

ZEPHYRHILLS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING

A Regular Airport Authority meeting was held on Monday March 19th, at 5:30 p.m. in the Robert H. Johnson Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

Chair person Dan Evans called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Roll call was taken. Present were members Dan Evans, Juan Vega, Larry Lynch, Eddy Knapp and Bill Castle. Rachel Nash and James Spears were absent.

Staff present was Interim Airport Manager Nathan Coleman and Airport Administrative Assistant Lucy Huber.

City Council President Jodi Wilkerson attended
AVCON representative, Hilary Maull also attended.
The Pledge of Allegiance followed roll call.

APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES –

- Regular meeting held on February 20th 2012. Bill Castle moved to approve minutes, Juan Vega seconded and all were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.
- Special meeting held on February 27th 2012. Larry Lynch moved to approve minutes, Eddy Knapp seconded and all were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS ITEMS –

1. Gary Fitzgerald. Proposal to allow Ultra Light Powered Parachutes to be used at the Airport.

Mr. Fitzgerald presented information about powered parachutes. He has been flying this type of aircraft since 1992. The ultra light powered parachutes are 3 wheeled vehicles with a pusher prop on a 2 cycle motor. The pilot is strapped into a seat. Because of weather conditions, early mornings are the favorable time of day to use this type of aircraft. Mr. Fitzgerald had been flying his powered parachute at the airport for many years until recently when the airport rules and regulations were reviewed.

Discussion regarding the Zephyrhills Airport rules and regulations were reviewed concerning N-numbers and “ultra-light” aircraft. Two-way radio communication is required. This particular type of aircraft does meet the requirements for both the Zephyrhills Airport and the FAA. Nathan Coleman asked the Airport Authority to make a recommendation as to officially accommodate the powered parachutes at the airport. Dan Evans recommended that Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Marshal meet with Nathan Coleman to come up with specific regulations regarding powered parachutes on the Zephyrhills Airport. These documented specifics could then be brought back to the Airport Authority for review.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION-

1. SkyDive City. Susan Stark and Joanie Murphy to acquaint the Airport Authority with a general informational overview of their business.

Susan Stark and Joanie Murphy of SkyDive City introduced themselves to the

Airport Authority Board. Susan and Joanie are the original majority co-owners of SkyDive City which was established in 1990. Both women have been involved with the skydiving industry for many years and are actively involved in preserving some of the history of the sport, particularly in Zephyrhills. Zephyrhills Florida is an important destination for skydiving enthusiasts as it has a long history as the sports birthplace, along with California.

There have been many positive changes to the drop zone over the years and the desire to maintain this growth as well as develop new growth is key. This operation has an important role in the Zephyrhills area bringing in many skydivers from around the world. Jump activity is up over 15% in the past year. These visitors greatly benefit the entire community by utilizing many of the City's businesses, such as restaurants, grocery stores, hotels and transportation. SkyDive City also generates many jobs in the local area as it is a labor intensive business, and it employs at least 66 individuals.

T.K. Hayes has been the manager of SkyDive City for nearly 17 years. He has a great heart for the business and is very community service orientated, active in charitable organizations that benefit many individuals.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS-

1. Review of Fuel Sales for February 2012.

Fuel sales were reviewed and no action was taken.

OLD BUSINESS-

1. Nathan Coleman said that AVCON has provided information on the use of Mogas. He will be doing follow up research regarding this product. Juan Vega recommended providing a clipboard at the self-serve fuel pumps with a questionnaire inquiring if pilots would be interested in seeing this product brought to the Zephyrhills Airport. Dan Evans suggested this questionnaire could be included in the billing statements as well.

MEETING ADJOURNED –

Dan Evan adjourned the meeting at 6:04 p.m.