



TAUNTON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING
May 28, 2014

Commissioners: Fred Terra, Chairman
Bob Adams, Vice-Chairman
William Manganiello
Jim Madigan
Burton Schriber (absent)
Charles Malo
Jan Boborzian

Airport Manager: Dan Raposa
Treasurer: Joe Lawlor
Recording Secretary: Gwendolyn Borden
Airport Ground Services: Ted Porada

Others in Attendance: Jim Miklas: Airport Solutions Group
Airport Users/Tenants: Bill Frasier, Mike Dupont, Doug Cooper, Charlie Pickett, Dick Griffith, Ted Jula, Joe Souza, Jerry Field, Carl Abers, Dick Rodier, Pat Terra, Ronn Mahan, Luis Gonzalez Blake Langille of Pilgrim Aviation.
Representing Ken Gibson: Michael MacClary, and others in attendance in support of Ken Gibson: Russell DeMariano, Juanita Gibson, Tabitha Gibson, Jessica Gibson, Kenneth Gibson, Nathan Gibson, Sidney Gibson, Imani Gibson, Augusto Silvia, Irene & Tony Ferguson

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Commission Chairman Fred Terra

Airport Engineers Projects Update – Jim Miklas submitted ASG’s Monthly Status Report on projects they are working on for the airport. (See attached report for specifics) Jim presented a layout of runway 4/22 showing the profile and vegetation obstruction at the end of the runway. This was part of ASG’s previous effort to identify these obstructions and possibly acquiring easements in order to clear these obstructions under an FAA process. There are various airspace surfaces at either end of the runway, and the ones identified are critical ones and they are related to threshold sighting surfaces. These are what the FAA utilizes as standard mechanisms by which they sight the actual ends of the runways. Basically these surfaces have to be cleared in order to land an aircraft on a particular runway. If these surfaces are penetrated by obstruction, the FAA gives you two choices, either you clear the obstruction or you displace the surface such that as you move that surface further to displace the threshold in a direction, you ultimately clear the vegetation out there. And what this is showing is 50’ penetrations in vegetation on either ends of

the runways and the surfaces themselves are about 20 to 1, so when you do the math, $50 \times 20 = 1,000$. So when you start displacing runway ends for 1,000 feet on a 1,900 foot runway, you can quickly see where that is an issue for that particular runway. The commission had requested information in order to place concrete markers for runway 4/22 and what it would take to make this compliant with runway standards, the simple fact is that based on this criteria and the runway in its' current condition, you can't meet FAA standards and actually still be a runway. Joe added that as the runway exists now, unmarked and unpaved, a pilot takes upon himself to land on that runway they assume the risk of landing on that runway. If we put out markers, we are assuring the flying public that the safety zones are in fact safe. If a pilot takes a standard landing pattern and hits a tree on the way down we are somewhat culpable for that accident. That being the case and based on our engineers discussion Joe recommends to the commission that we shelve placing the markers, play out our options in the future PAC meetings or even consider closing runway 4/22 if it is too expensive to put it into such condition to make it safe to land on. But for now, Joe suggests not placing the markers at the corners of the runway. Jim Miklas agrees with Joe. Fred stated that the commission will look into it further for continued discussions next month. After review of the status report, Fred asked if anyone had any questions on the report. No one in attendance had any questions for Jim and Fred thanked Jim for his continued efforts and was excused.

Secretary's Report April 30, 2014. Jan: motions to accept as presented. Jim: seconds the motion. All in favor: unanimous. So voted.

Treasurers' Report for May 2014 – Joe reported on airport finances reporting INCOME of \$22,565.79 and EXPENSES of \$18,159.89 for a Positive Cash Flow of \$4,405.90. Jan: motions to accept the report subject to audit and authorize the processing of the bills for payment. Jim: seconds the motion. All in favor: unanimous. So voted.

Airport Managers Report – Dan reported on the following:

1. **Fuel Survey** – we received a fuel delivery and prices have risen drastically. We have adjusted our price for fuel accordingly. The current price is \$6.25 for credit cards and house accounts, and \$6.06 for cash sales. Our prices are in line with prices of nearby airports, some being higher and some being lower.
2. **Airside Inspections – Tie downs, fuel farm and lights.** Fuel Farm is up and running with no problems to report. We have had some pretty good weather and have been able to work on some of the lights. All lights are functional except for a few in the ground that we're not getting a good connection on. We are keeping up with the daily maintenance of the airport. Rope is available for tie downs if anyone is in need of rope.
3. Hoyle Tanner, the company hired by MassDOT Aeronautics has been here performing pavement cutting, cracksealing and pavement marking repair. This project is totally funded by MassDOT. The project is now complete and looks great.

4. **Extended fueling hours** – fueling hours have been extended until 8:00 p.m. from Thursday through Sunday and a trial basis.
5. **Emergency Truck Repair Grant** – As reported on several months ago, we needed some emergency repairs on the truck. Through our engineers, ASG wrote a grant for us and the grant has been approved and we are expecting to be reimbursed \$5,728.48.
6. **5/14/2014 Cracksealing** – reported on earlier.
7. **5/21/2014 National Weather Service reports Vandalism to ASOS** – Dan received a call from the NWS. They have someone periodically check the ASOS and they reported damage within the fenced area and cannot say for sure when damage was done but did notice some narrow tracks on the ground. He reported that some receptacles would need replacing.
8. **5/20/2014 Blacktop Ramp at SRE and Handicap Signs Placed** – to make the SRE building handicap accessible, we have extended and graded the blacktop area to be level with the door opening and loamed, graded and seeded the area as requested. And signs have been placed as needed. The original estimate to complete this work was \$1,575.00 but the cost to the airport was \$400.00. The city made and installed the signs.

Old Business

1. **Frenette/Airport Property Update** – Bill stated he has nothing new to report other than he was informed by Dan that there will be a ZBA hearing on June 12 for a variance for an addition of an in-law apartment to the existing home on the lot that was released through the Planning Board. Bill will attend the meeting and report back to the commission. Fred noted that when the petitioner received the approval from the board of appeals, it was granted with the assumption that it would be all single family dwellings. Dan reported that through a couple of phone calls with Mr. Frenette regarding the fence and a Mr. Medeiros who will be putting the fence up, he, Fred and Jan took a walk to the area. Mr. Frenette and Mr. Medeiros stated there would be a problem with placing the fence where it was agreed to go, because it would entail cutting a lot of woodland and a crossing ditches and would make it difficult and asked if the fence could go closer to the road or back further into their land. The commission agreed the fence could go further into Mr. Frenettes' property to avoid cutting the trees. If it was placed closer to the road, they would still have the trees and ditch to contend with.
2. **Cement Markers** – Tabled until further information is gathered.
3. **ADA Compliance** – Fred reported that this is an ongoing item, the SRE is now ADA compliant and we have a few other issues we have to deal with. We have certain criteria we have to follow. It would be nice to have everything ADA compliant, but like everything else at the airport the costs all trickles down to the rate payers.

New Business

- 1. Board of Appeals/Cevan: Case # 3229** – discussed earlier. Bill will attend and report back to commission.
- 2. Project Takeoff Business Plan: Meet with Ken Gibson** – Mike MacClary representing Ken Gibson addressed the commission to discuss the business plan. Mike stated that Ken is out of the country on business and explained that the idea of Project Takeoff is a non-profit that will target inner city youth and young adults to introduce them to the world of aviation by bringing the world of aviation to them with mobile simulator units and by building a brand new facility at Taunton Municipal Airport, which will serve as headquarters for flight training segments of education. Part of the master plan and fund raising efforts is for the construction of a new first class facility at the airport containing brand new classrooms hanger space, mobile aviation units and other educational equipment necessary for the program. The conceptual plan immerses students into aviation, focusing on all aspects and jobs contained within, then matching their hopes and inner talents to a field supported within the industry. Through their mentoring programs, students will be educated in the basic foundation needed in which to accomplish their goals. The mentoring program will pair youth with mentors. The students and mentors will participate in weekly planned activities to strengthen the relationship amongst them, ultimately improving the young persons' confidence and hopefulness. Mentors will receive continuous training throughout the year and will participate in monthly meetings to report the young persons' progress. Project Takeoff will create a revolving learning environment that will be an invaluable resource to young people, aspiring mentors and the community at large. The program will draw on the years of experience from the instructors/mentors involved who have been selectively picked because of their vast aviation and business building expertise as a whole. We will harness this knowledge and distribute it in classroom settings, virtual online programs, in air flight sessions, group seminars and more to pass on what we have learned and experienced over the years to the children and young adults.

Joe: is this two separate businesses?

Mike: Project Takeoff is a single business. The original document presented had the business plan for two separate businesses, and only one business (Project Takeoff) is being proposed so a second document was submitted with only the business plan for Project Takeoff.

Joe: so Project Takeoff is a sub-element of his principal business?

Mike: no, it's a completely different business. The only thing that's the same is that they're both aviation related.

Fred: and he'll be doing both businesses here?

Mike: not necessarily here. Project Takeoff is all Ken is proposing to do here.

Jan: for classroom settings, what is the age group targeted?

Mike: teen and pre-teen, middle school and up.

Fred: what about the other segment (AAI)?

Mike: that's more of Ken's business that we're not proposing to look for any support for that here at the airport. The thought maybe that in the future, if Project Takeoff is successful and he gets the funds to run this program potentially he may want to run some commercial business at some point and he would come before the commission to discuss that. It is not something that will be happening at the present time.

Dan: so this business will encompass the whole leased area that was talked about before any business names were even discussed?

Mike: yes, there is nothing that he's proposing to do at this time that will involve anything other than Project Takeoff. The money that he will be using to pay for the project will be through Project Takeoff donations and through community support and through some of his investors who are looking for this project to be successful.

Dan: the mobile units will they be stored at the airport and if so, will they be stored inside?

Mike: yes, they will be stored at the airport and he'd not sure if they will be stored inside or out.

Dan: is there any similar project by Kens' companies or a competitive company in the country that is up and running.

Mike: is not aware of any, he doesn't know. He does know that this has been Kens' idea for a while now and has finally gotten enough support both financial as well as mentors.

Joe: would you characterize this as an educational enterprise?

Mike: most definitely yes.

Joe: is there a state rule regarding an educational institution that needs to be complied with?

Mike: in something like this, I believe the answer would be no. It's no different than a driver education. To whatever extent he would need to be licensed, he would.

Kenneth Gibson: addressed the commission. He's Kens' father. He told how Ken learned to fly through a computer at a very young age of 13. He went to school and became an instructor. But he got a lot of help through a lot of pilots on this airport. They helped encourage him to learn how to fly and fulfill his dream. Part of his dream that he has spoken to his dad about has been to help other people from all different backgrounds to have the opportunity to be encouraged as he did and maybe take it another step further. He has held a hangar party, as he calls it, every 2 or 3 years here at the airport where he has brought children here and some of the pilots have brought the kids for flights, to encourage them into aviation. His whole idea is to get them immersed into all aspects of the aviation industry, whether for the military or personal use.

Ted Jula: former CIP member, as a point of information, what would be the relationship between Project Takeoff and CIP squadron presently doing the same thing? There was no response to Teds' question.

Fred: any other questions from anyone in attendance? There were no further questions or concerns expressed.

Mike: is not sure of the protocol and asks if the proposed business plan is going to be approved.

Fred: does someone want to make a motion.

Jan: I'm all for it, I think it will be a great thing for the airport and the community and

motions: to accept his proposed business plan. Jim: seconds. Discussion continued and Dan stated that Ken wishes to lease the entire area (76,000 s.f.+) and this area will be incorporated into what he needs for his business plan and a standard lease.

Bill: I'm not objecting to the proposal, I'm just trying to understand what we're voting on. I love the concept and would love to see a facility such as this at the airport. To locate this here it would attract more people to the airport.

Charlie: I think it's an innovative idea and a great project and applaud it and it's a great opportunity for kids. What I don't understand is what we're voting on here tonight that we can't incorporate with the lease and vote on the big picture and get everything front of us.

Fred: we're voting on the business plan presented tonight. We have a motion and a second and now in discussions and then we'll take a vote.

Jan: I'm not sure I stated it correctly, but my motion is to accept the business plan for Project Takeoff and accept the lease since we are not changing anything and going with the standard lease and move forward with this pending his approval to start construction.

Carl Abers: if this facility goes through is this the only building going up and is there any other area available for leasing and building in this area?

Fred: basically they will be leasing the entire area of the maximum build out area.

Carl: so that facility will be the only building in that area?

Jim Miklas: there is no other area available for building and leasing in this area.

Jan: again motions to accept the proposed business plan for Project Takeoff and using our standard lease. Bob: second the motion. All in favor: unanimous. So voted.

Public Input

Dick Griffith representing the Taunton Airport Association reminded everyone of the **Spring TAA cookout on June 8th** at noon. Tickets are \$5.00 and that will go towards a 50/50 raffle. Tickets are available through Dan, Ted or himself.

Carl Abers asks if there is any progress on a solution to access. Dan responded that a power supply board was replaced and the gate is working fine. Carl stated that is not what his question is about. He would like to know if there is any progress on the access codes and weekend access to the airport. Fred responded that this has been brought up at several meetings, it was voted on and we are not going to bring it back up tonight. The access code hours are going to stay as it was voted on previously.

Jan: motions to adjourn at 8:07. Jim: seconds. All in favor, unanimous. So voted.

Next meeting June 25, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Leonard F. Rose SRE Building.

Individuals with disabilities, who require assistance or special arrangements to attend, please contact the Airport Manager at 508-821-2973. We request that you provide a 48 hour notice so that the proper arrangements may be made.

MEMORANDUM

TO:	Daniel J. Raposa, Airport Manager	FROM:	Bob Mallard
LOCATION:	Taunton, MA	LOCATION:	Woburn, MA
SUBJECT:	Monthly Status Report – Misc. Projects	DATE:	May 28, 2014

This memo describes the current status of miscellaneous engineering and planning projects at the Taunton Municipal Airport as of the date indicated above.

EA/NPC – FY2012 AIP PROJECT

- The local Conservation Commission issued the Order of Conditions (permit) on 12/11/2013.
- The state MEPA office issued a Certificate from the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs for the Notice of Project Change (NPC) on 02/07/2014.
- ASG/Epsilon received comments and proposed edits on the final Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) in March. Final edits were made and the Final EA was submitted to the FAA for signature in April. The FAA just issued the signed FONSI (Finding of No Significant Impact) on April 29, 2014.
- ASG has initiated closeout procedures. The project is expected to be closed out by the end of June 2014.
- Continued with project management & contract administration.

AIRPORT MASTER PLAN UPDATE (AMPU) – FY2013 AIP PROJECT [REPLACES PHASE 2 LAND/EASEMENT PROJ]

- ASG has completed data collection for Inventory and Forecasting efforts. Draft chapters are in process.
- Forecasts are nearing DRAFT review and work has begun on Facility Requirements.
- Completed DRAFT RW 4-22 Plan/Profile Plan/Analysis
- Second Project Advisory Committee (PAC) anticipated being conducted mid-June at the City of Taunton Council Chambers. (Date unfortunately still not finalized.)

CONSTRUCT TAXIWAY B – FY2013 AIP PROJECT

- Completed the final design.
- Advertised the project in the Central Register and local newspaper.
- Conducted the pre-bid meeting on Wednesday March 26, 2014.
- Conducted the bid opening at the Airport on Wednesday April 2, 2014.
- Reviewed construction bid results; prepared and submitted a “bid review & award recommendation” letter to the Airport.
- Coordinated FAA and State funding; the FAA indicated the possibility of waiting until August to know for sure if the federal funds are available.
- Prepared the state and federal grant applications assuming all work is included (per suggestion of the FAA), submitted to the Airport for signature and further processing with the FAA and MassDOT.
- The Airport should expect to sign contracts shortly after receiving grants from the FAA and State.
- Continued with project management & contract administration.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- ASG assisted TAN on registering the airport in the SAM system.
- Attended / participated in Airport Commission meeting.
- Provided miscellaneous assistance to the Airport.