

SONOMA COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the December 20, 2007 Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Young called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Hayssen, Smith, Starrett, Walters, and Young.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Hayssen moved with support from Smith to approve the October 18, 2007 Commission Meeting Minutes as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.*
(Note: The November 2007 Aviation Commission meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum)

AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Complaint Update

Stout reported 29 complaints since the October 2007 meeting.

1. Scott Griffin – Horizon is too low and too loud
2. L. Tighe – require mufflers on planes and prohibit flights over city limits
3. Scott Griffin – Horizon lights are too bright
4. Mrs. Ketelsen – hot air balloons too low
5. Christina Raymond – low jet overflight
6. Pat Morse – low helicopter overflight
7. Mary Durand – low helicopter overflight
8. Mary Durand – low helicopter overflight
9. Sandi LaMantia – loud jet overflight
10. Scott Griffin – Horizon is too low
11. Scott Griffin – Horizon is too loud
12. Lacy Procopenko – balloon landed in La Crema Winery vineyard
13. Kim (no last name) – increased air traffic over NW Santa Rosa
14. L. Tighe – require mufflers on planes and prohibit flights over city limits
15. Scott Griffin – loud, low overflight
16. Scott Griffin – low overflight
17. Scott Griffin – Horizon should fly somewhere else
18. Scott Griffin – loud overflight
19. Celia LaMantia – loud overflight
20. Scott Griffin – Horizon is too loud and should fly somewhere else
21. L. Tighe – require mufflers on planes and prohibit flights over city limits
22. Meredith Gross – too many small planes fly over her neighborhood
23. L. Tighe – require mufflers on planes and prohibit flights over city limits
24. Scott Griffin – loud jet took off from Airport
25. Scott Griffin – Horizon is too loud
26. L. Tighe – require mufflers on planes and prohibit flights over city limits
27. David Murray – loud helicopter overflights
28. Joann Shook – loud helicopter overflight

29. Dawn Woo – increased air traffic

Stout said the Airport plans to set up meetings in 2008 with Aircraft owners who have caused numerous noise complaints to discuss possible solutions.

B. Tower Report

Tim Pforsich, Tower Manager, said operations were increased over the last seven months, although October was lower.

C. Airline Update

Stout reported there were over 95,000 passengers on Horizon Air so far this year. Horizon is interested in adding two more flights in the spring of 2008.

Stout said that Frontier has put all additional flight planning on hold until it completes a business plan based on the increased cost of fuel.

A scheduled charter operation has contacted STS regarding service to Reno, NV three times a week.

D. Restaurant

Stout said the restaurant reports it is doing well. The coffee bar has not been opened.

E. Website Update

Stout reported that the Airport website is now live and that a press release is being planned.

F. Master Plan Update

Stout reported that the Board of Supervisors accepted the Draft Master Plan on December 4, 2007. A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) has been sent out, and responses are due January 11, 2008.

G. Runway 14/32 Seal Coat

Stout said the project is completed and turned out well.

H. Hangar Painting

Stout said that Box Hangars 78, 79, 86 and 87 were sealed and painted. The Airport will probably take bids from outside contractors for additional painting projects to speed up the process.

I. User Survey

Lidia Herbert, Airport intern, reported on the User Survey completed in August 2007.

ACTION ITEMS

A. There were no action items at this time.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. New Leases for Private Hangars

Stout said that County Counsel is requiring new leases for the old privately owned port-a-ports in 2008. Owners renting out hangars will be required to meet the Minimum Standards for commercial hangar operators. The Airport will begin with the Apron F hangars. During 2008 all leases will be brought up to date.

B. Possessory Interest Taxes

Gloria Cote, Airport Secretary, requested a list of questions to submit to the County Tax Assessor regarding possessory interest and aircraft taxes. The Airport has asked the Assessor to have a representative attend an Aviation Commission meeting to answer questions and explain how hangar and aircraft taxes are assessed.

C. Passenger Facility Charge Application

Stout said the application for the Passenger Facility Charges is nearly complete and that a public hearing will be scheduled January 17, 2008 Commission meeting. The Airport is requesting \$4.50/passenger starting in April 2008.

NEW BUSINESS

Stout reported that the next gate card audit would commence January 2008.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Penning, Sonoma Jet Center employee, reported that the Horizon Air de-icing is going well and that SJC is still working out payment arrangements with Horizon.

He said SJC is working with Cornerstone properties on a new hangar. The goal is to build it in 2008.

Penning asked about APEX's request to abandon the Nob Hill Fuel Farm and begin truck-to-truck fueling.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Walters expressed concern that the FBO's operate on a level playing field.

Walters asked about the status of PCAM's relocation, and Stout said the Sheriff's concerns have been addressed, and should go to the Board of Supervisors the first quarter of 2008.

Walters also asked about Dragonfly's status, and Stout replied that a 30-day notice is being sent for rent and percentage payments, which are in arrears.

Walters had a business card from Paul Reinders for flight instruction, which will be turned over to the Airport to pursue.

Hayssen stated he would like to applaud the Airport on its fair enforcement of the Minimum Standards.

Young asked that an Agenda item be included for a future meeting regarding rules and regulations regarding ultra-lights and light sport planes.

ADJOURN

Walters moved with support from Smith to adjourn. All Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Stout, AAE
Airport Manager