

Minutes from the Aviation Advisory Committee (AAC)
May 16, 2013, 2012, 6:30 pm
@ Lillard Hall, West Plainfield Fire Department

- 1 Call to order – 6:32 pm by Chair Ferrell. Three of five members were present, a quorum was established. Present were Chairman Ferrell, Andrew Dowling, and Gary Pelfrey. Absent were Jim Hechtl and Jason Russell.
- 2 Introductions – Board members and staff introduced themselves.
- 3 Public comment – 4 persons commented. Comment summaries include:
 - a. Trent Meyer, who noted that:
 - i. Discussing his windmill on February 13 without first putting it on the agenda violated the Brown Act. He asked for redress;
 - ii. Asked that changes to the minutes of the February 13 meeting submitted by Mr. Meyer be accepted by the Committee. He believes not accepting those changes makes them inaccurate;
 - iii. He has before asked for the AAC meetings to be recorded. He asked that the topic of recording the meetings be added to a future agenda.
 - b. Deanne Meyer, who noted that the flight pattern and flight directives are for safety reasons. If so, there is no reason for a plane to fly low over her property;
 - c. Spencer Defty, who observed that there is a tendency for neighbors of the airport to object to activities on the airport much more frequently than is reasonable. Living near an airport means hearing planes.
 - d. A member of the public asked to clarify hours for touch and go's.
- 4 Approval of Agenda – Moved by Pelfrey and seconded by Dowling to approve. Passed 3-0.
- 5 Approval of minutes from February 13, 2012. Moved by Dowling to approve as drafted, seconded Pelfrey, approved 3-0.
- 6 County seeking advice on:

Use Permit for overnight facility at airport by Prestar

Prestar has applied for a use permit from the County to allow overnight camping by customers who attend skydiving events and come for multi-day trainings. The permit process was triggered by an anonymous complaint in October. Three days before this meeting, the FAA contacted the County and said they had received an anonymous verbal complaint that camping would violate FAA guidelines. They asked for a letter response to the allegations. Mr. Ervin distributed copies of the letter he sent to the FAA in response to the allegations. Mr. Ferrell presented his project and answered questions, answered question from the committee. Public testimony about the project

was received, with 15 people speaking both pro and con. Mr. Ferrell then left the room for the committee to discuss the project. No vote was taken since there was no longer a quorum.

7 Old Business and Regular reports

- a. Facilities Directory. The committee discussed asking the Airport Manger to add a remark in the Airport Facilities Directory about the windmill very near the pattern. Moved by Pelfrey, seconded by Dowling, passed 3-0. The Airport Manager agreed to add the remark;
- b. Report of the May 2 WPAC meeting. Provided by Ervin, The most substantive items included the proposed County Zoning Ordinance and the Prestar Use permit. The WPAC voted to recommend keeping the A-O Zone instead of including it in the new PQP zone. The Committee made no recommendation on the Use Permit.
- c. FOD, operational and compliance report. Gary Pelfrey provided a quarterly report, noting that on an annualized basis, 220 issues would be reported, down 18% from the prior year. FOD is better, bathrooms are improved, AWOS issues are better. Worse were the trash containers, weeds, and navigational light bulbs burning out too quickly.
- d. Airport Manager's report. Manager Ervin reported that the Facilities Directory was updated based on changes recommended previously, that after researching Jackie Lundy's request to change the traffic pattern it would be infeasible to do so and may compromise safety, that a hawk mitigation agreement is nearing completion for the tree project, that hangar inspections are nearly complete, and that Caltrans will be conducting its annual Airport inspection on May 3.

8 Next AAC meeting – no discussion

9 Next WPAC meeting – no discussion

10 Other business.

Ray Ferrell brought up Mr. Meyer's wind turbine, commented that it is a conspicuous structure that might be a hazard to aircraft in the vicinity and is thus compromising safety, recommended petitioning FAA to consider requiring lights at its top. Plenty of discussion ensued among committee members, which was joined by Mr. Meyer. No action was taken.

11 Adjournment – at 8:44pm. Moved by Pelfrey and seconded by Dowling. Passed 3-0.