

MINUTES

Leesburg Airport Advisory Commission

April 12, 2023

Location: Leesburg Executive Airport Terminal – George Hammerly Conference Room

Commissioners Present: Dan Duenkel, Chairman
JC Silvey, Vice Chairman
Lindsay Arrington
Jose Marrero
Malvina Lekli
Hugh Forsythe
Tom Toth
Tim Fisher, ABA Representative
Jon Corcoran, Loudoun County BOS representative

Commissioner(s) Absent: none

Others Present: Zack Cummings, Leesburg Town Council
Mike Link, JYO ATCT
John Gallagher, tenant pilot
John, Kuhn Jet Center
Scott Coffman, Airport Director
Michael Shields, Airport Operations Manager

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

Approval of Minutes: Regular meeting minutes of March 8, 2023 were approved (7-0-1).

Petitioners and Public Input: none

Old Business:

- **Air Traffic Control Tower:** The airport director shared a presentation from this week's town council meeting. The presentation updated the Commission on efforts and communications with the FAA regarding the end of the remote tower program and extension of air traffic services. The FAA has agreed to bring a mobile air traffic control tower back and fund staffing through September 30, 2023. Funding opportunities for tower construction are available.
- **Apron Paving Projects:** The airport director updated the Commission that two paving projects will cause disruption to aircraft hangars and parking. The south apron project phasing plan has been revised to reduce overall impact to airport businesses and hangars. The project will still cause aircraft to be temporarily relocated as tie-down areas are paved.
- **Security Improvements:** The airport director shared information on security enhancements that are in progress. The major improvements include replacement of the airport's card-access control system. The new system will work with the town's system for consistency, reliability, and easier access for police officers. A CCTV system that will integrate cameras town-wide is under solicitation at this time.

New Business:

None.

Reports:

- Airport Director – The airport director provided updates on the monthly report. A significant number of residents from Evergreen Meadows are reporting increased noise. The airport staff will work on potential mitigations measures for discussion.
- FBO Comments – John with Kuhn Jet Center inquired about weight capacity for aircraft overflow parking at the new north-end apron.
- Airport Business Association Comments – Mr. Fisher did not have any new updates from the ABA.
- Chairman's Report: The Chairman discussed the tower issues and priorities.
- Committee Reports:
 - Operations: Mr. Forsythe noted the operations committee is working on outreach regarding the remote tower and will work on noise issues.
 - Land Use and Development: The airport director noted that there is a new land-development application for a data center or distribution center south of the airport.
- Commission Member Comments: Mr. Silvey discussed the town's strategy regarding the remote tower – particularly that the town should push the FAA harder to preserve the remote tower as it is currently operating. The airport director did not disagree that users or interest groups may still inquire with the FAA and Saab regarding decisions made to cancel the JYO remote tower system. However, the town lobbyist and staff are focused on working with the FAA to preserve air traffic control services at JYO, even if in traditional facilities.
- Board of Supervisors Representative Report: Mr. Corcoran did not have any new information to report.
- Councilmanic Comments.
- Final Petitioners and Public Comments: Mr. Gallagher appreciated the efforts to preserve air traffic control services.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

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Adjournment: Mr. Duenkel adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.