

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE AIRPORT COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Airport Commission convened in a regular session on Thursday, July 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the General Aviation Center Community Meeting Room, Torrance Municipal Airport – Zamperini Field.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Bohen*, Donnellan, Glass, Hsiao, Jacobsen, and Chairperson Boyce.

Absent: Commissioner Orpe.

Also Present: Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian.

*Commissioner Bohen arrived at 7:04 p.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Donnellan moved to grant Commissioner Orpe an excused absence for the July 9, 2015 Airport Commission meeting. Commissioner Hsiao seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Donnellan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Jacobsen, seconded by Commissioner Donnellan, moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. MINUTES OF JUNE 11, 2015

MOTION: Commissioner Jacobsen moved to approve the Airport Commission meeting minutes of June 11, 2015 as submitted. Commissioner Donnellan seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected approval (absent Commissioner Orpe).

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jim Gates, Via Pasqual, stated that the Torrance Airport Association and California Pilots Association oppose the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the expansion of the South Bay Lexus parking lot. He distributed "Is Safety First in Torrance?" that includes materials used in the appeal that was filed.

Commissioner Donnellan expressed his objection that the expansion request went to the Planning Commission after the Airport Commission had denied it.

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian stated that recommendations from both the Airport Commission and the Planning Commission would go to City Council for consideration. He informed the Commission that he has no updates since last month but would keep them informed.

Wayne Grau, Rancho Palos Verdes, asked if the item should be on a future agenda and Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian advised him that the item already went before the Airport Commission and that they took action.

Cliff Tatum, Calle Mayor, stated that it is an important item and should be discussed; staff informed him that it could not be discussed because it was not on the agenda.

Anne O'Brien, Calle de Castellana, suggested putting the item on every future monthly agenda in order for the Commission to receive updates.

Laurice Churchill, Long Beach, received clarification that the Airport Commission's recommendation is not being overturned and that City Council would have a complete package to review.

Councilmember Griffiths encouraged them to voice their concerns at the City Council meeting when the item is being considered.

7. ACTION ITEMS

7A. TOUR OF AIRPORT

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian expressed his appreciation to Anne O'Brien for coordinating the various visits on the tour of the Airport. He stated that he was pleased to provide Commissioners the opportunity to see how the Airport works, who makes it work, and to meet some of the tenants.

At 7:20 p.m., the Commission left the Meeting Room to go on a prearranged tour of the Airport. Their first stop was the Operations Office where Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian showed the new security system and camera feed for the 15 cameras at the Airport. He explained that entrances are recorded but not exits, and that recordings are kept for 13 months. From there they walked to Pacific Skies Aviation where owner Reza Birjandi described the flight school and its six aircraft. Commissioners learned how pilots are trained and Commissioner Jacobsen had the opportunity to "fly" the full-motion flight simulator.

Next, the Commission visited the Western Museum of Flight where Neil White showed them a British Harrier 723 training airplane on loan to the museum. Cindy Macha discussed the museum's educational focus on the aerospace legacy of Southern California, their outreach to youth, and the lecture series and programs they provide. From there the tour continued on to Pacific Coast Aero Aircraft Service and Sales where Bianca Mettey described the requirements for aircraft maintenance that include mandated inspections and FAA air worthiness directives.

The Commissioners boarded a Torrance Transit bus and drove to South Bay Aviation, Inc. Owner Richard Seals discussed his aircraft sales facility and the

customer's perspective on general aviation trends in aircraft ownership. He stated that they teach people to fly, sell new and used Cessna aircraft and parts, and provide maintenance. He noted that South Bay Aviation is Torrance Airport's only Cessna authorized pilot center. From there they drove to the "East T's" and visited typical hangars: Anne O'Brien and her Piper Comanche, and Wayne Grau and his Tiger Squadron Nanching. Ms. O'Brien showed mock signs that she put on the hangar rows. At 9:07 p.m., the Commission returned to the Meeting Room.

8. **INFORMATION ITEMS** – None.

9. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2**

9A. Commissioners expressed their appreciation to staff and Torrance Airport Association for providing such an informative tour, Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian recognized Anne O'Brien for arranging the tour, and Anne O'Brien expressed her appreciation to Commissioners for their interest in participating. The Commission also thanked City Council for approving the change in revenue for the meeting

9B. Councilmember Griffiths suggested offering tours on a more regular basis.

9C. Jim Gates stated that he would like to see the Airport Commission meet at the Airport more often.

9D. In response to Commissioner Bohlen's inquiry, Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian stated that legal parameters require them to keep camera recordings for a minimum of 13 months.

9E. Commissioner Bohlen stated his disappointment that Lexus was not present at the Airport Commission meeting when such an important issue was considered.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: At 9:17 p.m., Commissioner Jacobsen moved to adjourn the meeting to Thursday, August 13, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the West Annex meeting room, Torrance City Hall. Commissioner Donnellan seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval

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Approved as amended August 13, 2015 s/ Rebecca Poirier, City Clerk
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