

Skyhaven Airport Advisory Council (SAAC)

Meeting Minutes – Meeting #85

May 8, 2018

Present:

Peter Bruckner, Chair SAAC, City of Rochester
Mark Hourihane, SAAC, City of Rochester
Michael Bobinsky, SAAC Representing the city manager of Somersworth
Robin Comstock, SAAC City of Somersworth
Bill Richard, SAAC
Rep. John Mullen, SAAC
Rep Ken Weyler, SAAC
Andrew Pomeroy, PDA
Jim Rogers, SAAC, City of Dover
Richard Jackson, SAAC

Next meeting:

TBD

I. Standard Topics

- a) Meeting Called to Order. Michael Bobinsky introduced Robin Comstock, Economic Development Coordinator for the City of Somersworth, who has been appointed to the SAAC by the city manager. Robin has a history of economic development and marketing work and worked many years as an International Flight Attendant flying all over the world. Her experience and enthusiasm for aviation will serve the SAAC and Rochester airport well. We welcome Robin to the SAAC.
- b) Acceptance of the Minutes of the February, 2018 Meeting

Finance Report- Andrew Pomeroy

- a) The budget is for full hangar occupancy, currently there is one hangar vacancy. Through most of this past year we had three vacancies. We filled the hangars and a month later an airplane sold and we now have one vacancy.
- b) Fuel sales are down this year compared to last, this is off set a little by better fuel prices. There were 11,255 Gallons FY 18 as compared to 12,459 gallons sold by this time FY17. This appears to be mostly due to weather. Though we are down for the year October, January, February and March were strong months for fuel sales each higher than the same month the years prior.
- c) PDA Labor hours and therefore labor expense is down from last year, with three part time maintenance workers averaging 18 hours a week opposed to 29 hour previously.
- d) The PDA has been installing LED lights on the airfield and this is paying dividends with lower electrical costs to the airport, as well as a volume discount rate the PDA negotiated with EverSource.
- e) Page 4 shows approximately \$400,000.00 for a new Snow Blower that the airport will be taking delivery of. The FAA will reimburse us 90% of that cost, the State of New Hampshire will pay 5% and the PDA will pay the remaining 5%.
- f) We are awaiting roughly \$1,000.00 in aircraft registration funds from DOT that we receive annually.
- g) Robin Comstock asked where the majority of airport revenue comes from. Andrew expressed that the biggest portion of revenue for the airport comes from leases and rentals. Hangars, tie downs, and

terminal lease and/or rental will a smaller percentage coming from fuel sales. Should we be successful in attracting an FBO or other services, there could be more rental income for terminal space and hangar 5.

- h) Peter Bruckner updated us on the food truck vendors he had been talking with. Fuggenburgers owners have sold their truck and moved to Philadelphia, PA. The group discussed options for a restaurant and the difficulties in building one. One stumbling block to the last restaurant had been the DOT requirement to build a deceleration lane off 108 into the parking lot. This prompted a discussion among the members on if the DOT or state could help pay for a deceleration lane in the future and possibly addressing the speed limit on this stretch of 108 in front of the airport.

Webpage: Nothing new on webpage.

Subcommittee Reports

Wings and Wheels Report: Michael Bobinsky, & Peter Bruckner Marketing Committee

- a) Peter shared the Wings and Wheels event layout plan that he developed using aerial survey software from a drone. The mapping shows elevations and locations of items that are otherwise missed or not shown by standard maps.
- b) Rochester Rotary. Wings and Wheels event is June 2, 2018.
- c) There will be 10 food trucks at the event this year, giving people lots of variety.
- d) NHANG will be bringing their mobile tower for static display.
- e) SeaCoast Helicopters will be bringing two maybe three helicopters to sell rides.
- f) The Rochester Police Department is filing paperwork for the PDA Right of Entry
- g) Wings and Wheels has set up a web page: <http://www.wingsandwheelsrochesternh.com/>
- h) Planning meetings will now be held every Friday until the event.
- i) Other marketing committee meetings will resume after the event.

FBO RFP Process

- j) Robin recommended that if we advertise for an aviation mechanic or go out to RFP for an FBO again in the near future that we utilize Craig's List to help cast a wider net. She has had success with it in the past.
- k) There was a discussion of what more might be done to attract an A&P/IA Mechanic to Skyhaven. What incentives could be put forth? Mark Hourihane said he could check with the hospital on the availability of the house across the street as a possible home for an A&P/IA to aid in relocation.

Old Business:

Airport Traffic Report: Andrew ran several reports for the committee. Now that we have some years worth of data to look at we can start to see patterns and trends. Our numbers seem to be fairly consistent from year to year.

- a) CY 2014 = 5,915 Operations count started mid February.
- b) CY 2015 = 7,872 estimated aircraft operations (EAO)
- c) CY 2016 = 7,946 EAO
- d) CY 2017 = 7,861 EAO
- e) 2018 Months:
 - a. January = 484 EAO
 - b. February = 571 EAO

- c. March = 474 EAO
- d. April = 344 EAO
- e. May to date = 194 EAO
- f) Busiest days of the week are Wednesday and Tuesday. There are three flight schools utilizing the field contributing to the traffic count. Southern Maine Aviation out of Sanford, CHI Inc. out of Portsmouth, and Seacoast Helicopters out of Portsmouth.
- g) Busiest day so far this month was the 2nd with 41 operations.
- h) Average annual busiest times of day seem to be 2pm and 7 am.

Taxilane & Drainage Rehab Project

- a) Substantial Completion of the project.
- b) There are a few punch list items that have to be addressed including tiedown anchors and some issues with pavement lips around hangar 2 allowing water to flow back into the hangars under the doors. The asphalt lip around hangar two was shaved down and that helped some. We are investigating the best method to further address this problem. Other hangar units are not experiencing this problem. The floor in hangar 2 is uneven and that is contributing to the issue.
- c) Peter said that his drone flight revealed the elevation contours were constructed as per plan and that the contractor did a very good job of paving as per plan.
- d) Jacobs will be placing new tiedown anchors in the tiedown locations at their expense.

New Business:

Rep. Ken Weyler shared the latest on House Bill 124-FN and Senate Bill 565 to the SAAC. The intent of the Bill is to make NH more competitive by lowering the tax burden on Corporate Jet owners so that they will base their aircraft in the State of New Hampshire. Registration fees for new corporate aircraft will go down considerably, (\$3,500.00 was quoted for a new Falcon Jet) and the light aircraft fees and those for aircraft over 40 years old will go up to \$100.00 annually. The proposed Aviation Gas Tax was cut out of both bills and the gas tax will remain at it's current ½ cent per gallon.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Non-Public Session (If Required)

Meeting was adjourned at 10:26 AM Local time

Respectfully submitted, Andrew Pomeroy, for Chair Peter Bruckner.