

**AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
FOR FEBRUARY 18, 2020
AT THE SAN ANTONIO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. Marco Barros
2. Vaugh Caudill
3. Mark Fessler, Chairman
4. John Grisell
5. Marsha Hendler, Secretary
6. Les Hobgood
7. Earl Jackson, Jr., Vice Chairman
8. Maureen McCann
9. Deborah Omowale
10. Valerie Peak
11. Aurelina Prado
12. Diane Rath

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

- Charnelle Chin
- Frank Cruz
- Ed Onwe
- Aurelina Prado
- Tripp Riedel

VISITORS

- Randy Diamond, *Express-News*
- Andres Pena, Kaufman& Killen
- Drue Placette, Leadership SA

CITY STAFF:

- Jesus H. Saenz, Jr. IAP, Director of Airports
- Thomas Bartlett, Deputy Director
- Loyce Clark, Chief Asset and Planning Officer
- Karen Ellis, Chief Customer Experience Officer
- Nicole Fowles, Sr. Special Projects Manager/Board Liaison
- Camila Kunau, Assistant City Attorney
- Rich Stinson, Strategic Communications Manager
- Steve Southers, Environmental Stewardship Manager
- Josh Heiss, Noise Officer
- Clay White, Customer Experience Manager
- Matt Evans, Arts Program Manager

Chairman Mark Fessler called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m. A roll call was taken and confirmed a quorum was physically present. Mr. Fessler welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked the Commission members if they had received the minutes from the November 19, 2019 meeting. The Commission members replied in affirmative and the motion to approve was seconded. Mr. Fessler recognized Jesus H. Saenz, Jr., the new Director of Airports for the City of San Antonio.

Mr. Saenz thanked the Commission members for their welcome and recognized Deputy Director Tom Bartlett and the Executive Leadership Team of the Aviation Department for their help. He noted that he had worked with Mr. Bartlett previously at the Houston Airport System. Before his appointment as the Director of Airports in San Antonio, Mr. Saenz spent more than 24 years with the Houston Airport System (HAS) and served most recently as the Chief Operations Officer. Mr. Saenz noted he worked at all three airports (Intercontinental, Hobby and Ellington) so has experience with large, medium and general aviation airports. He noted HAS had over 3,500 badged employees and more than 60 million passengers annually at the two commercial airports. Mr. Saenz serves on the Texas Commercial Airports

Association Board of Directors as the Immediate Past Chairman. Mr. Fessler noted that the Commission was glad to have him and noted that the Commission members were volunteers from different industries and backgrounds. He then asked all the members to provide a brief introduction.

Mr. Fessler noted that the agenda was proposed in order for Mr. Saenz to see the reports that the Commission members receive every month. [The minutes include copies of the reports]:

- Chief Customer Experience Officer Karen Ellis highlighted 2019 events including the opening of the new Air Traffic Control Tower and the new Hike and Bike trail at Stinson Municipal Airport. She noted that she was most excited about the opening of Phase 1 of the Children's Play Area. Ms. Ellis noted that she and her staff were working with the DoSeum Museum on a design and sponsorship opportunities. She also noted the recent opening of Fly Away Valet with curbside valet service and the upcoming Smart Conference at the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel that the San Antonio Airport System is sponsoring in April. She asked members who were interested in attending to let Board Liaison Nicole Fowles know so if there are complimentary tickets available, Ms. Ellis could provide to members. Mr. Saenz noted that the Smart Conference focused on innovations and trending ideas and programs that are being implemented at airports not just in the United States but also internationally.
- Noise Officer Josh Hiess provided the Commission members with statistics from 2019 and the most recent report for January 2020. He explained the Airport Noise and Operations Monitoring (ANOMS) System and noted the different methods community members had to ask questions about noise. His presentation also included the individual callers and total calls from 2013 to 2018 as well as the breakdown each month in 2019.
- Chief Asset and Planning Officer Loyce Clark presented the Commission members with the February 2020 Capital Project Status report. Mr. Clark provided an update on major airfield projects including Airfield Improvements Package 6, whose construction contract was recently approved by City Council, and the Electrification of the Ground Support Equipment (GSE). He also provided information on the projects for the Perimeter Road/fence and the installation of additional runway guard lights.

The Commissioners asked the following questions/made the following comments:

- [Regarding the Ambassadors Luncheon], will the location stay the same or change?
 - Ms. Ellis: We are looking for a location with a capacity of 250. We are open to suggestions.
- What is the introductory rate for the valet service?
 - Ms. Ellis: The rate is \$25 per day, but is not sure how long that will long.
 - Mr. Bartlett: You are getting a special rate that is the same rate as the Short Term Parking Garage daily rate. It is a great deal.
 - Mr. Saenz: Curbside valet service is an amenity that you do not see at most airports.
- Why do you think the total number of calls dropped in 2017?
 - Mr. Heiss: I can only suggest that perhaps the airfield construction had an impact.
- Why are there so many more callers now than in 2013?
 - Mr. Heiss: We now have more ways for individuals to contact us.
- The runway guard lights project will help pilots from making errors; the Federal Aviation Administration pushed this project.
- I really appreciate the GSE project to assist the region in reducing emissions.

Mr. Fessler asked the members if there were any topics for the next meeting. Commissioner Marco Barros suggested the election of officers and an update on the online survey of favorite international destinations. The consultant for the Airport Strategic Development Plan will be in San Antonio on the 17th and will brief the Commission on the status of the plan.

Mr. Fessler asked if there were any announcements from members. Commissioner Vaughn Caudill said he was selected for the second round of interviews for the Office of Management and Budget and wondered if he could remain on the Commission. Commissioner Deborah Omowale share with the Commission that she spoke at a recent Citizens To Be Heard meeting to share her disappointment that only one elected official, Councilwoman Andrews-Sullivan attended the Black History Month Art Exhibits Press Conference. She also noted that many events in the airport system were not well-attended by the Commission members.

This meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.