

Gaylord Regional Airport Advisory Committee (AAC)
June 9, 2009
Gaylord Regional Airport

Minutes

Members Present: Mike Deerfield, Josh Kent, Jeff Ratcliffe, Mike Fernandez, Wally McCoy, Dan Wagar, Paul Liss (ex-officio), Matt Barresi (Director)

Members Absent: Steve Johnson, Pat McNamara

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

Motion by Wagar, support by Ratcliffe to approve the minutes of the April May 12, 2009 meeting as presented. Ayes all.

Airport Director's Report. Barresi reported on: Inquires made to other airports regarding annexation; Island Air airplane rides was a resounding success with 161 rides given and another 140 people turned away. Island Air wants to schedule rides once a month through the fall starting on July 18. Discussion regarding the 7/18 date being at the end of AlpenFest and that the response to an initial inquiry into allowing a booth on Saturday to book rides and shuttle people from downtown to the airport was negative. The consensus of the AAC is to support this program and schedule and to seek support from the County to set up a booth on the Courthouse lawn if arrangements can't be made with the AlpenFest Committee; Plans for participating in the upcoming downtown extended hours program by hosting a display of aircraft and airport related organizations and businesses under the pavilion; Visit from FAA inspectors during the 6/6 Island Air rides; The electronic kiosks are up and a number of ads have been sold; Amended Emergency Services Response Plan dealing with access to the airport.

Subcommittee Reports:

- Terminal Furnishings. Barresi reported that the furniture order is delayed due to issues with the supplier.
- Annexation. Deerfield reported that the committee had been unable to get a date scheduled. A meeting was then scheduled for June 23.
- EAA. McCoy discussed the planning and logistics for the upcoming EAA Fly-In.

Planning Discussion:

- Ratcliffe reviewed the AAC planning priorities list.
- Business/Master Plan. Barresi indicated that MDOT and URS requested that the Master/Business plan be postponed until after the SRE building is built in case the project has overruns and the allocated \$50,000 for the plan is needed. The SRE building is estimated to cost \$600,000 out of a total of \$700,000 available. After considerable discussion regarding the projected cost of the SRE building, motion by Ratcliffe, support by Wager to recommend to the County Transportation Committee that the SRE building project budget be capped at \$500,000 including contingencies with the balance of funds available to be used for the Master/Business Plan and other projects. Ayes all.
- Increasing Operations. Barresi indicated that Island Air was very pleased with the community response to the rides on June 6 and is going to work to convince at least two loads of Beaver Island customers to fly out of Gaylord so that they can begin service. Ratcliffe asked if there had been any communication or follow up with flight departments that use KGLR as well as those that don't to secure feedback and promote our facilities. Barresi indicated that there had not been any to date.
- Airport Improvements. Fernandez indicated that the CTB Director was supposed to follow up on the putting green. Deerfield suggested that WalMart be approached about a donation of bikes for use by itinerate pilots. Barresi indicated that there were two courtesy cars lined up, but the insurance issue had to be resolved. Barresi indicated that the federal official responsible for information on the disposition of the DNR hangar had not returned his recent phone calls. Barresi indicated that the new Development Standards are being adhered to.

- Flight Training. Discussion of current flight training. There are apparently at least 6 students receiving training by Mike Head. Another instructor is completing work with 2 students, but is not looking to take on any new ones. Discussion on how to increase the number of available instructors now that we have airport promotion ramped up.
- Financial Management. Ratcliffe indicated that he still needs to prepare a financial comparison with other similar airports.

Open Discussion

Fernandez reported on arrangements for an airport tour by participants in the new Treetops summer camp and that Rick Smith will be the keynote speaker at the upcoming Michigan Association of Airport Executives being held at Treetops.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm. The next regular meeting will be August 11, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.