

**CITY OF SAN DIEGO
AIRPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Meeting of October 13, 2015

Montgomery Field Terminal, 3750 John J. Montgomery Drive, San Diego CA 92123

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. H. Aldrich (Montgomery Field Aviation Lessee), Tom Dray (MYF Tower), Chairman Buzz Fink (Special Expertise), Buzz Gibbs (Kearny Mesa Community), Scott Hasson (Tierrasanta Community), Rich Martindell (Special Expertise), Vice-Chair Chuck McGill (Montgomery Field Aviation User Group), Tom Ricotta (Brown Field Aviation Lessee), David Ryan (Special Expertise)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jackie Ander (Serra Mesa Community) *excused*, Jim Demeaux (Clairemont Community), Lisa Golden (Otay Mesa Community), Bob Hitchcock (Brown Field Aviation User Group)

GUESTS PRESENT: Bob Basso, Will Dryden, Larry Faast, David Friedmann, Richard Golden, Darin Larson, Ray Richmond, Larry Rothrock, Henry Sickels

STAFF PRESENT: Shaneisha Burton, Grace Chao, Brandi Mulvey, Wayne Reiter, Liz Saidkhanian, Pierre Saladin, Matthew Schmitzer, Andy Schwartz, Cybele Thompson

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Fink called the meeting to order at 3:11 P.M. A quorum was present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 8th regular meeting were approved unanimously, as written, with one abstention (McGill).

3. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Tiny Sluka, a Real Estate Broker from Tierrasanta for over 30 years, expressed concerned with the additional noise that will be brought to Tierrasanta and the surrounding area if Montgomery Field Airport brings in jets due to the extension of the runway. Chairman Fink offered Mr. Sluka to meet with Mr. Reiter after the meeting in regards to the background information on this topic. Mr. Reiter stated that the proposal is not to extend the runway but to eliminate the displaced threshold to make it available for landings, and there are jets currently using the airport.

Chairman Fink responded that one of the limiting factors is not just the runway length also the strength of the pavement which nothing is being done to increase the strength of pavement that was discussed at the last meeting. You will not be seeing C130, 727's or anything over 20,000 pounds flying in here.

Mr. Gibbs spoke regarding the airport's master plan in the next couple of years, they have applied to that and that's when all this will come about. At the moment all they are talking about is the name change. The airport has decided they would like to be an executive airport to attract business here, they believe the name will give them more credibility. There is nothing physically

being done on the ground now. In the long term, yes there will be a master plan that will decide the next 20 years worth of Capital Improvement Projects. Rod has stated that he would like to have the displaced threshold removed. This will not take place today, this year or next year. Chairman Fink added, one of the reasons they were talking about removing the displaced threshold, was another safety factor in addition to the three things in aviation that do you no good. Which are runway behind you, airspace above you and fuel still in the fuel truck, this additional one is being able to use the displaced threshold.

Mr. Dryden inquired on an update on where Crownair is with the lease that was supposed to be done this year; Chairman Fink responded that this topic will be discussed during the Real Estate report.

4. NEW BUSINESS

None

5. OLD BUSINESS

San Diego Ultralight Association Update

Mr. Faast acknowledged all of the committee for supporting the San Diego Ultralight Association. He believes with the support of the letter the committee wrote to Mayor Faulconer had a big influence and it's moving them in the right direction. They do not have the lease signed yet, but it looks like it could happen in the next few weeks. Some letters to the council members turned out to be very positive there were four speakers last Tuesday including Chairman Fink supporting the Ultralight Association. The reason they were being kicked out was because potential contamination to the water shed at Otay Lake. Ultralight requested to be put back on the lease with Chairman Fink for five years. Council did not respond, but it looks like they will take action. Ultralight Association is remaining cautiously optimistic that they will be reinstated.

Montgomery Field Name Change

The discussion of the name change for Montgomery Field Airport was carried forward from last month's meeting. Mr. Schmitzer provided an update which included a slide show.

Two hundred and seventy people voted for the name change, following are the results:

- 1st place – Montgomery-Gibbs Executive Airport with 116 votes.
- 2nd place – San Diego Montgomery Executive Airport at Gibbs Field with 85 votes.

San Diego Montgomery Executive Airport at Gibbs Field received the strongest support amongst the users. Because of safety, marketability and tenant comments taken into consideration, the airports division is asking the AAC to support the name Montgomery San Diego Executive Airport at Gibbs Field.

The airports division requested the AAC draft a letter to the Mayor with their recommendation by October 31st. After October 31st the City will proceed to the next phase to bring a new element to Montgomery Field.

After much discussion and for the same reasons articulated at last month's meeting the committee members do not agree with the recommended names and did not come up with a consensus regarding the airport name change.

Chairman Fink made a **motion** that the name *San Diego Montgomery Executive Airport at Gibbs Field* was too long. Vice-Chair McGill seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Hasson made a **motion** to name the terminal “Bill Gibbs Terminal.” Mr. Ryan seconded the motion. The motion passed 7 -1, with Dr. Aldrich voting in opposition.

Draft Operations Policies and Procedures

The discussion of Draft Operations Policies and Procedures was carried forward from last month’s meeting.

Mr. Reiter emailed the draft document to all tenants and is waiting for comments and recommendations and therefore has not updated the draft. Any comments already received will be updated and another draft will be provided. If you need or know anybody that needs a copy of the Operations Policies and Procedures document, please contact Mr. Reiter via email or stop by his office.

6. STAFF REPORT

SDM General Update – *Brown Field Airport Manager Andy Schwartz*

- ADA Upgrade – This project has been going on for over a month and its going smooth. Both entry ways are completed, new sewage line installed and beginning the framing phase of restrooms. Mr. Schwartz is hopeful the restrooms will be completed before Thanksgiving.
- 8L/26R Pavement Rehabilitation Phase I – At this time, the Notice to Proceed has not been received. With alterations and construction to begin February 2016. Should take about 80 days, once he has something more concrete he will provide an update. There will be an extension of the finish date without penalty if an unforeseen situation happens due to El Nino.

MYF General Update – *Matt Schmitzer, Montgomery Field Airport Manager*

- 10R/28L is still closed on the weekend and Hotel still blocked off due to the current phase of construction on that side not being completed. Currently, there is a dispute amongst the contractor, consultants, City Engineer and the Project Manager regarding the some lots of the asphalt used which may not meet the FAA standards. If it does not meet the requirements Montgomery Field will not be eligible for the grant. They are trying to come to a consensus on how they are going to proceed. The City Engineer has requested new P-401 mix to be developed; they requested the same on they used on 10L/28R. Currently, there are negotiations whether the contractor will have to remove and replace the asphalt. The contractor has indicated there is a 3 to 4 week process in order for the P-401 to be designed. Again, there is still debate on the course of action that will take place if they don’t want to break up the asphalt.
- The airport terminal conference room and suite #A will be re-tiled.
- The trees along John J. Montgomery that were damaged in the windstorm last year and had dry rot were taken down, and at the end of this month the contractor will come out and will be re-doing the median; they will use draught tolerant, low maintenance plants.

- The fountain grass adjacent to 10R/28L and taxiway was trimmed.
- Regarding the ADA, the first meeting took place October 8th; projected project to begin after Thanksgiving.

MYF Tower Update – *MYF Tower Manager Tom Dray*

Next phase of construction will involve the closure of the midfield exits, 23 and Taxiway Golf, anyone landing on 28R will have to roll the full length of the runway and will take some time and impact some arrival destinations. Everyone is encouraged to exit the runway promptly. No start date yet due to the resolution of the asphalt issue. Taxiway Charlie will still be available.

Airport Property Update – *Supervising Property Agent Brandi Mulvey*

Some people had questions regarding the speed at which leases are completed, we are working as fast as we can, and unfortunately the City Attorney's have responsibilities to other departments as well as Airports. We understand the frustration, Crownair is our top priority and there is progress, we are pushing to get this to Council in December, if not it would be January; RFP's are a priority as well.

Mr. Will Dryden from Coast commented at his frustration at the City's inability to get anything done and how other states are more accommodating for businesses.

Mr. Larry Rothrock commented that this group is to advise the Mayor and the City that businesses are moving to other cities. Chairman Fink replied that it's the City's system that is the problem, Brandi has had to wait for other City departments to sign off on her items, it's the system as a whole and the committee has made suggestions over the years that this needs to change and will again make suggestions.

Mr. Chris Sluka of Learn to Fly flight training has heard about the Master Plan for years, would like to hear what is changing. Chairman Fink stated the plan is to give longer term leases to keep Flattop and Marigold here and not run off the existing tenants Mr. Gibbs explained the airport requests money from the FAA to do the Master Plan, the grant will allow 90% for the Master Plan which will be for long term Capital Improvements projects and assign different uses to different parts of the airport.

Mr. Richard Golden commented that we are a General Aviation (GA) airport and will stay a GA; we would need a market study and a master plan study, but we don't see that GA will grow to be huge.

Chairman Fink explained that they want a Master Plan committee, not just with aviation members but getting the community involved to work on a plan that is good for all. Mr. Chris Sluka would like to make it a modern upgraded airport but that can't happen with short term leases, per Ms. Mulvey the next RFP is going out for the NAC.

Mr. Tom Ricotta commented current management didn't put us in this position, it was past management, it will take some time. The current people here are trying to do the right thing and are on the right path.

Mr. Tiny Sluka asked for a time frame for the Master Plan. Ms. Thompson noted that we are not

eligible for another grant until October 2016 and then it will take about 2 years to complete.

Noise and Special Projects – *Airport Program Manager Wayne Reiter*

- Welcomed Mr. Schmitzer back from his deployment from the Middle East and serving his County.
- We have the agreement for the FAA grant for SDM 8L/26R for \$4,374,638 which covers 90% of the construction project, request is going to Council for a State grant funding in the amount of \$218,731 to cover 4.5% of cost, which the City will only have to cover 5.5%.
- Two job postings closed yesterday for Ops Assistant and Property Agent. Once the Ops person is on board and trained there will be staffing on weekends here.
- Minimum Standards document is with the Attorney for review.
- Mr. Propst will present the Airport Business Plan next month.
- Noise report for July, Aug, and Sept nothing out of the ordinary. Total operations at MYF dropped last month due to the construction project.
- Brown Field development update: Environment Assessment and Airport Layout Update Plan are in progress, meeting today with their team and ours with public private partnership agreement between the two of us to fund and construct the project. Chairman Fink asked if the City would be contributing to this, Ms. Thompson stated it would take an outside source.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 P.M.

Respectfully,
Claudia Guardado