

**ERIE REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
MEETING
Wednesday, January 22, 2020**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Erie Regional Airport Authority duly posted and advertised, held in the Board Room on the second floor of the Intermodal Center, 208 East Bayfront Parkway, Erie, Pennsylvania.

Attendees:

Christopher Parker	Derek Martin	Cas Kwitowski, Erie City Council
David Hallman, Jr.	Michelle Magee	Jack Bendig, Hanagar 20
Richard Wagner	James Pacansky	Ed Tropper, Aviation Flyers
Gregory Hayes	Jennifer Gornall	Grayson Patterson, North Coast Air
Patrick Cappabianca	Bill Banister	Kim Clear, Erie County Council
Marybeth Smialek	Ian Bogle	Pat Bywater, Erie Times News
Andrea Zdaniewski		Val Myers, Erie Times News
		Carolyn Baldwin
Participated by Phone: Aaron Susmarski		Bonnie Cleaver
		Bob Foster, Aviation Flyers
		Joe Ceresa, North Coast Air
		Don Chase, Hangar 20

*several attendees did not sign in as requested

Board President Christopher Parker opened the meeting at 11:59 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Mr. Parker announced for the record that he would need to leave the meeting today at 12:30 pm.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Parker asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Patrick Cappabianca moved to approve the agenda and Marybeth Smialek seconded. Approved by Yeas: Christopher Parker, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Gregory Hayes, Patrick Cappabianca, David Hallman, Jr., Marybeth Smialek, and Andrea Zdaniewski.

Board Reorganization

Patrick Cappabianca read the 2020 Slate of Officers as prepared and previously presented by the Nominating Committee:

President---Christopher Parker
Vice President---Daniel Giannelli
President Pro-Tem---Andrea Zdaniewski
Treasurer---David Hallman, Jr.
Secretary---Marybeth Smialek

Hearing no nominations from the floor, Mr. Cappabianca made a motion to approve the slate as presented and Marybeth Smialek seconded. Approved by Yeas: Christopher Parker, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Patrick Cappabianca, Marybeth Smialek, David Hallman, Jr., and Andrea Zdaniewski.

Abstained: Gregory Hayes

Approval of Minutes:

Board Meeting- December 18, 2019

Mr. Parker asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Marybeth Smialek moved to approve the minutes and Daniel Giannelli seconded. Approved by Yeas: Christopher Parker, Daniel Giannelli, Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Gregory Hayes, Patrick Cappabianca, David Hallman, Jr., and Marybeth Smialek.

Executive Director Comments

Derek Martin provided a brief review of airport improvement projects over the past year. He provided information on the Master Plan process. To clarify some of the misinformation being reported and shared, Mr. Martin provided facts and a timeline for the transitions of the Wall of Fame display to digital and the portraits to the VA Hospital. Mr. Cappabianca read a letter he received from Captain Brian Whitten, one of the living honorees on the Famous Erie Aviators Wall of Fame. Mr. Cappabianca made a motion to reinstate the wall display back in the baggage claim area and Mr. Hayes seconded. With a motion on the table by Mr. Cappabianca and a second by Mr. Hayes, Mr. Parker called for the vote at this time. Nays: Christopher Parker, David Hallman, Jr., Aaron Susmarski, Andrea Zdaniewski, Richard Wagner, and Marybeth Smialek. Yeas: Patrick Cappabianca and Gregory Hayes

Public Comments

Jack Bendig of the Hangar 20 group, also retired military, voiced his opinion about Executive Director Derek Martin's poor decisions beginning with the dog then the mechanic issue and now the aviator display. The kiosk for the honorees does not give a good "hometown" feeling. The rocking chairs, pictures, and model airplanes are all gone from the terminal.

Bonnie Cleaver spoke on behalf of her best friend Yvette Mazza. Mr. Mazza's father, Robert LaFollette, is honored on the wall. She encouraged the Board to reconsider as the display belongs in the airport!

Col. James Regenor is one of the honorees on the wall. He spoke of showcasing "the good things that come out of Erie". The display inspires youth and teaches about aviation history. This is not about him being one of the honorees.

Cas Kwitowski, City of Erie stated that he is also a vet. He voiced his support to keep the display at the airport.

Ed Tropper of the Aviation Flyers group reiterated his request to have the rules and regulations reviewed and revised. He added that previously Executive Director Chris Rodgers chose not to enforce the rules and regulations because he wanted to keep the airport "neighborhood friendly".

Bob Foster of the Aviation Flyers group said that he supports everything Ed Tropper stated and referenced 9.14 of the rules and regulations.

Carolyn Baldwin introduced herself as Yvette Mazza's spoke in support of the display being reinstated at the airport.

Liaison Comments- Erie County Council Liaison Kim Clear was at the meeting but had to leave prior to Liaison Comments. There was no liaison from Erie City Council present.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee- Finance Committee Chair David Hallman reported that the Finance Committee held a meeting on January 21, 2020. The Committee reviewed the cash forecast, A/R summary, bills to be paid, capital fund transactions, and expense reports. Due to meeting date changes for November and December, the Committee reviewed the November 30, 2019 financials. Mr. Hallman stated that the Finance Committee recommends approval of the bills. Approval of the Bills to be Paid- Patrick Cappabianca moved, and Marybeth Smialek seconded. Approved by Yeas: Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Gregory Hayes, Patrick Cappabianca, David Hallman, Jr., Marybeth Smialek, and Andrea Zdaniewski.

Finance Report:

CFO James Pacansky reviewed the November 2019 Financial Report. He reported a net surplus after debt service of \$52,476. We are \$587,725 favorable to budget year to date with revenue favorable to budget \$133,987 and expenses favorable to budget \$354,450. Mr. Pacansky explained that December is not closed yet due to year end.

There was no **Unfinished Business**

There were no **Resolutions**

There was no **New Business**

Board Member Comments

Mr. Wagner understands the airport is running a business but believes the architect's design for the expanded baggage claim could include options for keep the display in baggage claim.

Mr. Hallman thanked all the veterans for their service. Mr. Hallman suggested the Board explore a third option to relocate the display somewhere that truly teaches history like a museum.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Martin reported the following:

- Enplanements are up 12.2% for 2019 over 2018
- General aviation activity is up 11.4% for 2019 over 2018
- Customs ramp use fees have increased 32% for 2019 over 2018.

Mr. Martin stated that discussion with Customs and Border Protection have begun regarding facility renovations per the lease agreement. Mr. Martin again explained the Master Plan and what is planned for baggage claim. Mr. Martin reported that travelers will be required to have a Real ID to board a plane effective October 1, 2020. Mr. Martin taped two Public Service Announcements with WQLN this morning regarding Real ID.

Patrick Cappabianca made a motion to adjourn and Gregory Hayes seconded. Approved by Yeas: Aaron Susmarski, Richard Wagner, Gregory Hayes, Patrick Cappabianca, David Hallman, Jr., Marybeth Smialek, and Andrea Zdaniewski.

Adjournment: 1:06 PM

Marybeth Smialek, Secretary