



Airport Authority Board of Directors

Minutes of November 17, 2021

Via Teleconference: John Picard, Kevin Arnold, Peter Leonardi, David White, Serena Neal-Sanjuro, Rich Jacob, Matt Hoey, Robert Ellis, Anthony Verderame, Vin Petrini, Joe Ginnetti, Mark Sklarz

Directors Absent: Karen O'Connell, Dan Adams, Gerald Weiner

Others in Attendance: Sean Scanlon, Jeremy Nielson, Felipe Suriel, Peter Kirsch, Brett Simon, Eliot Jameson, Mark Zaretsky, David Reger, Hugh Manke, Lorena Venegas, Gabriela Campos Matteson, Sean Robinson, Douglas Boyd, Jimmy Menoscal, Isaac Naylor, Scott Luzi, Johnson Chang-Fong, Diane Proto, Liam Hamill

Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

1. Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the meeting minutes from October 20th. Peter Leonardi made the motion which was seconded by Serena Neal-Sanjuro. The Chairman declared the motion adopted unanimously.

A motion to approve the meeting minutes from the Special Meeting on October 27th. Peter Leonardi made the motion which was seconded by Matt Hoey. The Chairman declared the motion adopted unanimously.

2. Executive Director's Report

The Chairman expressed Sean Scanlon's apologies to the Board for missing the meeting, but he reported Sean Scanlon was currently participating on a panel happening at an infrastructure conference in New York City. The Chairman read Sean Scanlon's report:

- The Avelo first flight ceremony on November 3rd was fantastic and I want to thank our team members for all of their hard work to make it possible and to the members of the board who joined us for the big day.
- The first two weeks of Avelo service have been going great. We currently have three flights per day except for Tuesdays and Wednesdays to Orlando, Tampa, Ft. Meyers and Ft. Lauderdale. Service to Palm Beach starts in December and Sarasota in January.

- Load factors have been very positive and the support from the community has been incredible thus far.
- G Cafe has been up and running and has been getting great reviews from customers.
- There is still some construction work to be done that we try and do on Tuesdays and Wednesdays when there are no flights. This week's priority was putting in the permanent flooring and finishing the hold room and connector so we have the space to accommodate ramping up to five daily departures early next month.
- The Environmental Assessment (EA) process is underway and being completed by McFarland Johnson which is the same firm that conducted our Master Plan. We will be holding a public meeting tomorrow night at Nathan Hale School at 6pm to update the community on scope of the EA and get their feedback.

3. Chairman's Report

Chairman Picard stated that the Avelo first flight event went incredibly well and with great taste.

Matt Hoey stated that the community has responded well to the new flight service. He inquired as to getting data from Avelo on the catchment area and where passengers may come from. Jeremy Nielson informed Matt Hoey that this information may be provided from Avelo if not from our Air Service Development firm.

4. Audit and Finance

Kevin Arnold reported that the numbers in the board packet are from September which was presented last meeting. There was substantial change in legal and audit expenses. We have about \$207,000 in net loss to date. There is a good portion of these increased expenses that will be reimbursed when the facility lease agreement is signed. We also have the month of October when we did not have any flights and had to rely on subsidies to cover our expenses.

5. Airport Manager's Report:

Jeremy Nielson reported on the following items:

- Avelo has had a good start. The walk-in parking lot is fairly full. The shuttle bus is up and running to assist car rentals and passengers, with airport employees parking adjacent to the car rental lot.
- The rental cars have started and we are working on getting more signage for their area.



- Working on contracts with the Lyft, Uber and taxi companies.

Kevin Arnold inquired about the parking lot capacities and how passengers will know if they are full. Jeremy Nielson informed Kevin Arnold that signage has been ordered to notify passengers when the lots are full since they are filling up lately.

- There has been a good steady flow of people coming in for their flights instead of a rush which has helped make it manageable.
- Avelo will be adding another aircraft in December. Avelo has gone above and beyond for their passengers by providing great customer service and have been consistent with this operation.

6. Report and Action Items

None.

7. Other Business

None.

8. Public Comment:

Ms. Gabriela Campos Matteson inquired of a strong effort made from Avports to divert traffic away from Fort Hale Road and into Hall Street which is wider. Ms. Gabriela Campos Matteson expressed concerns of illegal parking in the neighborhood along with light and noise pollution. She also felt that many of these issues she raised have not been addressed.

Ms. Lorena Venegas listed four points to the board. First, this is a publicly owned airport and felt that the public notices were not sufficient especially regarding the special board meeting held recently. Second, the Town of East Haven only had a small ad regarding the Environmental Assessment meeting and it was difficult for people to be informed. Third, there is very little lighting in the roads leading to the airport, especially where speed humps were installed. Lastly, Ms. Lorena Venegas felt that the customers were inconvenienced by airline flight delays last Monday, and that the airline fare prices were not affordable.

9. Adjournment:

Chairman John Picard entertained a motion to adjourn. Peter Leonardi made the motion seconded by Matt Hoey. The Chairman declared the motion adopted and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted-

Felipe Suriel- Assistant Airport Manager

DRAFT