

Aviation Advisory Committee
June 21, 2006
Milton, Florida

The Aviation Advisory Committee met on the above date with the following members present: Chairman Randel Compton, Vice Chairman James Hopmeier, and members Jimmie Beavers and Marty Martin. Also present were the County Administrator (Hunter Walker) and Administrative Services Manager (Tammy Simmons). Chairman Compton called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Beavers moved approval of the minutes from the April 19, 2006 meeting; Hopmeier seconded, and the vote carried unanimously. (4-0)

Chairman Issues

Beavers said this committee recommended denial of the FBO's (Fixed Base Operator) request to have an avionics shop temporarily placed in an airport hangar. He said this committee recommended the FBO contact TEAM Santa Rosa about placing the avionics shop in the Industrial Park. Beavers said it is his understanding the FBO went to the County to have this request added to the Board's agenda. He said he does not have a problem with anyone asking the Board of County Commissioners to hear a request, but he asked county staff to notify the Aviation Advisory Committee members when an aviation issue is scheduled to go before the Board of County Commissioners.

Compton requested each Aviation Advisory Committee member's name, phone number, and email address. Martin asked if this will violate the Florida Sunshine Law. Walker said the committee is under the same restrictions as the Board of County Commissioners. Compton said he will only contact committee members regarding routine things and not discuss any business. Walker reminded the committee members they can not discuss matters that will or could come before the committee during a meeting. He said he will provide the requested contact information.

Pensacola Flight Watch

Dale Holbert with Pensacola Flight Watch gave a brief update on the progress of Peter Prince Airport improvements. He said Pensacola Flight Watch is still working with AOPA (Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association) regarding removal of the TIS (Traffic Information Service) at Pensacola Regional Airport in early 2007. Holbert said a lot of people have invested in the TIS, and at the present time it is a good anti-collision safety device. He said until the new radars are in and proven, there is nothing else available.

Holbert said it is a good thing Flight Watch, the Navy, Pensacola Airport and others worked hard to retain the NDB (Non Directional Beacon) approach over Pensacola Regional Airport for runway 3-5 because the ASR (Airport Surveillance Radar) approaches at Pensacola Regional Airport and Peter Prince Airport have been eliminated.

Holbert updated the committee on the progress of the request to install PAPI (Precision Approach Path Indicator) lights on runway 1-7 at Pensacola Regional Airport. He said hopefully during the reconstruction of 1-735 PAPI lights for 1-7 will be installed.

Holbert said Phase I of Discovery Park is almost complete. He said the Pensacola Building Inspector is saying the miniature control tower has to be handicap accessible and this is being appealed. Holbert said the whole park is handicap accessible. He said 70% of the funding is committed for construction of Phase II. Holbert thanked the Aviation Advisory Committee for their support of Discovery Park.

FBO Issues

None

Engineer/Administrator

Walker explained why Blaylock is not present. He said the FBO did ask that the avionics shop request go before the Board of County Commissioners, but the item was removed from the agenda. Walker said it is his understanding the mechanic that was planning to do the work backed out of the deal. He said in the future he will notify the committee members of any aviation matters scheduled to go before the Board of County Commissioners.

Walker said the county continues to pursue Whiting Aviation Park and has retained PBS&J (Post, Buckley, Schuh, & Jernigan Inc.) to begin the planning and design. He said Salter briefed the committee on this project in the past and he will provide an update soon. Martin said the environmental assessment is complete and the finding is "no significant impact." He said this assessment has to go through the Navy chain of command. Martin said the project is on hold until Washington D. C. approval is received.

Other Business/Adjournment

Ron Yrigoyen said Byrd Mapoles and himself had their names on the hangar waiting list in one slot as colleagues. He said Mapoles recently acquired his own aircraft and kept their placement on the waiting list. Yrigoyen said he lost his placement and is now at the bottom of the list. He said he has been on the waiting list for several years and is requesting to be placed on the list under Mapoles.

Simmons said there are 99 individuals on the list right now, and Yrigoyen is number 94. She said Mapoles had Yrigoyen's name removed from the waiting list when the partnership dissolved. Simmons said when Yrigoyen contacted her to have his name put back on the list she added his name to the bottom of the list. She noted Mapoles now has a hangar. Beavers said currently the number one spot is being held open waiting on the decision of this committee. He said he does not have a problem with moving

Yrigoyen up on the list.

Hopmeier asked when Yrigoyen's name was removed from the waiting list. Simmons said both names were originally put on the list in 2002, and Yrigoyen came off the list about three months ago. She said Dannheisser recommended she send a letter to Yrigoyen to let him know his name had been removed from the waiting list. Simmons said Yrigoyen contacted her to have his name put back on the list and in a better position than at the bottom of the list. Hopmeier asked Dannheisser's recommendation. Walker said this is a judgment call that the committee can decide upon. Hopmeier said he agrees with Beavers considering the circumstances. Martin also agreed.

Martin moved approval to move Yrigoyen to the top of the hangar waiting list; Beavers seconded, and the vote carried unanimously. (4-0)

There was discussion regarding whether a tenant should be required to own an aircraft before being allowed to lease a hangar. Simmons said currently the lessee is required to show proof of insurance and a certificate of aircraft ownership before leasing a hangar. Beavers said some people wait until they have a hangar before purchasing an aircraft. He suggested allowing the tenant 30 to 60 days to purchase an aircraft. Compton agreed. He said a reasonable time period should be considered.

Beavers moved approval without objection to allow new hangar tenants 60 days to purchase an aircraft with an option to petition for an additional 30 days.

Beavers requested the current hangar tenants have first opportunity to lease the new hangars. Simmons said five tenants have already requested their names go on a new hangar list. She said the committee needs to decide on how the current tenants will be chosen for the new hangars. There was discussion on whether the new hangars should be leased on a first come first serve basis or by seniority.

Beavers moved approval to lease the 24 new hangars on a seniority basis to include the current tenant list of five; Hopmeier seconded, and the vote carried unanimously. (4-0)

Martin asked the completion date of the new hangars. Walker said he will email the members regarding the completion date. Martin suggested the committee discuss the price structure of the new hangars at a future meeting for a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners.

Martin said Peter Prince air traffic is getting very close to Whiting Field air traffic. He said for safety reasons he requests the FBO let newcomers know to stay away from the Whiting Field area.

Holbert introduced William Hattaway, Flight Safety Program Manager in Birmingham. Hattaway said a safety seminar is scheduled tomorrow night at Haglar Auditorium, Pensacola Junior College starting at 7:00 p.m. He discussed the attendees and the planned presentation. Hattaway invited everyone to attend. He said seminar information is available online at faasafety.gov. Martin said he has attended a lot of these safety seminars, and they are very good.

There being no further business to come before the Aviation Advisory Committee at this time, the meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.