

Airport Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 8, 2022

3:30 PM

San Antonio International Airport, Terminal A Conference Room

Members Present

Marco Barros
Ron Bright
Charnelle Chin
Frank Cruz
Roger Dillard
Jeff Fair
Mark Fessler, Chairman
Pat Garrison
John Grisell
Marsha Hendler, Secretary
Earl Jackson, Jr., Vice Chairman
Deborah Omowale Jarmon
Mayra Levy
Rami Motawea
Aurelina Prado
Diane Rath
Jeremy Roberts
Amy Shaw

Members Absent

Ed Onwe

Staff Present

Jesus Saenz, Director
Jeff Coyle, Assistant City Manager
Tim O’Krongley, Deputy Director
Ryan Rocha, Chief Operations Officer
Nicole Fowles, Board Liaison
Katinka Howell, Assistant City Attorney

Call to Order / Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Mark Fessler, Chairman at 3:37 p.m. The roll call was taken by the Board Liaison. A quorum of at least 10 members was present.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Jeff Fair moved to approve the meeting minutes from the meeting held on September 20, 2022. Commissioner Marsha Hendler seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

Items for Briefing and Possible Action:

2. Terminal Development Program for the San Antonio International Airport

Public Comments:

There were no public comments on this item.

Discussion and Motion: Aviation Director Jesus Saenz introduced Deputy Director Tim O’Krongley who was appointed to the position in June 2023 to lead the Terminal Development Program for the San Antonio International Airport which will include the programming, design and construction of a new Terminal C and its enabling projects. Mr. O’Krongley presented information on the program including the current high-profile solicitations either awarded or advertising for the program. He also reviewed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) grants for airports and the City’s submittals for FY 2023 Airport Terminal Program (ATP) grant funds. Commissioner Aurelina Prado supported the inclusion in the FY 2023 ATP grant submittal of a project at Stinson Municipal Airport. Commissioner Diane Rath asked about the three new gates that were nearing completion of their construction. Mr. Saenz recounted the need for the new gates which was identified during the Strategic Development Program to support the airport’s current passenger levels and to enable American Airlines to move its entire operations from Terminal A to Terminal B. Commissioner Rami Motawea asked about the employee parking and consolidated receiving facility locations. Mr. O’Krongley noted that the latter would be located near the terminal building and that Corgan, the Advanced Terminal Design team was finalizing the location for a permanent location for employee parking. Commissioner Marco Barros asked about the Remain Over Night (RON) area and whether it was a revenue generator. Both Mr. Saenz and O’Krongley said it was a revenue generator. Commissioner Prado asked when the FY 2023 ATP grant announcements would be made. Mr. O’Krongley said an announcement by the Federal Aviation Administration was anticipated in January or February 2023. Commissioner Pat Garrison asked if consolidating the Transportation Security Administration checkpoint operations was an enabling project of the Terminal Development Program. Mr. O’Krongley said it was and the planning team was looking at the walking distance. Commissioner Charnelle Chin asked about other projects planned for or underway at Stinson Municipal Airport. Mr. Saenz noted that the construction of a new Taxiway E was close to completion as well as the Airport Layout Plan update. He also noted that the new concessionaire was close to opening at Stinson.

Vote: No motions were made by the Commission that required a vote.

3. Holiday Parking Plan

Public Comments:

There were no public comments on this item.

Discussion and Motion: Chief Operations Officer Ryan Rocha presented the parking plan for the upcoming high travel periods of Thanksgiving and Christmas. Mr. Rocha’s presentation included information on how the valet service would change to address the anticipated increase in customers. Commissioner Amy Shaw asked about the change in the parking persona. Director Jesus Saenz noted that pre-COVID, airports were identifying space for customers wanting to use Transportation Network Companies (TNC) such as Uber and Lyft but post-COVID, passengers are increasingly utilizing their personal vehicle to park at their airport. Both Mr. Saenz and Mr. Rocha referenced the high demand of parking over Spring Break and Summer 2022, which led to the parking garages closing due to reaching capacity—situations that had not occurred in previous years. Both reiterated that a parking spot would be made available for any customer wanting to park at the airport. Commissioner Earl Jackson asked what the peak hours for parking; Mr. Rocha noted it was 4:30 a.m. to noon. Commissioner Jeremy Roberts noted the proposed parking plan would create a baseline of results for the Thanksgiving Travel period which would then be used to evaluate how the plan for December’s peak travel period should be modified. Commissioner Mayra Levy asked how the messaging would be sent out and encouraged reaching out to the Chambers of Commerce

organizations not just in San Antonio but also in other regions. Mr. Rocha said the marketing team was working on the strategy with our Public Relations team to reach local and regional media and organizations. Mr. Saenz said the airport system needs to be careful with marketing in other cities with airports. Commission Frank Cruz asked for a post-travel overview to see how the plan worked and what modifications were required. Commissioner Ron Bright asked what revenue amount the City received from valet services. Mr. Rocha said the City received 37% of their gross sales. Mr. Saenz noted the airport system is working to change the products available to travelers to San Antonio International Airport by offering an additional level of service through valet in addition to those who park in the surface lots, garages or utilize a TNC, limo or taxi.

Vote: A follow-up on 2022 Winter Holiday Parking Operations Plan was requested by the Commission at the next meeting.

4. Director's Report

Public Comments:

There were no public comments on this item.

Discussion and Motion: Director Jesus Saenz thanked the members who would be able to attend the November 17 launch of Spirit Airlines. He recounted the new concessionaires that had opened during the summer and noted that a temporary Starbucks location was opening in Terminal B before the end of the year. This location, he explained, will stay in operate until the permanent Starbucks location is constructed (As a reminder, the original location had to close to make hold room space in Terminal B). Mr. Saenz also announced that the Federal Aviation Administration had found NO discrepancies during the agency's annual Part 139 Inspection at San Antonio International Airport, and highlighted the leadership of Mr. Rocha, the Operations Team, Airport Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) and the tenants for their work. Commissioner Amy Shaw asked about other new concessionaire concepts coming to the airport. Mr. Saenz mentioned the City was working on the solicitation and noted the local concepts which had opened in the last two years. Commissioner Shaw supported local concepts which represented San Antonio and suggested reaching out to non-profits for potential merchandise/retail options. Commission Rami Motawea asked if the concession solicitations would be separate for each location or packaged together.

5. Commission Member Announcements

There were no announcements made

Adjournment

This meeting was adjourned on 5:05 p.m.