

MINUTES OF MEETING

RHODE ISLAND AIRPORT CORPORATION

GENERAL AVIATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 3, 2005

11:00 a.m.

**in the Mary Brennan Board Room, T. F. Green Airport, Warwick,
Rhode Island**

The meeting of the Rhode Island Airport Corporation (“Corporation”) General Aviation Committee was called to order by Chair, Dr. Kathleen Hittner at 11:00 a.m., in the Mary Brennan Board Room, at T. F. Green Airport, Warwick, Rhode Island, in accordance with the notice duly posted pursuant to the Open Meetings Law.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Sangster and Don Pillsbury (non-voting member)

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT: Michael Traficante.

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Brewer, President and CEO; Laurie Cullen, Executive Vice President; Richard Licht, Legal Counsel (via phone, executive session only); Brian Schattle, Sr. VP of Finance and Administration and CFO; Peter Frazier, Chief Legal Counsel; Al Moder, Chief Aeronautics Inspector; Steve Tibbetts, General Manager - Hawthorne Aviation; and those individuals listed on the attendance sheet attached hereto.

1. Approval of the Minutes: Dr. Hittner moved that the minutes of the General Aviation Committee Meeting of Thursday, November 3, 2005, be approved. Mr. Sangster seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

2. Open Forum: Dr. Hittner invited members of the audience to speak in Open Session. None came forward.

3. Chair's Report: There was no report.

4. General Aviation Report:

Mr. Tibbetts introduced Mr. St. Onge who gave an overview of daily operations at the general aviation airports. Mr. Tibbetts stated the January fuel and operations sales were down due to bad weather and airport closings. Overall, however, in the twelve month period fuel sales were up, especially at Quonset. There was a decline in passengers for New England Airlines at Westerly Airport which has been the trend for approximately two years. Mr. Pillsbury asked if New England Airlines will continue operating. Mr. Tibbetts explained that there had been no discussion of New England Airlines discontinuing operation, but he was sure that this would be dictated by market conditions in the industry. Mr. Sangster asked why there was such a big increase in operations at North Central Airport, and Mr. Tibbetts explained that this was due to the central location and

their flight school. Mr. Sangster asked why operations increased three hundred percent in one month and if that could change.

5. Aeronautics Report:

Mr. Moder reported that there was an open letter sent to all pilots, aviation instructors, aircraft owners, airport tenants, and aviation technicians informing them that a project was currently underway to get accountability and registration of all airplanes on airport property.

Mr. Tibbetts is compiling a list of all aircraft registration numbers, Mr. Cloutier is keeping a record of aircraft owners and pilots who have not followed registration procedures, and Mr. Warcup has compiled a book listing all of the FBO's tenants and registration procedures. Mr. Moder stated that the Registration Charge Request procedure will be a great improvement for the GA Airports and it will enable RIAC to have access to pilots name, address, and telephone number in case of an emergency. Mr. Moder explained that aircraft owners now have 90 days to register their aircraft instead of 10 days.

Mr. Moder reported that there was an incident on a taxiway leading to Runway 5-23 at North Central Airport involving a kit airplane. FAA was informed and they believe that there may have been a problem with the kit. Mr. Moder further reported that there will be an operations practice by Air Force C-5 aircraft at Quonset from March

10-13, 2005. Dr. Hittner asked if the clearing of vegetation was still in progress. Ms. Pope reported that there are vegetative management plans at all of the airports.

6. Discussion Items:

(a) Update on Commercial Programs.

Mr. Cloutier reported that there is an unsolicited proposal by Robert Carp (Aeroserv), to renovate the storage area at North Central Airport terminal to a breakfast and lunch type restaurant. Mr. Carp has executed a 30 year lease for Aeroserv's hangar, and would like to add the restaurant to supplement business. Mr. Cloutier stated that North Central Airport terminal needs infrastructure improvement, and that the restaurant would be a welcome addition to the services offered at the airport. Mr. Cloutier explained that Mr. Carp is proposing capital improvements of \$150,000 to build-out an area approximately 1,161 square feet on the upper level of the terminal building. In return for this capital improvement, Mr. Carp is requesting a lease term of 30 years to run concurrently with the Aeroserv Express hangar lease, with two to five years rent free use of the restaurant space commencing upon completion of the restaurant construction, and is asking that RIAC would charge a fair market value for the leased space at the conclusion of the rent free period. Dr. Hittner asked if the storage space would be relocated somewhere else on the airport.

Mr. Cloutier stated that they would have to find alternative storage space. Mr. Sangster asked if there was any down side to proceeding with this project. Mr. Cloutier explained that the restaurant would be in competition for business with new chain restaurants planned for the Lincoln Mall. Mr. Cloutier stressed that Mr. Carp will be providing all of his own restaurant equipment, but this could be removed easily if the business were not successful. Mr. Tibbetts reported that there is currently some FAA equipment stored in that area of the building but that the plan was to put a wall around the equipment with a locked entrance. Mr. Pillsbury reported that restaurants at general aviation airports are very scarce and having a restaurant at North Central would be of great economic value and attract pilots to the airport.

(b) Update on General Aviation Fencing & Lighting Program.

Mr. Sumner stated that work on the fencing and lighting program at Newport Airport is nearly completed.

(c) Update on Environmental Issues.

Ms. Pope reported that the on-airport obstruction removal and obstruction lighting project at Newport Airport should be done by March 23rd. OR Colan is pursuing the off-airport easements in preparation of applying for the off-airport obstruction removal and obstruction lighting grant. The off-airport project should start in the

summer of 2005. There was discussion on the timing of this project due to community concerns and Ms. Pope explained that Representative Long and Senator Gibbs were involved in the project due to the community concerns.

Ms. Pope reported that the Corporation hopes to start work in the summer or fall of 2005 on the on and off-airport easements at Westerly Airport.

Ms. Pope reported that the program for maintenance of the vegetation at Quonset Airport started in December along with the planned habitat improvements. RIAC will apply for a non -FAA grant to help us with the maintenance of the 32 acres on Quonset, so that Hawthorne does not have to maintain the area. There will be no match for RIAC if the non-FAA grant is approved.

Ms. Pope explained the wetland obstruction removal project at North Central Airport which will be completed in the spring.

There was also discussion of the glycol mineralization proposal to put a greenhouse containing plants at North Central Airport which could be used to reprocess glycol and generate electricity. Ms. Pope explained that farmers in Vermont have been profitable using this type of system.. There was also discussion of alternative vegetation control methods.

7. Executive Session:

(a) Discussion Related to Investment of Public Funds - R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5 (a)(7).

At approximately 11:37 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. Sangster and seconded by Dr. Hittner to go into Executive Session. By the following roll call vote the motion was passed unanimously.

YEAS: Dr. Kathleen Hittner

Robert Sangster

NAYS: None

At approximately 12:24 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Sangster to return to the Open Session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hittner. The motion was passed unanimously.

8. Future Meetings:

The next General Aviation Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 7, 2005 at 11:00 a.m., in the Mary Brennan Board Room, at T. F. Green Airport.

9. Adjournment: Mr. Sangster moved to adjourn at approximately 12:25 p.m. Dr. Hittner seconded the motion. The motion was carried

by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted

**Dr. Kathleen Hittner, Chair
General Aviation Committee of the
Rhode Island Airport Corporation**

ATTENDANCE SHEET

RHODE ISLAND AIRPORT CORPORATION

GENERAL AVIATION COMMITTEE

March 3, 2005

NAME AFFILIATION

Patti Goldstein RIAC

Tim Pimental RIAC

Liberty Luciano RIAC

Alicia Spearing RIAC

Brenda Pope RIAC

Jason Sumner RIAC

Michael Mini RIAC

David Cloutier RIAC

Steve St. Onge Hawthorne

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION
OF THE RHODE ISLAND AIRPORT CORPORATION
GENERAL AVIATION COMMITTEE MEETING
March 3, 2005**

1. At approximately 11:40 a.m., a motion was made by Mr. Sangster and seconded by Ms. Hittner to go into Executive Session. The motion was passed unanimously.

2. Committee members and corporation personnel discussed

development of the outline of the General Aviation (GA) airports.

3. This issue will be discussed in further detail at the next Board of Directors meeting.

At approximately 12:24 a.m. a motion was made by Mr. Sangster to return to the Open Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hittner. By the following roll call vote the motion was passed unanimously.

YEAS: Kathleen Hittner

Bob Sangster

NAYS: None

Respectfully submitted

**Kathleen Hittner, Chair General Aviation Committee of the
Rhode Island Airport Corporation**