

EAA Chapter 512
Monthly General Gathering
February 21, 2024
Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Tim Sullivan

No. Present: 36

Guests:

Stephen Crosby Larry Sharp

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

Board Member & Committee Reports

President, Tim Sullivan:

- Introductions – new or returning members
- Projects, member milestones
- Opening statement
 - Al Herron's jacket raffle
 - Strobe notifications have been sent out; who didn't get one?
 - Calendar sales; \$19 each
 - New, large screen TV installed
- Special Events
 - March 16th – 2-5PM Nancy Stephens memorial
 - March 30th- 9am Hangar and grounds cleanup day; food will be supplied to anyone still at the hangar at 1:00 PM

Committees Calendar:

- Adopt-A-Highway - Judi Gordon, Neil Robinson
 - March 16
- Young Eagles – Judi Gordon Jim Vonderworth
 - June 29th
 - The airport's new fuel vendor, Phillips 66, will offer \$1 off per gallon to pilots flying Young Eagles
- IMC/VMC Greg Stein
 - March 5th, 7 PM
- Build & Fly - Dale Kral, Jim Vonderworth
 - March 10th
- Eagle Flights/Flying Start - Jim Pinkowski
 - May 18th
- Fly Out/Events - Michael Zwijacz, Jim Pinkowski
 - March 23, O69 29 diner
- Hangar/Garden - Audrey Brand, Jim Vonderworth, Tim Sullivan
 - March 30th 8AM-1PM
- Pancake Breakfast - Audrey Brand, Sean Conley-Widing
 - April 6th 8-11
- Newsletter Editor - Audrey Brand
 - Looking for new person
- Grants/Fund Raising – Vacant
- Merchandise - Vacant
- Ray Scholarship - Matt Sites
 - Coordinator training will be offered next month

- Sunny Atkins Scholarship - Judi Gordon
 - Funding comes from many sources, including Hal Stephens collecting recyclables (\$91 just collected) and cash found during Adopt-A-Highway cleanup (10,000 dinar bill found [\$7.64])
- Recycling - Hal Stephens

Break (10-15 minutes depending on time) – end at 8:10 PM

PRESENTATION – Lexi Boeger – A path forward for Small Airports

WHAT ARE WE MISSING?

I. The Right Organizational Structure To Run Like A (profitable) Business

JPA

Form a non-profit/private organization to enter into a JPA (Joint Powers Agreement) with the County.

- Create an Airport Authority
- Can form a revenue stream and issue bonds.
- El Dorado Transit is a JPA with the County, operations are independent and it's revenue generating.

Landlord/Tenant

The El Dorado County Fair is a 501c3 non-profit organization with a contract with the County to run the Fair. The land and facilities belong to the County. Business and operations are run by the non-profit which has an executive director and a 9 member board consisting of 5 Supervisor appointed members and 4 Fair Association members. The non-profit is responsible for maintenance.

501c3 Non-Profits need a **charitable mission**: Scholarship program for local youth to become pilots?
501c6 is a business/trade organization with membership.

II. Economic Sustainability

Existing Revenue:

- Fuel sales
- Tie-Downs/Hangars
- State Aviation funds
- General Fund contribution (property tax)
- Misc.

NEW Revenue Streams?

- Bonds (JPA)
- More Hangers
- Cal-Fire/emergency use contracts
- Business leases- Restaurant/Coffee House/Breakfast, Repair, etc.
- ABC Club license for pub/bar? Club membership program?
- Event Venue rental
- Events

III. Non-aviation Community buy-in and Support

This is a public asset that does not directly the lives of most citizens. How can we make the airport property something that the community becomes more invested in?

Leverage what people already love about it: The View!

Plane Spotting:

- Restaurant/coffee to enjoy the sunrise, sunset and planes.
- Develop walking trails and parks in the undeveloped parts of the property free to use- partner with Parks and Trails- El Dorado Transportation Commission can advise on appropriate land-use.
- Create an accessible seating area to go and watch planes, make it a destination.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM by Tim Sullivan