

Yates County Airport Council Minutes

February 25, 2020, 7:30 AM EST

Held at Seneca Flight Operations, Penn Yan Airport



PRESENT: Rich Leppert (Seneca Flight), Paul Middlebrook (Council Advisor) Bill Middlebrook (Penn Yan Aero), Doug Marchionda Sr. (Penn Yan Flying Club), Tim Dennis (At Large), Allison Lia (Passero Associates), Taylor Fitch (Marketing), Doug Paddock (Yates County Legislature Chair), Dick Harper (Yates County Legislature), Harold Mechanic (Guest)

APPROVAL MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The Minutes from the January 2020 meeting were approved as presented (motion Tim D, second Bill M.)

REVIEW AND ACCEPT FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Financial Report from December 2020 was accepted as presented (motion Rich L, second Bill M.). Noted that revenues were over budget for December and for the year.

CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATIONS

Tim Dennis passed out meeting notes from the Sutton meeting. Full report was given later in meeting (see below)

SENECA FBO REPORT:

Fence Clearing / cutting / general condition / mark actual dimension on outside of fence

No update at this point.

Revenue, occupancy and condition of T hangars:

Rich handed out status of hanger usage and noted there was one available and two in use by YC Sheriff

Decelerometer (friction Measuring Device):

We are still waiting for grant approval and have had to turn down one flight as we were unable to measure.

Rich Leppert found a decelerometer on eBay for \$300 and purchased it. Watertown uses one like this.

Unit is calibrated and Rich will now start measuring with multiple measurements required and averages posted.

NYAMA Advocacy Days March 10-11: Rich Leppert will be attending

Cessna 170 – Bus availability:

Group contacted Rich looking for school bus availability to transport to Corning, Glenn Curtiss Museum and Penn Yan Aero.

Council felt school would likely not do this but can ask. Recommendations of companies included Fitzgerald Brothers, Keuka Taxi, Yates Transit Service, Onondaga Coach and Prattsburgh Bus Line.

PASSERO REPORT:

FAA Conference Call: Cancelled

Sutton Meeting discussion: (see also attached notes from Tim)

On Tuesday, Feb 19th, Tim Dennis and Lisa Cheung met with the Sutton family (Manning, Yvonne, Yvonne's children (Jason McMillan and Leah McCarley) and Manning's so (Victor Sutton). The family did request that Doris Sutton should be the primary contact.

Tim outline the questions asked in his handout and noted that all responses provided to the Sutton's were honest and factual. Tim and Lisa presented the reasons for the request being airport safety but, in the end, the Sutton family was adamantly against the proposal. The Sutton's asked if the Airport was going to take their property and Tim responded that was not the intent. Tim advised them that there were some other options and that he would take the Sutton response back to the Airport Council.

Tim mentioned that Yvonne stated there was a verbal agreement for the Suttons to use the driveway back to their property. Doug or Dick will review the deed to see if there was a formal easement recorded.

The Airport Council thanked Tim for his efforts in setting up and meeting with the Suttons.

It was agreed that the Yates County Legislature should be updated on the Sutton meeting and that also needed to occur prior to the EA submission occurs.

Environmental Assessment report:

Based on the outcome of the Sutton meeting, the Airport Council agreed that taking the property was not the route to go. Allison indicated there were two real option with one being to "Do Nothing" and the other to "cut off earlier".

It was agreed that the EA submission should still show the original Sutton property option but note that due to landowner objections, that option was not being pursued.

Taylor Fitch asked if the taxiway was a "need" or a "want". After discussion, the Council agreed that this was a "need".

Tim Dennis made the motion, seconded by Rich Leppert, to proceed with option 4 in the EA regarding taxiway 10-28 as the preferred option in the EA.

State Grant Application (Friction Measuring Device, Airport standby Generator, aircraft deice system):

We have not heard back formally from municipal on the deicing tank location. The technical reps at the Village have verbally indicated to the project engineers that they agree a tank with remote metering capability could be located at the airport, but this needs formal approval from the Village Municipal Utilities board.

The has been no formal DOT approval of plans. Doug and Nonie have a meeting with the DOT on Wednesday, Feb 26th to discuss what the DOT needs to assure flowing of funds.

Marking trees to remove current NOTAM:

This should be progressing faster than it has been. We have aerial plots showing the specific trees that are obstruction and it would be simple if we could either get the GPS coordinates or have them marked so we can remove. It was agreed that Passero will supply either Rick Leppert or Paul Middlebrook with the coordinates by Friday, Feb 28th.

Obstruction removal process, permanent easement:

No progress since the EA has not been submitted. It was noted though the EA must be submitted by April to time is of essence.

Progress on GPS approach for 10/28:

Scheduled for this fall

Update on sewer extension on Bath Road:

The Town of Milo decided to haul in stone for the sewer project rather than using the County. The stone is being stored at the corner of the drive to Seneca Flights and Old Bath Road. The Town has also indicated they will not need a laydown area.

It was reiterated by Tim Dennis that communication should be Municipality to Municipality and Town of Milo should be the contact with the contractor.

Review our new 5-year plan, including crack sealing, pavement study and new pavement

Pavement improvement for 2021 will require FAA monetary assistance. We will need to find out when 10/28 was last resurfaced and get that into the plan.

We should remove land acquisition and the deicing truck from the 5-year plan.

Passero needs to be provided with the NYSEG contact to discuss the mounting of lights on the poles. If NYSEG does not respond to Passero, Doug Marchionda Sr. will follow up.

OLD BUSINESS:

Lights: Tim asked for status update. Allison indicated that the contractor should be starting late March or early April. Passero will be on site during install.

Legislature Meeting at Airport: It was agreed that we should set up a meeting with the entire County Legislature at the airport to provide them with a facility tour and update. Dick Harper will bring this up at the next finance committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

The electric circuit to the gate by PY Aero was damaged during the PY Aero fire. The circuit is being repaired but it was agreed that we need to remove this being powered from PY Aero. A change order had been provided to the contractor, so we need to make sure this gets completed when they are here in March / April (or earlier).

ADJOURNMENT: 9:15 am. Motion by Bill M, second by Tim D.

Submitted by: Richard Harper