

SUSSEX COUNTY AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2012

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Sussex County Airport Advisory Committee was called to order at approximately 6:02 p.m. on September 26, 2012, at Sussex County Emergency Operations Center, by Chairman, Jeff Reed.

Advisory Committee Members Present:

Todd Lawson, Sussex County Administrator
Mike Izzo, Sussex County Engineer
Julie Wheatley, Director, Sussex County Economic Development

Garrett Dernoga Larry Kelley Jeff Reed Richard Wilson Robert E. Young

Jim Hickin, Sussex County Airport (Non-member)

Advisory Committee Members Absent:

Honorable Sam Wilson, County Council Rick Garner Mark Ryan

1. Approval of Agenda

A Motion was made by Garrett Dernoga, seconded by Julie Wheatley, to approve the agenda as distributed. The agenda was unanimously approved by consent.

2. Approval of Minutes

A Motion was made by Richard Wilson, seconded by Bob Young, to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2012 meeting as distributed. The minutes were unanimously approved by consent.

3. Declaration of any letters, opinions or other guidance from outside the Advisory Committee presently or in the past

There were no declarations presented.

4. Wildlife Management Update

Jeff Reed opened the discussion by stating he has seen an accumulation of buzzards at the end of the runway and asked Jim Hickin what could be done about them. Jim Hickin replied the birds seem to like the water areas and the thermals. Jim is looking into what action can be taken to reduce the population.

It was stated that it appears the deer population has been reduced.

Jim Hickin advised the committee that there were complaints of cats running loose. The county hired a wildlife specialist and trapped four cats and they were given to a shelter.

5. Airport Update

Jim Hickin discussed the following updates:

- A. Rudder Lane Pole Building- Project is still on schedule.
- B. LED lighting project for 10-28 and Taxiways is complete.
- C. Signs- Street signs for Aviation Avenue and Rudder Lane are installed. Jim is still working on the Airport Directional signs and will contact DelDOT for further assistance.
- D. Taxiways A & B are complete. Mike Izzo informed the committee that the projects currently being updated were all designed in house by the County Engineering Dept.
- E. Runway Extension- The project is still on schedule and there are two phases as part of the project, one for the fall and one for early spring. It is expected that the runway will be ready for use by Memorial Day, 2013. (Subsequent to meeting, the date was determined to be June 25, 2013). There will still be additional electrical work to continue through the summer before project is rendered complete. Jeff Reed commented that the trees that have been cut have been very helpful to pilots.
- F. Jim Hickin informed the committee that each year DelDOT gets grant funding from FAA and two of the grants that affect the Sussex County Airport are:
 - 1. 2011 Grant which includes an energy audit for the airport. The audit analysis will make recommendations for cost savings for the airport. The audit will include compilation for county owned buildings and tenant owned buildings. This program is voluntary.
 - 2. 2012 Grant includes a compilation of the economic impact for the four federally funded airports in Delaware as well as developing a business plan for the Sussex County Airport. A "SWOT" (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis will be done. The analysis will be done by Randal Wiedemann, of R.A. Wiedemann & Associates, an aviation consultant. A meeting will be held by the consultant sometime in November to provide information in assisting with compiling this analysis.

6. Wings & Wheels Update

Larry Kelley informed the committee that the event will be held Saturday, October 6, 2012 from 10a-4p with a rain date of October 7th. Larry commented that this year's event will be similar to the past couple years. It was decided this year that the "flour bombing" competition will be held at the Sussex County Airport onsite. Larry stressed the need for volunteers to enable the event to be a success. Larry Kelley asked if Jim Hickin would contact DelTech to set up a table to hand out information to encourage any future aviation students to enroll in the program.

7. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

8. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 28, 2012 at 6 p.m. at the Emergency Operations Center, Georgetown, Delaware.

The committee discussed the frequency of future meetings and it was decided to hold the meetings bi-monthly. The committee set the dates of November 28, 2012, January 23, 2013 and March 27, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. at the Emergency Operations Center for future meeting dates. It was noted that the Chairman may call a special meeting at any time should there be immediate items to discuss.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Reed, Seconded by Garrett Dernoga. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Wise, Clerk III Technician
Sussex County Airport