

**AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
FOR AUGUST 18, 2020
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

1. Vaugh Caudill
2. Charnelle Chin
3. Frank Cruz
4. Les Hobgood
5. Ed Onwe
6. Landon Phillips
7. Tripp Riedel

CITY STAFF:

- Jesus H. Saenz, Jr. IAP, Director of Airports
- Nicole Fowles, Sr. Special Projects Manager/Board Liaison

Chairman Mark Fessler called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m. A roll call was taken and confirmed a quorum was present on the videoconference. Mr. Fessler asked the Board Liaison if there were any Public Comments to share with the Commission. It was noted that no comments were received.

Mr. Fessler asked the Commission members if they had received the minutes from the February 19, 2020 meeting. Before a final vote was taken, Mr. Jesus Saenz, Director of Airports, noted a revision to the number of badges for the Houston Airport System was required – 25,000 rather than the written 3,500. With the revision made, a motion to approve the minutes.

Mr. Fessler recognized Mr. Saenz who gave the Commission a briefing on the San Antonio Airport System, focusing on current passenger activities; activities to restore consumer confidence; and, the Airport Stakeholder COVID-19 Task Force. Mr. Saenz began with an overview of the monthly current passenger activity levels between January 2020 and June 2020 noting the sharp drop that began in March and continued in April. Mr. Saenz noted that international travel was restarted in mid-June with service to Mexico City which quickly had been expanded to Monterrey and Guadalajara. Mr. Saenz also reviewed a comparison of the national 7-day rolling average of passenger enplanements with San Antonio International Airport (Airport). For the past four weeks, the Airport had outpaced the national average. The Airport serves 24 non-stop destinations on 11 airlines. Airlines have been slow to restart service at airports across the nation. Mr. Saenz also noted that concessionaires were negatively impacted, and many had closed until passenger levels increased. As of the meeting, 11 locations had opened including a new concept to the Airport –Smoke Shack.

The Director of Airports recognized the efforts of staff to embark on the most comprehensive cleaning initiative which included multiple cleanings of high-touch areas throughout the day with medical grade cleaners; the use of handheld electromagnetic sprayers; and the purchase of a Xenex Light Strike robot which is being delivered soon. He also recognized the safety protocols and procedures that had been installed including more than 200 wall and floor hand sanitizers throughout the facilities and more than 300 protective screens at person-to-person locations such as ticket counters and gate hold areas. The Airport also purchased custom seat covers to remind passengers to keep a six feet distance in all waiting areas and installed static and digital signage with safety reminders.

Mr. Saenz discussed the development and implementation of the Airport Stakeholder COVID Task Force which includes representatives from the Airport, concessionaires, airlines, rental cars and other major tenants. He updated the Commission members on the status of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) whose public engagement portion has been paused. Mr. Saenz said work on the SDP has continued but decision-making has halted until the public engagement can be reengaged. He mentioned the upcoming presentations to City Council of the Department Budget on August 26th and Airline Use and Lease Agreement on September 3rd. He also provided a brief update on the status of the two executive vacancies for the Chief Development Officer

Mr. Fessler recognized individual commission members for questions and comments on the presentation:

- Were you asked to reduce in your budget by the City Manager? Are there any areas that we need help?
 - We took proactive steps to reduce our expenses during FY 2020 to be fiscally responsible.
 - We have worked well as a city organization and have all been focused on being agile.
 - As a department, when our passenger level was at our lowest, we used the opportunity to make improvements including repainting roadway and parking markings and power-washing our curbs and parking lots.
- I have visited the Airport several times over the past month. The facilities look great; please share the thank you to your team.
- How do you plan on continuing the Strategic Development Plan?
 - We put the SDP on hold since we want the community to be involved and we want this process to continue to be transparent.
 - When we are able to move forward with the public, we will.
- Why did the Chief Development Officer [Loyce Clark] retire?
 - He wanted to spend more time with family after more than 35 years in the industry.
- Your team has been doing a great job and I want to thank your team for their assistance on the event at Stinson with the Women In Aviation Alamo City Chapter and the Ninety-Nines taking place on Friday, August 21st.
- It has been odd not to have the air traffic that we used to have. Like the others have said, thank you for your work and please thank your staff.
 - They have done a tremendous job and the spirit of San Antonio is strong in our team.

Mr. Fessler asked the Commission members if they had any questions on the monthly reports. No questions were asked. Mr. Fessler asked for a voice vote to accept the reports and it passed with 10 Ayes and 0 Nays. Mr. Fessler then asked if there were any announcements. Commissioner Aurelina Prado provided information on the Flyover event taking place on August 21st in celebration of the 100th

anniversary of the 19th Amendment which gave women the right to vote. Ms. Prado noted that four aircraft would participate, and video would be taken from an aircraft of the flyover which is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. from Stinson Municipal Airport. Mr. Fessler recognized his daughter, Mackenzie, who obtained her pilot's license. Mr. Saenz announced that the Airport System's website (flysanantonio.com) had been redesigned and asked Commission members to review the site and provide any feedback. Commissioner Deborah Omowale thanked the Airport for a recent airport exhibit, The Invisible Diamond: 100 Years of Negro League Baseball, which celebrates the role African Americans played in the history of baseball. Commissioner Marco Barros offered his assistance to help obtain gifts for the Airport Ambassadors Appreciation Lunch when it happens. Mr. Saenz thanked Mr. Barros for the offer and confirmed the event would happen and recognized the efforts of Chief Customer Experience Officer Karen Ellis and her team for keeping the ambassadors informed on the safety protocols throughout the pandemic.

Mr. Fessler asked the Commission members if they had any suggestions for topics for the next meeting. Commissioner John Grisell mentioned he would like to learn about the efforts to attract more tourists to San Antonio.

This meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.