

MINUTES

Leesburg Airport Advisory Commission January 17, 2023

Location: Leesburg Executive Airport Terminal – George Hammerly Conference Room

Commissioners Present: Hugh Forsythe, Chairman
John Dolan
Travis Gunnells
Timothy Baker
Tim Fisher, ABA Representative

Commissioner(s) Absent: Lindsay Arrington
Ryan Goeller
JC Silvey, Vice Chairman

Others Present: Scott Kuhn, Kuhn Jet Center
Tom Saxon, tenant
Jim Thill, tenant
John Gallagher, tenant
David Reilly, Air Traffic Manager
Scott Coffman, Airport Director
Mike Shields, Airport Operations Manager

Call to Order: The Meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: December 13, 2023 minutes approved 5-0-3

Petitioners and Public Input: none.

Old Business:

- Instrument Approach to Runway 35: Mr. Gunnells provided an update on his conversation with Potomac Tracon. An instrument procedure has been submitted for development. The Atlanta office will do design and environmental review. The timeline is estimated at 3-5 years. The airport commission was supportive of this addition. There was discussion with Mr. Reilly regarding radar, and a political push was suggested, as no one within the FAA was championing.
- Noise Complaints: The airport director explained discussion with the FAA environmental office regarding noise and what benefits a Part 150 Noise Study might provide. A noise study would revise the airport's noise contours, which helps direct and determine appropriate land-use planning. A noise study likely would not "fix" noise issues with existing residential areas, but might identify noise abatement policies.

New Business:

- Election of Officers: Commissioners re-appointed Mr. Forsythe as Chairman (4-0-3-1) and Mr. Silvey as Vice Chairman (5-0-3).
- Budget and Rates: The airport director briefed on the upcoming operating budget. Based on direction from the Town Manager, the airport director reduced some line items so that the new

costs of the mobile control tower lease and inspections could be accommodated. The airport's proforma shows that it is covering expenses. The airport's hangar rates are the highest in the area, were recently raised, and the director was not recommending an increase this year. In the future, incremental increases may be appropriate based on inflation.

Reports:

- Airport Director – The airport director provided updates on the monthly report, projects, and noise complaints. Cleaning of the B hangar building is underway. The main apron pavement rehab project is expected to start in June 2024.
- FBO Comments – None.
- Airport Business Association Comments – None.
- Air Traffic Manager – Mr. Reilly discussed weather observation capabilities of the tower controllers.
- Chairman's Report: None.
- Committee Reports:
 - Operations: none
 - Land Use and Development: The Chairman provided an update on the Village at Clear Springs application. The Mayor, Mr. Silvey, and staff attended the BOS public hearing to speak in opposition to the project due to its location under the airport traffic pattern.
- Commission Member Comments: no comments.
- Board of Supervisors Representative Report: Mr. Bruce Roberts is taking over this role but was not present due to the meeting date change.
- Councilmanic Comments: Councilmember Cummings was not present.
- Final Comments and Public Comments: none.

Next Meeting: February 14th at 6:00 p.m.

Location: Leesburg Executive Airport Terminal – George Hammerly Conference Room.

Adjournment: Mr. Forsythe adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.