



Port of Anacortes

Anacortes Airport Advisory Committee

Minutes of the Meeting of January 12, 2015

Minutes of the January 12, 2015 Meeting AAAC

The AAAC met on January 12, 2015, at 5:30 p.m.

Attending committee members: Warren Walz, Dan McCrosky, Anni Brogan, and Chair Eric Ufkes.

Absent: Clyde Carlson, Frank Higgins, Tony Idczak, Todd Harrison, Ron Kirkland, Tom Fritzler, Richard Storwick, Al Bush and Val Johnson

Attending for the Port: Josh Beaner – Operations Director; Sue Findlay—Operations Assistant.

Call to Order: Eric called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. Sue Findlay was introduced.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

WAMA Airport Follow-up Visit – Weight Limitation Responsibility

Josh reported that he inquired about Weight Limitation Responsibilities with both WAMA and FAA (Karen Miles). WAMA provided the wording included on the meeting agenda—the responsibility is all on the pilot. Karen Miles indicated the same as well.

Warren indicated he watched a program regarding the airport in Williston, ND. This airport is being heavily utilized due to boom in oil industry, and it appears aircraft weight issues are frequent. They have issued an edict that if the air carrier breaks through the runway due to overweight issues, the airport is not responsible for damages to the aircraft; and the air carrier is responsible for damages to the runway. Maybe we should post something similar for our airport.

2014 Accomplishments

Resident Feedback – Dan indicated he has nothing to report. The last time he had feedback was related to a new weather station and cutting down of trees. Really nothing since then

Pilot Feedback---Eric referenced the recently completed Airport Satisfaction Survey. Of note, of the 12 surveys completed, all recommended the airport. One issue noted was a comment about parking outside of the hangars.

Warren indicated vehicle parking is not to impede aircraft movement.

Josh indicated we could place signage about not impeding aircraft movement.

Warren does not feel this is necessary. Some hangars have plenty of room to have vehicles parked without impeding aircraft movement. This is a case-by-case basis.

Warren noticed signs with speed limits posted. Are these new?

Josh responded yes, these are in response to request made at a prior meeting regarding go-karts at the airport. New parabolic mirrors were also installed at all four corners of the hangars for safety measures.

Discussion surrounded providing notice of airport rules to hangar tenants. A question was posed if the condo hangar tenants have received notice if airport rules. Josh and Sue responded we have not been successful in securing tenant information—names nor tail numbers.

Warren and Anni both suggested using County tax records to locate owners of condo hangars and use these addresses for notification as well as locating aircraft tail numbers.

2015 Looking Ahead

Warren commented he would like to see more aviation related businesses. He also understands you cannot force someone to come here to open a business.

Anni indicated to have more business here, you have to make it attractive. Landline phone service and internet access is not very good. When it rains hard, the phone service is spotty. You need good infrastructure to attract businesses.

Josh indicated he would talk with Anthony , the Port's IT manager , to see if he can provide any solutions/suggestions.

Anni asked how was the AWOS working? Warren responded last time he used it, it worked fine. This was a few months ago, but it worked fine then. He indicated you just have to be slow when clicking.

Josh indicted he also had some positive feedback indicating the AWOS worked fine.

Annie indicates last she heard it was not good, and this is nice to know it is working well. She indicated she thinks we need to promote this—that it is up and working well. Possibly let Barton or Adam know and ask them to confirm it is working.

Discussion ensued in how to advertise that Anacortes has an AWOS. Since it is not sanctioned by the FAA, this limits the types of available publications. Anni suggested maybe someone writing on a pilot's blog as to how nice it is to have an AWOS at the Anacortes Airport. Warren suggested placing an ad in General Aviation magazine, or possibly a letter to the editor.

Anni also commented about an airport trade show at Puyallup fairgrounds in February. She indicated this is a trade show that is very well attended by pilots and mechanics. Exhibitor spaces are still available. This might be a good avenue for the Port to attract interest in the airport.

Josh advised that the Port is looking at implementing the Wildlife Hazard Management Plan in 2015. It is currently with the FAA for approval. The plan is a lot of effort, and a lot of money for a small airport. The end result may be a fulltime person being at the airport.

Josh also commented about the fence line project for 2015. Currently there is a 6-foot tall fence line. This may need to be increased to an 8-foot tall fence around the tennis courts. The fence line around the houses would be kept at 6-feet tall. In the discussion that followed, there were no issues identified with this proposal.

Advisory Committee Open Discussion

Charter, Value of Committee, Goals

It was decided in the essence of time, the Charter would not be read aloud. Eric asked if there was any need to change or add anything. Anni wondered if there was any feedback as to why not many members were coming to the meetings. Josh indicated maybe fewer meetings might be a solution as we do not seem to have many issues—maybe meet twice a year?

Warren indicated the committee is a good forum that needs to continue to develop relationships. If there is too much time between meetings, issues may have too much time to fester. He would like to continue with quarterly meetings.

Anni indicated if the meetings were once a quarter, and 30-minutes at the most, that would be good.

Eric asked if a certain time of year is better. Anni wondered if a location downtown might be better.

Josh indicated most say they would rather meet at the airport as it gives them a chance to see it.

Warren suggested we place a contact number on the agenda in case the gate is closed and the combination is not known. The contact number will be Josh's cell phone number.

It was determined the next meeting will be Tuesday, April 28, 5:30 p.m. at the Pilot's Lounge.

Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m.