

City of Mt. Pleasant
Airport Advisory Board

Thursday, May 8, 2014
Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call
The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

Present: Cathy Tilmann, Donna Kriss, Glen Irwin, and Jerry Elliot

Absent: Bob Bucholz

Staff Present: John Benzinger, Bill Brickner, and Bill Mrdeza

Guests Present: Mark Drumheller, John Scott Palmer, and Susan Palmer
- II. Proclamations and Presentations
None
- III. Approval of Agenda
Motion by Irwin, support by Tilmann to accept as written.

Motion passed.
- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes
Motion by Irwin, support by Tilmann to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2014 meeting.

Motion passed
- V. Public Comment on Agenda Items
None
- VI. Airport Manager's Report
Bill reported stabilization after the winter. The machinery has received preventative maintenance. Spring cleanup and lawn preparation have taken place. The part-time help is slated to begin shortly.
- VII. Old Business
None
- VIII. New Business
 - A. Ground School Update

Determining the needs of the ground school will continue over the summer. Communicating with appropriate individuals, seeking possible space.

B. Aviation Technical Academy (IAA2014@yahoo.com)

John (Scott) made a presentation on his vision of an “Aviation Technical Academy” (IAA), and would consider locating at the Mt. Pleasant Municipal Airport. Scott’s program, IAA, would provide current technology in an up-to-date facility. Scott was an engineering equipment coordinator and trainer at Dart, which develops curriculums for Aviation Education Consultants (AEC) used in Bethel Alaska, New Jersey, and Indonesia. He taught at the Aviation Maintenance Technology Program at Lansing Community College. He is considering launching a new International Aerospace Academy in Mt. Pleasant. This would include new, large buildings to accommodate eight plus curriculums under one roof and accommodate the public and community as well as domestic states and international students. Dorm rooms located within the community, with high end security, will be offered.

This state-of-the-art academy is based on projections and connections to Boeing, Airbus, and the FAA. This would be a top of the industry standard facility. The eight curriculums would include: A & P (one and two-year programs), Avionics, Drone, Satellite, Solar, Wind Energy, Global Logistics/Dispatch Specialist, Pilot curriculum for fixed and rotor wing (ground school). Also included would be the increased training for solar power and windmills. Discussion indicated that the airport currently does have land space available for such a project. Taxable verses non-taxable land, Union Township support, and other items were also discussed.

The academy would accommodate 75 – 100 students.

A motion was made by Tilmann, seconded by Elliot that: The Mt. Pleasant Airport Advisory Board, after a presentation by IAA, advises moving forward with further research on this opportunity.

Motion passed unanimously.

IX. Public Comment on Non-Agenda and Agenda Items
None

X. Announcements on Airport Related Issues and Concerns
None

XI. Adjournment
Motion by Irwin, support by Elliot to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Motion passed.