

Minutes

Tempe Aviation Commission

October 18, 2022

Minutes of the Tempe Aviation Commission meeting – was held virtual Microsoft Teams meeting with call in +1 (480) 498-8745 United States, Phoenix (Toll) Conference ID: 243 160 897# and at the Tempe Public Library, on October, 18, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

(MEMBERS) Present:

W. David Doiron
Desiree Walker
Karen Apple
Stuart Mitnik
Ed Kucharski
Aaron McBride

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Peter Schelstraete
Ellen Poole (excused)
John Lynch (excused)

Citizens Present:

None

City Staff Present:

Brianne Fisher, Sustainability and Resilience Office, City of Tempe

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Mr. Doiron called the meeting to order at 6:02p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances

Mr. Doiron asks if there are any members in the audience looking to make a comment. There are none.

Agenda Item 3 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes (September 13)

Mr. Doiron asked if anyone had considerations of minutes such as discrepancies or corrections. On page 2 of the minutes, agenda item 6, first paragraph, the last sentence needs to strike “runways” and replace with “Tempe” and then replace “the city” with “Phoenix.”

Commissioner Kucharski moves to approve the meeting minutes for September 13.
Commissioner Mitnik seconds.

Action: The motion to approve was passed by a unanimous vote.

Agenda Item 4 – TAVCO Public Event Planning

Chair Doiron states that in the last meeting we left with some homework on event planning.

Staff Liaison, Brianne Fisher, reminds TAVCO members of the conversation that has taken place about planning a TAVCO driven event to take place in November 2023 at the History Museum. The event will be focused on providing the public with information regarding airport history in Tempe, current flight paths, and other educational related material. Fisher suggests having two TAVCO members volunteer to have a meeting with the History Museum staff and develop a list of specific TAVCO-related education material to be included in the event.

Chair Doiron states that he will be a volunteer and member Ed Kucharski volunteers as well.

Member Stu Mitnik asks about the article he wrote up for TAVCO to be published in Tempe Today.

Agenda Item 5 – Rio Salado Upcoming Development presentation

Member Mitnik asks if everyone on the Commission received one of the City of Phoenix fliers, he notes that the newspaper reported it was relatively selective.

Chair adds that residents who received the flyer were supposed to be location specific.

Chair says there is not a need to mention more about this topic.

Agenda Item 6 – Commissioners Business

Chair Doiron updates on October 4 FAA visit from Regional Administrator Rob Lowe

- David states that Rob Lowe apologies and says he is NOT the representative for this geographic area but his colleague who is the correct representative, was stuck in LA
- Information he brought – planning to use even more GPS locating and areal aides to navigate with the following:
 - Encourage more auto pilot use
 - Hope to see more precision in flying
 - David asked: how can we not have Southwest make short cuts over north Tempe. That technique is how they get traffic in. If there is a shortcut, they will take it.

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- Regional Director says it unlikely this will change – he did not seem supportive
 - Member Mitnik says why bother doing any tracking if they FAA isn't going to do anything about it.

Ed Kucharski re New Intergovernmental Agreement (Attachment 6A and 6B)

Fisher reminds members of this topic by saying in the September meeting, TAVCO members discussed taking the memo that Member Kucharski brought to the meeting in a more formal format. Members also discussed sending the letter to Marge Zylla, Government Relations Manager, so she would have in case a Sky Harbor related issue came up with Mayor or Council. The conversation today is a follow up to the September meeting.

Chair Doiron asks if everyone had a chance to read the memo and are ready to vote on it. Chair summarizes the points in the letter:

- The City of Phoenix wants to lengthen the runway on the west end
- And request for Tempe is that Phoenix keep the length of the runway, just position it a little more to the west
- The argument is that the positioning further west would benefit Tempe in terms of how high in elevation planes are flying over Tempe

Members discuss. Member Apple asks if this is the case, I would be interested to see how close that it is getting to Interstate 10. Kucharski states that he believes it will impact 24th street.

Chair mentions that one reason they are requesting extra pavement is for international flights. Currently there is a condition where temperatures are high enough and the fuel load is high enough. Having an extra 1000 feet, they can get their data correct to continue flying.

Member Apple mentions that TAVCO should also review the environmental assessment, documentation that got done and based on CAMP. Apple is curious about what the environmental impacts would be for Tempe noise based on this runway plan.

Member Mitnick mentions that Tempe does not have veto power to impact this decision.

Chair asks for a vote to approve the letter and send it to Government Relations Manager. Member Walker seconds. Unanimous approval.

Stu Mitnik updates for research on inbound radar track data from Sky Harbor

- Gives an explanation of the attachments included in the agenda.
 - The flight tracker tool, publicly available includes some of the following features:
 - Flight track
 - Name and plane number
 - Noise contour
 - Blue dots noise measuring positions
 - Sortable for landings and departures
 - Cannot figure out how to sort for just those planes coming in from the east
 - Isolate the noise issues for landings, specifically in north Tempe – Mitnik says – he does not know how to do.
- There is some questions and discussion about the tool and the maps.
- Members agree to pursue finding a way to continue to get the type of information Oddvar would report on. Fisher commits to helping by asking City of Phoenix to come to a future meeting.

Agenda Item 7 – TAVCO Next Meeting

Chair asks if Tuesday, November 8 is next meeting.

Agenda Item 8 – Adjournment

Member Kucharski moves to adjourn the meeting. Walker seconds. Unanimous approval.

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Prepared by: Brianne Fisher