

Minutes
College Park Airport Authority
18 March 2015

The Chairman, Jack Robson, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Members present were Chris Dullnig, James Garvin, Gabriel Iriate, Anna Sandberg, Jack Robson

The minutes of the November 18, 2014 meeting were approved.

The status of “The Hotel” was discussed. Mr. Robson showed a portion of the visuals shown to the City Council by developer. They showed the new design versus the old design. He advised that the developer had received a Determination from the FAA that the building was not a hazard at its filed height of 198 feet AMSL. He explained the City staff position on getting height restrictions placed on the developer as conditions of the Detailed Site Plan approval. There was discussion of what the FAA could do, versus what the Planning Board could do. By unanimous vote the Chair was authorized to prepare and send a memo to the Mayor and Council in support of the City staff position.

Lee Sommer, the new airport manager advised that he had begun review of the work done by the previously established airport rules and regulations update team (one member of which was an Authority member). He will resume the revision process later in the year.

The Authority took a brief tour of the construction site for the new Terminal.

Mr Sommer advised that he was pursuing a replacement for the very old jet fuel truck. There is a chance that Clark Construction might donate one as they were discontinuing their internal aviation support capabilities at Easton Airport.

Mr Robson advised that the Cafritz property development was underway with no airport impact. He will drop the site from active following.

Mr. Sommer advised that the 94th Aero Squadron site is being looked at as a location for hangars for the airport. M-NCPPC has been unable to get any commercial interest in the site and locating hangars there would have no impact on the historic portion of the airport. This is very tentative.

Mr. Robson advised that a University representative had stated they were anticipating a 5 to 7 story commercial building adjacent to “The Hotel”. No further details are currently available.

Mr. Sommer advised that he was in the process of getting the trees surveyed to ensure compliance with MAA safety requirements. The survey is to take place on March 23rd, weather permitting..

Mr. Sommer then briefed the Authority as follows:

The number of based aircraft dropped slightly to 38.

Transient operations remain about the same.

“The Hotel” will have some currently unknown effect on instrument departure minimums, but it is not expected to affect operations in any significant way. The FAA will be looking at an instrument approach for Runway 33. The current Rwy 15 approach passes almost directly over The Hotel. Safety margins will be maintained but an approach from the opposite end of the airport is desirable.

Once the “tree work” has been finalized the airport will be eligible for 75/25 grant money from the MAA. Grants will be requested for:

- Replacing the incandescent runway and taxiway lights with low power LED lights
- Repaving the runway, taxiway, and apron
- Remarking the various repaved surfaces
- Installation of a Precision Approach Path Indication (PAPI) system

Deer have returned to the airport. The M-NCPPC Rangers have been contacted for help.

Once the new terminal is operational the old temporary building and adjacent annex buildings will be removed. Mr. Sommer is proposing that the current public picnic area be expanded as it is quite popular and often at capacity.

There was general discussion about the information provided but no action was deemed necessary.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 PM.