

The Seven hundred and sixty-third meeting of the Worcester Regional Airport Commission was held on Monday, January 14, 2008 at 6:30 PM in the Conference Room of the Worcester Regional Airport Terminal Building.

Members present were: Chairman James Delehaunty, Vice-Chairman Joe Zwirblia, Commissioners Tim DeSantis, Eric Nierenberg and Patsy SantaMaria.

Also present were: Mr. Eric Waldron, Airport Director and Mr. Philip Niddrie, Airport Liaison.

Chairman Delehaunty opened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

1. Approval of minutes of the Monday December 10, 2007 meeting -

Commissioner Zwirblia moved, seconded by Commissioner SantaMaria, to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2007 meeting. **All in favor - So Voted.**

6. New Business – Taken out of Order – Election of Officers – The Chair indicated that, at the request of Commissioner SantaMaria who had to leave the meeting early, this item would be taken out of order.

Mr. Waldron, as Secretary of the Commission, took over the meeting at this point and opened nominations for the position of Chairman. Commissioner SantaMaria nominated Jim Delehaunty, Seconded by Vice-Chairman Zwirblia. Mr. Waldron solicited other nominations, but there were none, so he closed the nominating process. Mr. Waldron then called for a role call vote on the nomination of Jim Delehaunty to serve as Chairman of the Airport Commission. SantaMaria, yes, Nierenberg, yes, Zwirblia, yes, DeSantis, yes, Delehaunty, yes. Jim Delehaunty was unanimously voted to be the Worcester Regional Airport Commission Chairman for 2008.

Mr. Waldron opened nominations for the position of Vice Chairman. Commissioner Zwirblia nominated Tim DeSantis, Seconded by Commissioner SantaMaria. Mr. Waldron solicited other nominations, but there were none, so he closed the nominating process. Mr. Waldron then called for a role call vote on the nomination of Tim DeSantis to serve as Chairman of the Airport Commission. SantaMaria, yes, Nierenberg, yes, Zwirblia, yes, DeSantis, yes, Delehaunty, yes. Tim DeSantis was unanimously voted to be the Worcester Regional Airport Commission Vice-Chairman for 2008.

Chairman Delehaunty, as required by state law, moved the appointment of Airport Director, Eric Waldron as Secretary to the Commission. Chairman Delehaunty moved, seconded by Commissioner SantaMaria, **All in favor, So Voted.**

At this point, Commissioner SantaMaria indicated that he had to leave the meeting; he asked that action on the Security Regulations be held until the next meeting. Hearing no objection, the Chairman agreed.

2. Report of the Commission Chairman – Chairman Delehaunty reported on a meeting he had with Assistant City Manager Julie Jacobson and Operations Manager for the City Manager, Michael Gilleberto regarding:

- The vacant Commission position; it was agreed that the City Manager will try to get the seventh Member appointed as soon as possible.

- The Massport/City airport operating agreement was extended for one-year. There had been discussions between the parties about extending the agreement for 6 months, but the one year extension was a Massport initiative. There was discussion about where capital investment will come from and the status of non-aviation property at the airport. Mr. Waldron reminded the Commission that Massport is not able to invest capital dollars into a facility which they do not own. If, at some future point Massport does own the property, it would then be possible for them to make capital investments at the airport. Given those factors, Worcester, as owner of the facility, is responsible for capital project funding. In most cases for the largest projects, the FAA and MAC reimburse Worcester for their investment through grants.
- It was suggested that the Commission could increase their visibility and involvement with general aviation at the airport.

The Chairman advised the Members that he had asked staff to create a schedule for the meetings to be held in 2008, which he distributed (further discussion below under New Business).

3. Commissioner's Reports

- **Marketing** - There was discussion regarding a goal to have the Commission increase their role in General Aviation activities. Chairman Delehaunty appointed Commissioner DeSantis to lead this effort. Staff will provide information as requested. Discussion centered around a potential survey that Commissioner DeSantis and staff will develop.

At this point, Commissioner Zwirblia gave a brief report on the Massachusetts Aviation Historical Society (MAHS), a non-profit tax exempt entity that is focused on aviation in Massachusetts. He suggested that MAHS may be interested in having a static display exhibit at the airport and possibly a discussion series over one or two evenings. He was interested in seeing this dovetail with the marketing effort as a way of raising awareness of General Aviation.

- **Aviation - . No Report**
- **Master Plan** - The plan is still being reviewed by FAA; staff met with FAA in early January and FAA officials have indicated that they expect their review to be completed soon.

4. Reports of the Airport Director

- **NBAA conference** - The Director advised that he will join two Massport colleagues attending the National Business Aircraft Association Schedulers & Dispatchers conference in late January, to market ORH to business aircraft operators. The session is attended by over 2000 people directly involved in corporate aircraft travel. Massport has developed a display booth featuring Worcester and Hanscom airports.
- **Norwood Flight Center** - Mr. Waldron reported to the Members that the Airport has reached a tentative agreement with Norwood Flight Center to locate an office at ORH. They will enter a License Agreement for the space formerly used as a magazine and convenience area in the terminal, just below the escalators. Discussion ensued regarding that location and the ability to re-locate if the airport needs the space to support an air carrier. Mr. Waldron indicated that this has been discussed with the tenant.

- **Amity Flight School Update-** Amity has completely moved out of Hangar #1. Jeff Gulick has reached an agreement with Euro-American Air Freight to lease an office in their building. John Capuano has sent a letter to the Airport indicating that he no longer intends to be affiliated with Amity Flight School. Staff has forwarded all documents to their respective Law Departments and will report back to the Commission with the results of the document reviews.

5. Old Business –

- **New Security Regulations-Vote Needed-** Noted earlier, held at the request of Commissioner SantaMaria prior to his leaving the meeting.

6. New Business – Continued

Chairman Delehaunty returned to the calendar of Airport Commission meeting dates for 2008 and asked the Members to pick an alternate date for the October 13 meeting, which conflicts with the Columbus Day holiday. October 6 was picked as the alternate date.

In reponse to a question from Commissioner DeSantis about reducing the number of meetings, the Chairman said that rather than meet for the sake of meeting he would cancel a scheduled meeting if there were no action items or other material/substantive items to come before the Commission that month. Subject to the need for a special meeting, the next regular meeting would be the one on the proposed schedule of meetings.”

Commissioner Zwirblia moved, seconded by Commissioner Nierenberg, to adopt the calendar year 2008 Airport Commission Meeting Dates presented, recognizing that the Chairman may cancel a meeting in a given month if there are no action items or other material business to come before the group. **All in favor, So Voted.**

The next meeting date is February 11, 2008.

7. Adjournment

Commissioner DeSantis moved, seconded by Commissioner Nierenberg, to adjourn the meeting. **All in favor - So Voted.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Eric N. Waldron, A.A.E., ACE
Airport Director and
Clerk of the Commission