All in favor, unanimous. So voted.**