

Minutes of the
SPRINGFIELD AIRPORT COMMISSION
January 26, 2023
Hartness State Airport Terminal Building
5 p.m.

PRESENT: Bruce Johnson, Mike Knoras, Charles Schumacher, Don Shattuck; Bob Flint, SRDC; Rollin Tebbetts, AOT; Shayne Wilcox, AOT, KVSF Maint; Nick Cartularo, AOT Public Outreach; Larry Perry, NESAs; Otis Munroe, MARC; Jennifer Gagnon, CAP; Elias Joseph, guest.

Bruce called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. and on a motion by Mike and Chas. the minutes of 12/1/22 were approved as presented.

Rollin presented the AOT report and announced that we have a new temporary employee to help Shayne. Mike Babbitt helped Shayne on the last snowstorm and Shayne gave a glowing report of his skills and his help so far. Everyone was very complimentary of the status of the airport. The next VAAC meeting is scheduled for 2/14 in Montpelier at the airport at 1 p.m. Invites coming. Bids for a new snow blower for Springfield for next year have gone out and Shayne is happy. Specs are also out for AIP funds for a sweeper for here.

Rollin requested that event applications for this year be sent in ASAP as insurance and risk management needs to work on these. The first aerobatic contest is scheduled for May 24-26. The 2nd will be mid-July. Jennifer offered help from the CAP cadets if needed.

Rollin had no new info on the status of the runway rebuild but no “bad” news either. Bruce advised him that the new ADA doors to the terminal do not meet ADA code for opening by a wheelchair person. Rollin will follow up.

FBO: No report

Old business: Bob reported on a discussion with Trini Brassard as positive and has had discussions with both Sen. Welch and Sen. Sanders offices and there seems to be consensus on the runway and they will keep pushing. It is “data driven” and the video by Nick will help the process.

Updates for future planning: there will be two aerobatic contests. ACE camp will be 7/31 – 8/4. CAP will be having an open house this spring and the CAP glider academy is 8/5 – 8/13. CAP is also working with the CAP govt. relations expert and the New England FAA to explore ideas for a new CAP building. In addition to CAP use, it could become a STEM center, multi use classroom, FEMA building or other community uses. It could also be moved to the area of the abandoned farmhouse across the road. It was also mentioned that CAP cadets may apply to ACE camp and that a number of ACE grads had previously been members of CAP.

Larry has received and sent out a memo from Ed Cormier (FAA) on a paid internship available to college age students. Possibly could make exceptions for high school age applicants.

Much discussion took place regarding the video being done at Hartness for the State to promote airports throughout VT. Nick is with AOT in the public outreach department and has much experience with video and interviewing (drone video also). He has several videos online already which can be viewed

via the AOT website. He has been working in Springfield for several weeks and has a few more interviews to complete. Clearly he needs to get our biggest user in Jim Hagedorn and his company which uses Hartness extensively. He is scheduled for mid-February and has already spoken with Larry about when that is possible. He has two hangars and leases a third and has been a great asset to the area.

New business: Elias Joseph was questioned about the status of his plan to build a new hangar. He has a local attorney working with him on finding out the status of the permitting process. He is in contact with Guy Tapper and has a commitment from the State but the blanket permitting is still a new issue to the State and is taking more time than expected. There are still questions of process. We look forward to a new hangar and a new tenant.

Bruce again congratulated Shayne on the great job he is doing with snow removal and his success with a new temp. Many thanks!!!

Next meeting: March 23. Any new agenda items should be forwarded to Bruce.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. on a motion by Chas and Mike

Respectfully submitted,

Peter MacGillivray. Co-chair