

Minutes

Tempe Aviation Commission

November 09, 2021

Minutes of the Tempe Aviation Commission meeting - virtual Microsoft Teams meeting with call in +1 (480) 498-8745 United States, Phoenix (Toll) Conference ID: 225 886 775# held on November 09, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

(MEMBERS) Absent:

(MEMBERS) Present:

Karen J. Apple
Ellen Poole
Desiree Walker
Stuart Mitnik
Peter Schelstraete
Ed Kucharski
John Lynch
Lane Carraway
W. David Doiron

Citizens Present:

Jordan D Feld
Julie Rodriguez
Marina Carpenter
Clint Knaggs
Deborah Zajac (Arrived late)

City Staff Present:

Braden Kay, Sustainability Office, City of Tempe
Andy Escobar, Sustainability Office, City of Tempe

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Mr. Doiron called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances

Deborah Zajac did not present herself as she arrived late to the meeting.

Agenda Item 3 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes (October 12, 2021)

Mr. Doiron asked if anyone had considerations of minutes such as discrepancies or corrections. Motion: Mr. Schelstraete moved to approve minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mitnik. Action: The motion to approve was passed by a unanimous vote. Ayes: Ms. Apple, Mr. Carraway, Mr. Kucharski, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Mitnik, Ms. Poole, Mr. Schelstraete, Mr. Doiron and Ms. Walker Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: None.

Agenda Item 4 – City of Phoenix Aviation Planning Update discussion

Mr. Feld presented a Sky Harbor Update to the commission. Mr. Feld updated the commission that Sky Harbor will finalize its environmental assessment in the summer of 2022. Mr. Feld hopes the commission can comment on a draft of the assessment on the first of 2022. Mr. Feld explained that the pandemic had led Sky Harbor to reevaluate forecasts and presumptions around near-term

priorities. Mid-term and long-term actions may see timing changes, as well. For the near term, Sky Harbor will prioritize more incremental ways to expand the cargo operations on the south side of the field. Sky Harbor has received feedback from technical experts. Sky Harbor has received some comments from technical experts that the airport should consider lengthening the center runway as its the busiest runway.

Mr. Feld updated the commission on the FAA. The FAA is interested in kicking off a working group for potential airspace changes. The FAA communicated to Sky Harbor staff that one of the airspace changes is from Concepts 1 and 2 from the 2018 workshops. Mr. Feld provided links in his presentation slides with more information.

Mr. Feld gave an update about the Tempe Entertainment District proposal. Mr. Feld acknowledged that the project's development team could not join the commission's meeting due to procurement laws. Mr. Feld explained that Sky Harbor has concerns about the building heights, types of outdoor usage, high concentration of public assembly, and noise-sensitive land use. Mr. Feld explained that grants received by Sky Harbor require the airport to oppose developments like stadiums or arenas constructed near airports. Mr. Feld explained that mixed-used development projects create problems for airports after being built that were not assessed during the design and construction phases. Mr. Mitnik asked Mr. Feld to expand on his point. Mr. Feld explained that any development close to Sky Harbor can create reflectivity issues for pilots. Arenas or other major architectural constructions close to an airport's VORTAC, air navigation equipment, and FAA equipment can potentially disrupt an airport's precision-based operations. Mr. Feld stated that Sky Harbor's further steps could include an airspace study, reflectivity study, acoustical study, wildlife study and implementing disclosures, a navigation easement, and a good neighbor agreement.

Mr. Doiron opened the floor to questions and comments.

- Mr. Kucharski expressed his concern for the people in the neighborhood east of the airport experiencing development. He hopes Sky Harbor is applying the same standard to the airport's east side as was applied to the west side.
 - Mr. Feld explained that Sky Harbor always considers fairness and concurs with Mr. Kucharski's point.
- Ms. Walker asked about the use of the entertainment arena.
 - Mr. Feld informed that the site includes residential, hotel, office, and retail space. The arena will serve other entertainment uses throughout the year beyond just hosting hockey games.
- Ms. Zajac asked if sports betting is included as one of the entertainment uses of this development.
 - Dr. Kay asked Mr. Feld to refrain from answering. Mr. Feld agreed.
- Mr. Carraway asked Mr. Feld to provide the presentation slides to the commissioners.
 - Mr. Feld assured he would.

Agenda Item 5 – Rio Salado Upcoming Development discussion

Dr. Kay explained that the agenda item would not be presented in tonight's meeting, but the commissioners can continue to add to the list of questions. The list will be sent to economic development, and they will answer the questions at the appropriate time. Mr. Mitnik asked if there was a list with all of the questions compiled together. Mr. Doiron answered that questions are added to the minutes of each meeting. Mr. Mitnik asked if a document with all proposed questions could be created for a more accessible review. Dr. Kay said that he, Ms. Hutchison, and Ms. Escobar would work on creating a document.

Agenda Item 6 – 2021 Annual Report

Dr. Kay explained that all commissions have annual reports. An annual report is an opportunity for a commission to report accomplishments of the past 12 months and goals for the next 12 months. Dr. Kay explained that there are different ways of completing an annual report. Dr. Kay stated he preferred having the commissioners suggest content during tonight's meeting and that

he would create a report based on the commissioners' comments. Mr. Doiron suggested adding Mr. Mitnik's letter as an accomplishment. Ms. Poole suggested adding the memo to Mayor and City Council about the potential heat impacts of the CAMP as an accomplishment. Ms. Poole also stated that she found the placement of the Attendance Record next to the Service Dates as confusing and suggested adding '2021' to the title of Attendance Record. Mr. Mitnik suggested phrasing the bullet point about his letter as "increased awareness TAVCO to the general public." Mr. Lynch suggested keeping the language as is in the Goals Related to City Council Section.

Dr. Kay asked the commission to give authority to the Chair and Vice-Chair to approve the Annual Report. Motion: Ms. Poole moved for the commission to give the Chair and Vice-Chair the authority to approve the Annual Report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walker. Action: The motion passed by a majority vote. Ayes: Ms. Apple, Mr. Carraway, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Mitnik, Ms. Poole, Mr. Schelstraete, Mr. Doiron, and Ms. Walker Nays: Mr. Kucharski. Abstentions: None. Absent: None.

Agenda Item 7 – Commissioners' Business

Dr. Kay stated that the commission is prepared to move to a hybrid model in December. Commissioners have the option to attend meetings in person at Tempe City Hall or virtually over Microsoft Teams. Mr. Carraway stated he would like to add an agenda item. Mr. Carraway would like a study done in correlation to an abundance of aircraft arrivals repeatedly occurring during similar times and asked if air traffic controllers were the cause. Mr. Doiron explained that the matter depends on the time and day and needed to be addressed by the FAA directly. Mr. Kucharski agreed with Mr. Carraway. Mr. Mitnik asked about having an agenda item discussing helicopter operations. Dr. Kay stated the topic would be discussed in December's agenda.

Agenda Item 8 – Schedule Next TAVCO Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for December 14, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. as a hybrid option.

Agenda Item 9 – Adjournment

Motion: Mr. Doiron moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was not seconded. Action: The motion to adjourn the meeting passed by a unanimous vote. Ayes: Ms. Apple, Mr. Carraway, Mr. Doiron, Mr. Kucharski, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Mitnik, Ms. Poole, Mr. Schelstraete and Ms. Walker. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: None.

The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Prepared by: Andy Escobar

Reviewed by: