

**Airport Advisory Commission
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 21, 2023
4:00 PM**

San Antonio International Airport, Terminal A Conference Room

Members Present

Marco Barros
Ron Bright
Charnelle Chin
Roger Dillard
Jeff Fair
Mark Fessler, Chairman
Pat Garrison
Marsha Hendler, Secretary
Earl Jackson, Jr., Vice Chairman
Deborah Omowale Jarmon
Ed Onwe
Aurelina Prado
Diane Rath

Members Absent

Frank Cruz
John Grisell
Mayra Levy
Rami Motawea
Amy Shaw

Staff Present

Jesus Saenz, Director
Jeff Coyle, Assistant City Manager
Tom Bartlett, Deputy Director
Tim O’Krongley, Deputy Director
Nicole Fowles, Board Liaison
Mark Triesch, Assistant City Attorney
Karen Ellis, Chief Customer Experience Officer

Call to Order / Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Mark Fessler at 4:04 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 January 17, 2023. Commissioner Ron Bright seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

Items for Briefing and Possible Action:

2. Briefing and Possible Action on the Terminal Development

Public Comments:

There were no public comments on this item.

Discussion and Motion: Chairman Mark Fessler introduced the topic by noting the recent B Session presentation on February 15, 2023 that unveiled the most recent renderings for the new terminal facility at the San Antonio International Airport. Aviation Director Jesus Saenz presented an overview of the renderings and the feedback received by the City Council. He thanked the members of the Airport Commission who attended the B Session meeting and noted that the feedback on this presentation from the Commission would help shape future presentations and the development of the program. Commissioner Diane Rath noted that the Texas Department

of Transportation were estimating a 25% increase in cost and encouraged the Department to consider this potential impact on the program. She noted that the state agency had concerns with concrete costs. Mr. Saenz noted that airports often have the option to produce their own concrete which would help minimize costs to an extent. Commissioner Aurelina Prado asked about the flyover, noting that the original Strategic Development Plan included lowering the flyover. Mr. Saenz noted that the flyover would stay and that the City would continue to work with the State on how to better utilize the flyover. Commissioner Marco Barros was impressed with the Federal Inspections Station [Customs] and asked how to improve the process for passengers traveling to Mexico. Mr. Saenz noted that Mexico was not far from Canada for starting a preclearance area (which is when the United States Customs and Border Patrol has a dedicated area in foreign airports to allow processing of passengers before they return to the United States (rather than utilize a Federal Inspection Station when they return to a domestic airport)).

Commissioner Roger Dillard, who attended the B Session presentation with Mr. Fessler, Mr. Barros and Commissioner Earl Jackson, noted that he thought the design elements in the new terminal would include references to the UNESCO World Heritage site of the Missions and the aqueduct. Ms. Rath noted that the renderings referenced passengers with accessibility issues and encouraged those efforts be included in the design and construction of the new terminal. Commissioner Ron Bright encouraged the new terminal to include sufficient space for those requiring wheelchairs in the gate areas. Deputy Director Tim O'Krongley noted that the department and the Master Architects for the new terminal planned to host focus groups with key groups representing different passenger needs for the airport including Morgan's Wonderland. He also said that the design for the new terminal would follow best practices at airports, especially in light of COVID. Regarding airlines and concessions space questions from Commissioner Deborah Omowale-Jarmon and Mr. Barros, Mr. Saenz noted that those spaces are built-out by the tenants (concessionaires or airlines) and the airport builds the shell. It was confirmed that the USO would continue to operate at the airport (it is currently in Terminal B) and Mr. Saenz shared his hope to increase the number of USO areas in the airport complex. Commissioner Jeff Fair asked about roof materials and the potential for utilizing solar panels. Mr. O'Krongley noted that the architects were looking smart glass and other materials to maximize energy efficiency.

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

3. Director's Report

Public Comments:

There were no public comments on this item.

Discussion and Motion: Director Jesus Saenz announced Spirit's new Los Angeles service that would begin in May and help increase competition and decrease airfares. He also noted the new Safety Management System requirement that the Federal Aviation Administration announced. The San Antonio Airport System was an early adopter of this program.

Mr. Saenz introduced Chief Customer Experience Officer Karen Ellis who shared slides of the new African-American art exhibit that was installed in observance of Black History Month. She also shared more information

on the Airport Minority Advisory Council conference taking place in June. Assistant City Manager Jeff Coyle encouraged the Commission members to attend the business mixers.

4. Commission Member Announcements/Upcoming Topics for Next Meeting

Commissioner Deborah Omowale-Jarmon gave a brief update on the fundraising efforts for the San Antonio African American Community Archive Museum. She also encouraged events celebrating African American contributions throughout the year and not just during February or June. Commissioner Barros asked if the next Customer and Border Patrol Port Director could give a presentation at a future meeting.

Adjournment

This meeting was adjourned on 5:40 p.m.