

JOINT WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 19, 2014

Chicago Executive Airport Board of Directors
City of Prospect Heights City Council
Village of Wheeling Board of Trustees

Tuscany Restaurant
Wheeling, IL 60090

I. Open Workshop

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance- Chairman Robert McKenzie led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll call confirmed the following present:

Village of Wheeling: Village Clerk Simpson took roll call. Trustees Brady, Heer, Hein, Krueger, Lang, Vogel and President Argiris were present.

City of Prospect Heights: City Clerk, Stacey Adamsen took roll call.

Aldermen Ludvigsen, Styler, Higgins, Mendez, Williamson and Mayor Helmer were present.

Chicago Executive Airport: Recording Secretary Vicki Mayr took roll call. Cloud, Kearns, Katz, Kolssak, Pace and Lang were present

C. Welcome / Opening Remarks / Airport Update

CEA Chairman Robert McKenzie welcomed all in attendance to tonight's meeting.

- Chairman McKenzie gave a brief update on current projects around the airport, including:
- EMAS project is under way. Installation should begin in August, including some night and weekend runway closures.
- During the runway shut down for EMAS, the airport will hold a 5K race on the runway. Look for more information coming soon.
- Scott Campbell recently joined us as our new CFO and was an immediate help with the 2015 budget.
- We welcomed a new FBO to Chicago Executive Airport. Hawthorne Global Aviation Service's Grand Opening was last Thursday. We look forward to the new business they will bring to the airport.
- During this very difficult winter, CEA never shut down thanks to the hard work of our maintenance staff. They even earned an honorable mention for the Balchin/Post snow removal awards at the International Snow Symposium in Buffalo, NY.

- We have had a lot of success in getting TIPs and IDOT money, thanks to CMT and staff, including an informal indication for funding to do the North end of EMAS.
- The airport board recently has met to do some strategic planning and look at new projects around the airport. A follow up meeting will be scheduled in the next month or so.
- Chairman McKenzie introduced Mayor Nick Helmer who stated that he is proud of the direction the airport is headed and welcomed all in attendance.
- Mayor Helmer then introduced Village President Dean Argiris. President Argiris also welcomed attendees and spoke of how the municipalities have put their differences aside and are working as a team with the airport board to make enhancements to the airport.

D. Airport Signage

Chairman McKenzie opened the discussion regarding airport signage. Mayor Helmer stated that the City of Prospect Heights had created a signage program a number of years ago, and are re-enacting it. They are currently looking into brick signage at the four corners of the airport announcing Chicago Executive Airport, two in Wheeling and two in Prospect Heights. President Argiris stated that the feedback he received indicated that the names of the City/Village should not be included on the signs. Chairman McKenzie agreed that the increased profile was important and he will take the comments to the next CEA board meeting. Additionally, there may be funds available for the signs through the convention and tourism bureau.

E. Airport Enhancements – Presentation by Charlie Priester

Chairman McKenzie introduced Mr. Charlie Priester who gave a presentation on some of the history of the airport and its need to stay relevant for the future. This would include a 7,000 ft. runway in order for jets to take off fully loaded with fuel for international flights. He believes a longer runway would bring additional business and jobs to the area, as well as increased fuel sales, which would benefit both municipalities.

Mr. Priester is asking for the opportunity to conduct a study, as CEO of Chicago Executive Airport, into the feasibility of acquiring a 7,000 ft. runway at CEA. He feels that he has the knowledge, experience, connections and desire to be successful.

Chairman McKenzie asked Directors Lang and Pace to offer their insight into their dealings with Mr. Priester in recent weeks regarding this topic. Both felt confident that Mr. Priester was the right man to proceed with the study and are excited to begin the process.

Each Alderman and Trustee was given the opportunity to speak or ask questions of Mr. Priester. Trustee Brady did express a concern about the impact that a longer runway could have on homes and businesses in Wheeling. President Argiris would like the study to include the impact on each community, not just the airport. Alderman Higgins also expressed concerns about the impact a longer runway would have on Prospect Heights' residents. All were in favor of conducting the study.

F. Discussion Regarding CEO Position

Chairman McKenzie opened the discussion regarding creating a CEO position for Charlie Priester. He stated that the title is necessary in order to give Mr. Priester the credibility necessary to effectively represent the airport. The position would be lateral to the Executive Director and report directly to the board. At President Argiris' request, the attorneys for the municipalities and airport clarified that the IGA gave the airport board the authority to create that position. A budget amendment will be necessary.

Chairman McKenzie then explained that, in addition to the plan to bring on Charlie Priester as CEO to work to enhance the airport, the board has decided to make Jamie Abbott the permanent Executive Director. He also expressed that Mr. Priester would make an excellent mentor to Mr. Abbott. Additional comments were given by members of the CEA board.

Trustee Brady asked that the CEA board allow the City and Village to work with the airport on any plans resulting from Mr. Priester's study to benefit all involved. President Argiris thanked everybody in attendance. The meeting was very positive. He asked that the CEA board keep the municipalities abreast of what is going on.

Alderman Ludvigsen asked if there will be a specific line in the airport budget to fund the study, etc. so that the project continues. The board will discuss this at their next meeting. Mayor Helmer stated that he thinks that what has been discussed this evening is a win-win for all parties involved.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Chicago Executive Airport Director Betty Cloud and seconded by Director Neal Katz to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved by a voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neal Katz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "N" and a stylized "Katz".

Neal Katz
Secretary