

DeKalb County Airport Advisory Board (AAB) Minutes

The DeKalb County Airport Advisory Board met on Monday, February 12, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., Room 227, Airport Administration Building at DeKalb-Peachtree Airport.

Members Present: Larry Scheinpflug (Chairman), Jennifer McKillop (Vice Chairman), Eugene Henry, Mike Reeves, Christopher Richard and Dan Zanger

Members Absent: Kevin Fowler and Rob Smith

Others Present: Airport Director Mario Evans, Deputy Airport Director Marshall Taggart, and Noise and Environmental Analyst Nate Schattner

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Chairman Larry Scheinpflug who welcomed new member Mike Reeves representing District 5 and who replaced Joe Arrington. New members Kevin Fowler (District 7 – replacing David Fowler) and Rob Smith (District 2 – replacing Jim Eyre) were not in attendance due to illnesses.

- I. **Approval of Minutes:** Due to the lack of a quorum in December, 2017, no minutes of the informal discussion were recorded. The January, 2018 meeting was cancelled due to weather conditions.
- II. **Information/Old Business**
 - A. **Airport Director's Report:** Mario Evans distributed the meeting schedule for the remainder of the year. The schedule will be posted on the airport website. Regarding the Southwest Development Project and the related tree survey and mitigation plan, Evans introduced McKenna Perkins and arborist Donald Perryman of Michael Baker Consulting. Perkins reported that, in the area being prepared for 8 corporate hangars, 290 trees in good or fair condition were surveyed. 269 trees were within the property limits of the airport and 10 of those were within the 40-foot buffer between airport and non-airport property. The resulting 259 trees were removed for the development project. Based on a replacement formula, 1122 4-inch caliper trees are to be planted as replacements. Due to space limitations, 1,010 replacement trees will be planted on airport property and the remaining 112 will be placed in a tree bank or actually purchased and planted. Evans stated that the trees will be given to Chamblee and/or Brookhaven and the decision will be made by the county commissioners. Due to its more stringent requirements, the tree ordinance of the City of Chamblee was used for this plan versus the ordinance of DeKalb County. A member of the community asked why the 112 trees could not be planted as a visual barrier between Chamblee-Tucker Road and the garbage truck storage area. Evans stated that the north end of the airport has lower aircraft approach and departure surfaces than the southern end and trees will eventually penetrate those surfaces. To questions regarding airport expansion, Evans stated that the airport is not expanding but a new fence will be placed along the airport property line. This is to stop the illegal dumping on airport property for which the airport has been cited by Code Enforcement of the City of Chamblee. Chairman Larry Scheinpflug also pointed out that no runways are being expanded and that the new hangars will be constructed on existing airport property as well as the EMAS (Engineered Materials Arresting System). Regarding a concern about the EMAS construction area near the cemetery, Evans stated that a hose is sitting on airport property as by-pass protection during the construction of the new sanitary line. Proper drainage for this area will be addressed. The church has accepted the wall design and the families connected to the cemetery are pleased.
 - B. **Noise Reports/2017 Annual Report/Noise Contours:** Noise and Environmental Analyst Nate Schattner presented the following:
 1. **December 2017 Noise Report:** Total **operations** were 10,576 which is 3% more than December of 2016. Itinerant operations were 8,275; local operations were 2,301. Total operations for 2017 were 159,066 as compared to 158,441 in 2016. In December, 64% of operations were on a southerly flow and 36% were to the north. **Noise Complaints:** 21 households made 95 complaints. The

largest number of complaints (61) was for loud propeller aircraft. On the Complaints by the Hour chart, the largest percentage of complaints (46%) was made during the 12:00 a.m. to 5:59 a.m. time frame. The Complaint Percentages by Zip Code chart shows that 76% of the complaints originated from the 30319 zip code. The Complaints per District map shows the distribution of the complainants by commissioner districts: 6 complainants from District 1; 9 complainants from District 2; 1 complainant from District 3; 5 complainants were outside of DeKalb County. The Disturbance Location Pin Map shows the location of the known complainants. Regarding **voluntary curfew operations**, the airport identified a total of 272 of the 281 operations during the voluntary curfew period. 131 were classified as medical transport (e.g. MedEvac) or other critical flights. A total of 102 advisory letters were sent to aircraft operators who flew during the Voluntary Curfew Period with the exception of medically-related flights or other emergency flights. Regarding the **High Noise Event Threshold**, there were 12 high noise events. 11 advisory letters were sent to the operators whose aircraft exceeded the high noise event threshold(s). **Motion to accept the December, 2017 Noise Report was made by Jennifer McKillop and seconded by Dan Zanger. Motion passed.**

2. 2017 Annual Noise Report: Evans emphasized that PDK's Noise Abatement Program is posted on the PDK website, is available via flyers and other publications for pilots, and is discussed with flight schools. Due to the 1990 Noise Act, noise abatement is voluntary at PDK. The full 23-page annual report will be posted on the PDK website. The report contains such information as explaining why the airport is busy (10 flight schools, charter services, corporate operations, MedEvac, news, police and firefighting, etc.). PDK is Georgia's second busiest airport. The report includes the Good Neighbor Program Noise Reduction Practices and terminology. A bar chart tracks operations from 1970 to 2017 and shows the significantly reduced number of flight operations since 2007. Other charts include a comparison of itinerant versus local operations from 2014 to 2017 and the small percentage of those flights occurring during the voluntary curfew period, a monthly operations summary comparing 2016 and 2017, and noise complaints over the past 4 years (2015 was the year of the greatest complaints with 1,840 versus 2014 with 448). Other charts depict noise complaints by the hour for 2017 and voluntary curfew operations by the month. A pie chart shows that only 3% of 2017 operations occurred during the voluntary curfew period. The annual direction of flow shows that for 2017 44% of operations were to the north, 51% were to the south and 5% were on the NW-SE runway. **Motion to accept the 2017 Annual Noise Report was made by Jennifer McKillop and seconded by Eugene Henry. Motion passed.**
3. January 2018 Noise Report: **Total operations** were 12,129. 46% of operations were to the north, 44% were to the south, and 10% were on the NW-SE runway. **Noise Complaints**: 24 households made 42 complaints. 12 complaints were for loud jet operations and 10 were for an increase in activity (the January college football playoff created a surge event). On the Complaints by the Hour chart, the largest percentage of complaints (45%) was made during the 12:00 a.m. to 5:59 a.m. time frame. The Complaint Percentages by Zip Code chart shows that 43% of the complaints originated from the 30319 zip code. The Complaints per District map shows the distribution of the complaints by commissioner districts: 7 complainants from District 1; 14 complainants from District 2. The airport identified 357 of the 378 operations during the **voluntary curfew period**. A total of 139 advisory letters were sent to aircraft operators with the exception of medically-related flights and other emergency flights. Regarding the **High Noise Event Threshold**, 9 letters were sent to the operators whose aircraft exceeded the high noise event threshold(s). A member of the community doubted the validity of the data due to his own home computer-based noise

monitoring capability. **Motion to evaluate the noise report data to ensure that the data is acceptable to the airport and the constituency was made by Jennifer McKillop and seconded by Dan Zanger. Motion passed.**

4. Noise Contours: Schattner distributed a map depicting noise contours around PDK and environs of 2004 and the much smaller contours of 2016 showing a decrease in noise exposure. The contours show Day-Night Sound Levels based on 65, 70 and 75 dBA with night noise events receiving a penalty.

C. Other: none.

- III. New Business: **Motion to honor and recognize, on a future date, departing AAB members Joe Arrington and David Fowler for their years of service to PDK and the community was made by Jennifer McKillop and seconded by Eugene Henry. Motion passed.**

Motion to postpone the yearly election of an AAB Chairman and Vice Chairman was made by Chris Richard and seconded by Dan Zanger. Motion passed. Until the election, Larry Scheinpflug will continue as Chairman and Jennifer McKillop as Vice Chairman.

- IV. Public Comments: Mr. Fox from the Dresden East Civic Association submitted a copy of the association's resolution of January 20, 2018. The resolution refers to the trees removed for the construction of the SW development and states that replacement trees should be planted in the City of Chamblee.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jennifer McKillop and seconded by Eugene Henry. Motion passed at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

Amy Carpenter

Approved as Submitted:

Larry Scheinpflug (Chairman)