

The Seven Hundred-Forty-fourth Meeting of the Worcester Regional Airport Commission was held on Monday, April 10, 2006, at 6:30 PM in the Conference Room at the Worcester Regional Airport.

Members present were: Chairman Jim Delehaunty, Vice-Chairman Joe Zwirblia and Commissioners Tim DeSantis, Robert Nemeth and Patsy SantaMaria.

Also present were: Lee Buckley, a citizen from District #4 who has applied to serve on the Airport Commission, Phil Niddrie, Airport Liaison and Eric N. Waldron, Airport Director.

Chairman Delehaunty called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

1. Approval of the minutes of the March 13, 2006 Meeting

Commissioner Nemeth moved, seconded by Commissioner SantaMaria, to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2006 **Meeting. All in favor - So Voted.**

2. Report of Commission Chairman

Chairman Delehaunty reported on the following items:

- The training session that the Chair and the Vice-Chair were to attend on April 5th for Board and Commission leaders has been rescheduled for April 26. The Chairman will not be able to attend on that date.
- The TPAC meeting for the Master Plan that was held on March 30th and noted that there will be a follow-up meeting on April 28. A community meeting will follow those two Committee meetings, possibly sometime in May. The specific date has not yet been set, pending results of the TPAC discussions.

3. Commissioners Reports

Marketing- Commissioner DeSantis reported that the Marketing Committee met and agreed on its role going forward, as well as some specific tasks for the group.

Aviation- Commissioner SantaMaria reported that he had made contact with several corporate entities that might want to base their aircraft at ORH at a major air show/conference he attended in Florida. Swissport is in contact with these entities.

Master Plan- Covered in Chairman's report.

4. Reports of Airport Director –

Report on Allegiant operations - Commissioners were briefed on the enplaned and deplaned passenger numbers, as well as a cancelled flight.

Master Plan Status - Covered in Chairman's report

5. Old Business -

Marketing report - Mr. Niddrie reported on the activity from last month, noting that there are now 2 billboards in place. Additionally, the latest report of the passenger surveys was discussed in detail; the areas where we are seeing new customers from reflect/parallel the areas where we are advertising.

Airport Name Change – Chairman Delehaunty reported that the City Manager's office requested that the Commission carefully vet and explain the rationale for a name change. Commissioner Nemeth volunteered to draft a few paragraphs covering these matters and to circulate them prior to the next meeting. It was decided that Members will submit their suggestions for the name change to the Staff, prior to the next meeting and that they will be listed and distributed back to them prior to the meeting. At the meeting, there will be discussion

and two or three names selected as Commission recommendations to be forwarded to the City Manager for consideration.

Automobile advertising in terminal – Mr. Waldron reiterated that he checked with engineers from Massport who determined that there are significant issues regarding the size and weight of vehicles that might be able to be on the Terrazzo flooring. Mr. Waldron also indicated that the City Purchasing Office recommended that an RFP would likely need to be accomplished because the revenue is anticipated to exceed \$5,000/year and to protect the Commission.

Commissioner SantaMaria advised that he spoke with snowmobile, boat and motorcycle dealers and that there is interest. Commissioner Nemeth expressed opposition to the idea.

Commissioner DeSantis moved, seconded by Commissioner SantaMaria, to direct staff to develop an RFP for this type of advertising in the terminal. Voted, 4 Yea's, 1 Nay (Commissioner Nemeth). **So Voted.**

6. New Business -

Mr. Niddrie introduced an item to authorize a contract for IMG to continue working with the City/Airport as part of its air service marketing initiatives. The contract, which was generated by the City Manager office and City Law Department, is for an amount not-to-exceed \$55,640, for a six month period. Funding is provided by the USDOT Marketing Grant and the 27% matching City share of that grant. It will be used for services relating to the recruitment and retention of airline service. A question arose whether there will be additional service from this company in the future. Mr. Waldron responded that the City Manager indicated that money will be included for FY 07 in the budget for these services. Also, these types of services were contemplated in the Grant.

After some discussion, Commissioner Zwirblia moved, seconded by Commissioner SantaMaria, to authorize the contract with IMG and to authorize the Chairman to execute all related documents. **All in favor - So Voted.**

Vice-Chair Zwirblia advised that the City Energy Task Force met and that he attended the meeting on behalf of the Airport. Prior to adjourning, the next meeting date was tentatively set for May 8, 2006, at 6:30 PM.

7. Adjournment

Commissioner Zwirblia moved, seconded by Commissioner SantaMaria, to adjourn the meeting. **All in favor - So Voted.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Eric N. Waldron, A.A.E., ACE
Airport Director and
Clerk of the Commission