

Minutes DRAFT
Seaside Municipal Airport Committee
May 23, 2023
6:15 P.M.

Call to order

Members present: Joyce Hunt, Randy Frank, Chris Binnicker, Randall Henderson, Michael Dimmick

Members absent: Mark Dolan, Bruce Francis, Diane Widdop

Guests: William (Walt) Howard, Michael Lewis, Josh Duff, John Richl, Matt McGrath, Jeff Gage, Niki Ratana

Approve minutes from previous meeting: Joyce Hunt moved for approval, Chris Binnicker seconded, unanimous

Additions to the agenda: None

Comments from the floor

John Richl and Matt McGrath from the Port of Astoria:

Seaside had made a request to the Port and got the cold shoulder. They wanted Seaside to know that they were under court orders not to talk after the accident in Gearhart. There was no liability in the end, but they were under a gag order. They would like to mend fences, work together, and would like Seaside to participate in their open house/fly-in on August 19th from 11-4. Matt is the airport manager and has been there for 2 years. He would like to raise awareness. They are getting better prices on fuel, offer a \$.10 discount to hangar tenants, and offer that to Seaside tenants as well.

They have no current plans to build more hangars but are working on a master plan currently. They are full and recently raised their prices. A substantial amount of their budget comes from federal grants.

Their waiting list for hangars is 7 deep.

Infrastructure / Improvements / Funding

City budgeted projects

Tiedown chains – locations and sizing – length is still an issue, Mike will look at.

Ramp layout for hangars – Dale/Niki have preliminary approval on drawing and still need environmental approval from the FAA. Tim Moyer is very interested in investing in hangars. The estimate for the building kit is \$232,900, which can probably be doubled for the whole project.

State funding, projects & PMP

Randy Frank checked with the city and Spencer Kyle confirmed that a grant writer could come from outside the city. Randall and Chris to follow up on specifics. The Port has a grant consultant (could that be leveraged?).

Federal & CIP

Obstruction evaluation is missing from the list and we need to confirm that we have updated the FAA will the latest list as required annually. Matt McGrath commented that the FAA is log jammed and response time is awful.

ALP update

Need to ask Dale for status

Port of Astoria request

We cannot leverage bulk runway light purchase with the Port since Seaside has LED lights and they do not.

Maintenance / Safety / Security

Airside - runway / taxiways, windsocks, beacon, lights / reflectors - good

Groundskeeping – mowing, weeds, safety – volunteers have been keeping the runway and taxiway edges mowed, the rest is getting long, Mike will get someone from PW to come mow

Cameras / website / internet – status, funding, FAA integration – 1 camera went out and Tim Miller sent someone down to fix it. Discussion had regarding possibility to integrate the cameras with the FAA system.

Condition of gates, locks, fencing, signage - good

Obstructions – see note above

Operations

Local – the usual

Visitors / logs – visitor logs discussed. Randall shared a cute story about a young pilot that he cautioned about flying in the dark and with fog who ended up spending the night and waiting until the morning. Josh shared that he met some people who flew in to go clamming.

Commercial, charters, air tours – none observed

Military – none observed

Services / Promotion / Events

Shed & visitor amenities – no update

Bikes & equipment – Randall asked Mike to get the bikes from PW so some can be recycled. Bike maintenance is ongoing, some might be ready for retirement if we can find replacements. Don't need more bikes except to replace.

Website & social media – no update

Astoria Airport open house August 19 – same day as Arlington. The Port wants planes there and can always use volunteers. They will have sheriffs, Warrenton PD, and Port security all there for security. The Coast Guard helicopters will be there for guests to go into, but all other aircraft will be off limits from guests.

EAA poker run August 27 – we will be participating as a stop with some snacks but not the full BBQ / airport day, will discuss details at the July meeting.

Regulatory Review

Airport zoning / Gearhart – no update, Randall still plans to follow up with Gearhart planning director.

Committee member reports & good of the order

Randy asked if 6:15 is still a good meeting time for everyone and no one objected.

Jeff and Walt discussed a new EAA chapter being organized by Walt in Astoria. He needs 10 people. Let him know if you are interested.

Michael Lewis asked the Port if there is any opportunity to approach small lenders. The Port is open to that.

All thanked the Port for attending and extending the olive branch. They were invited and would like to attend the meetings more often.

Next scheduled meeting

Date: Tuesday July 25, 2023

Location: Airport