

TRIANGLE NORTH EXECUTIVE AIRPORT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Minutes

The Triangle North Executive Airport Advisory Council was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman John Allers on January 14, 2020, in the conference room of the Triangle North Executive Airport.

In attendance were Council Members: John Allers, Phillip Stover, Shelley Dickerson, Herman Dickens, Frank Donahue, Steve Trubilla and David Bunn. Also, in attendance were Bo Carson (Airport Manager), Angela Harris (County Manager), Greg VanderMolen (Michael Baker Engineering), Pete Tomlinson (Davis, Sturges & Tomlinson) and Carey Johnson (Franklin Times).

The second agenda item was review and approval of minutes from the November 12, 2019 meeting. Council Member Stover motioned that the minutes be approved as read, with Council Member Dickens seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

The third item on the agenda was public comments. Chairman Allers called for comments from the public. There were no public comments at this time.

The fourth item on the agenda was election of officers. Council Member Dickens made the motion that the officers remain the same, with John Allers as Chairman and Phillip Stover as Vice Chairman. Council Member Bunn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The fifth item on the agenda was traffic pattern safety by Council Member Stover. Council Member Stover said he and Mr. Carson have been talking about this, and he and Council Member Donahue are going to be discussing this further. We had an incident here about three weeks ago, where three CAP planes were in the air and at least one civilian. He was coming in from the north, with two cadets on board, and the radio was extremely busy. He made a call out eight and three miles out. He picked up that there were three aircraft in the pattern, so he circled out east of the field and came back around on the 45 entry and called that out. Then, when he entered the pattern, he called that out. At that time, he also heard the glider call out the same position. He looked out his left wing and saw the glider. Council Member Stover said the CAP is going to meet at a later date to review and discuss this. He said he realized there were some things he could have done better. Even though he followed the rules, what he missed was he saw three airplanes – two were CAPs and he was flying the third, so that meant all three of their airplanes were in the air. That third plane was the tow plane for the glider, but he didn't hear the glider or see it. He should have been aware the glider was out. If he missed it, what about all the transient traffic that comes through the airport? He said he's been to other airports where they announce things like this on their AWOS. He's spoken with Bo

Carson about this and we're going to look at our system and see if we can do this. Also, many airports have airport advisories, which are voluntary, but not required. If you're coming into an uncontrolled airport and you make your initial call out, the pilot can call the airport and ask for an airport advisory. Mr. Carson said he has stressed to everyone that communication is the key. When these situations arise, walk over to the person, have a conversation and figure out ways to make it better. Also, when someone does a wrong pattern, we let them know once they land, this is the way you need to go, per the rules and regulations.

The sixth item on the agenda was airport update given by Bo Carson.

Operations:

1. Fuel cost has remained stable over the past two months even with the volatile markets. A new load of av gas was received this week. TNEA was able to keep the price of both fuels the same price at \$4.69/gallon & Jet A is \$4.49/gallon.
2. The sewer project is continuing to move forward. There was a delay in the walk through over the holidays. However, that meeting is set for tomorrow at the Airport. Additional talks with this meeting include processes, timelines and cost of decommissioning the current sewer system, manhole and drain field. This, as you are aware, will allow future expansion of the apron.
3. AWOS - The state has sent someone out to do maintenance on our AWOS system to include all the sensors and mechanics. It is in good working condition. Also, I did figure out a way to post things on the AWOS. We will do our best, when we know conditions prior to the weekend and put that information out there.
4. We have noticed on a couple of occasions that our beacon has been rotating, however the light is not working. At this time, it is fully operational with the last instance happening over 3 weeks ago. TNEA will continue to monitor it and call in assistance at that point if needed.
5. ILS/Locator - There have been a few instances we have heard PIREPs (pilot reports) on our ILS/locator being intermittent. We have called the FAA office that handles these functions and alerted them. They have been very responsive and have come out to check both within a day of reporting. They will continue to monitor this instrumentation. Note: This is federal and the only thing we can do is report issues based on feedback of pilots.

Real Estate:

1. There have been some interested parties in building 70x60 sf hangar space on the south hangar area of the airfield. TNEA will continue to discuss these opportunities in hopes that one or both will move forward in 2020.

2. We have welcomed three new tie-down tenants to the airfield. Mr. Michael Harris (Beech C23), Mr. Jim Davenport (Beech Baron) and Mr. Duane Dillingham (Beech Bonanza) to the airfield.
3. Total Flight Solutions continues to move forward with the purchase of the large hangar on the airfield. Franklin County last Monday night passed an assignment and assumption agreement to further assist their company to make this growth a reality.

Marketing:

1. Since our last meeting, TNEA was featured on several news stations to include ABC 11 and WRAL when Speaker Moore and Representative Barnes visited to announce the securing of funds to continue the current expansion of US 401. After the press conference, I was able to secure a visit by both delegates at the airport. Topics of discussion were around aviation needs regarding workforce, pilots and others, as well as airfield infrastructure improvements to include runway expansion, hangar and t-hangar construction and a new terminal. Both were very interested in our growth and complimented the airport on its continued growth.
2. I am pleased to inform you that we hosted on December 5, 2019, Mr. Keith Acree, Public Information Officer for the NC Emergency Management, as he visited TNEA to receive a demonstration of the FLIR capable aircraft based at the airport. He was escorted by Mr. Ben Watkins and Ms. Shelley Gonzalez of CAP Section of NCEM. An overview of flying missions within CAP was given to include the types of profiles they fly, response times, and aircraft crewing.
3. Next week, Civil Air Patrol will be featured on Spectrum News as they will be coming out to TNEA to film a feature on the FLIR camera system based at TNEA. I will work with Lt. Col. Bailey to make this visit as smooth as possible.
4. Also, on Tuesday of next week, TNEA will be hosting U.S. Congressman David Price on his visit to Franklin County. He will be making the time to tour and visit Novozymes, Vance-Granville Community College, TNEA and have a town hall style meeting in the training room at Wake Electric in Youngsville. Our meet and greet will feature educating him on TNEA and our growth and importance. This meeting is invitation only. Please let me take this opportunity to extend an invitation to each council member who would like to attend. Invitation enclosed.
5. I was pleased to be invited and joined Civil Air Patrol NC Squadron 145, along with Mrs. Angela Harris, County Manager at their annual awards banquet last night. It was great to see Council Members Stover and Donahue at the event, as well. It was such great news to hear all the wonderful accomplishments the squadron has achieved in 2019. They include....
Enclosed are 2019 Accomplishments per CAP.

Also, I appreciate the mention at the presentation regarding our AirFest event, as well as the FLIR camera system being based here at TNEA.

6. Speaking of AirFest, I have been in preliminary discussions with interested parties on potentially hosting another event at Triangle North Executive Airport in May 2020. Items discussed include helicopter rides, skydiving, air demonstration, Young Eagles, car show and more. Again, this is in its infancy and will be further hashed out over the next few months.

Future Aviation Potential:

1. I am continuing to work with Vance-Granville Community College regarding setting up curriculum and courses that can directly assist our businesses here on the airfield. We will be having off shoot meetings over the coming months focused around the topics with the businesses on the field. Currently going after low hanging fruit to jump start it.

Grant Update:

- a. Greg VanderMolen (Michael Baker Engineering) said he thinks things are going to get back to normal. He doesn't know if we will ever see the state spending money like they were before, but he feels that by mid-summer, things will be going more smoothly and projects will start up, again. We were fortunate enough to be in the middle of the Master Layout Plan, which was already funded, so we didn't get hit as bad as some other airports where they just pulled the plug. Bo Carson said we will probably get the task force together at the beginning of March to look at the airfield and evaluate options, etc.

Other Business:

1. Invitation to the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Government's FOCUS 20/20 event on February 20, 2020. Please find the invitation at your seats with the link if interested. The Governor and Secretary of Commerce have also been invited to this event.
2. Great news out of Total Flight Solutions regarding receiving additional operational capacity. Once final, I will inform you at our February meeting.

Chairman Allers said Mr. Carson updated us on the sewer project earlier, and he was wondering how difficult it was going to be to get funding to expand the ramp. Mr. Carson said this is on our list and it will all depend on the alternatives and what direction we want to go as an airport. It will become a larger necessity as work begins on the taxiway and how far we have to push it. It may cut down on some of our apron and force us to push it out, due to the new distance regulations. Mr. VanderMolen said we are currently at a category B, but if we go to a category C, the taxiway has to move and you lose a lot of money. Council Member Stover asked what was the criteria between those two categories. Mr. VanderMolen said it depends on your

approaches. With the approach you have now (325), to maintain that at a category C, you'd have to go to 400 for the separation between the runway and taxiway . Otherwise, you'd take a hit on your minimums.

In other business:

- The next meeting will be on February 11, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

At approximately 6:00 p.m., Council Member Dickens made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Stover. The motion passed unanimously.