

City of Keene
New Hampshire

AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Friday, December 16, 2016

8:30 AM

**Dillant-Hopkins Airport
Terminal Building**

Members Present:

Clark Dexter, Chair
Robert Sutherland, Councilor
Mitch Greenwald, Councilor
Rodney Thompson
Bill Hutwelker
Bob Bergevin
Rod Thompson
Joseph Bendzinski

Staff Present:

Jack Wozmak, Airport Manager
Beth Bendel, FBO
Mike Moriarty, Airport Maintenance &
Operations Foreman

Members Not Present:

Richard Kasper
Joseph Briggs
Peter Delaney

1) Call to Order

Chair Dexter called the meeting to order at 8:31 AM.

2) Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mr. Bergevin made a motion to approve the minutes of October 21, 2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bendzinski, which carried unanimously.

3) Airport Manager's Report

Mr. Wozmak provided the following report to the Committee before the meeting:

1. Mr. Wozmak said the Committee will notice that the trees in front of the terminal building have been removed. This will facilitate newer landscaping that will accentuate the profile of the building. As noted in October, the trees had grown to an extent that they were invading the roof structure and were the cause of regular labor hours to keep the walkways clear of berries and tree debris. The overall goal is to work with the present building but undertake some cosmetic steps to improve the appearance of the building.
2. We have renewed interest in the former Alps building (aka Hillside Pizza) as a rental location for a Swanzey church youth center. The net economic gain for the

- city would be about \$6,000 per year, which would be a combination of rental income and lower (zero) taxes paid on the building. Mr. Wozmak will be drafting a memorandum for the NHDOT/FAA folks to seek to get permission to charge an amount likely less than fair market value or at least less than the historical rent (\$250 vs \$600). As stated in the report for October, the net economic gain for the city would be about \$6,000 per year, which would be a combination of rental income and lower (zero) taxes paid on the building.
3. We have had some difficulty with the new AWOS (automated weather system) with regard to the ability to phone into the system. The FAA advises us that this is a problem they are also experiencing elsewhere with the new software upgrade. All of the damaged planes have left the airport and we now have five t-hangars vacant.
 4. We have been asked to rent some land to another local church that is seeking to rent a vacant building on Rt. 32. Our land abuts this property and they could use some of our land for additional parking. Mr. Wozmak will be continuing this discussion with them as to exactly how much land and will advance this proposal to the City Manager. This likely will provide around \$1,000 a year in land rent.
 5. We held a meeting here at the airport on November 5th from 8:30 to noon, to present the forest management plan to members of the neighborhood association and the broader community. The agenda included a discussion session in the terminal building as well as field walks to various sections of the forestland around the airport. Mr. Wozmak felt it was very well presented and the components of the plan were well covered. As the Committee may be aware, there have been many years that the trees on the North end of the airport have been the topic of discussion. Mr. Wozmak does believe that a properly implemented forest management plan is an excellent compromise for the airport to cohabitate with the neighborhood. But make no mistake about it, removal of the tall white pine trees will be a notable event. Mr. Wozmak was reassured, however, from the foresters that a vibrant, strong understory of mixed hard woods will take root with a very few years that will mitigate the visual changes caused by the removal of the pine.
 6. The Environmental Assessment work is expected to be completed before the end of this month and will be followed by review by the FAA and a public information meeting to disclose the results. Mr. Wozmak expects that the white pine tree removal will take place within a month after the public information meeting.
 7. Mr. Wozmak has examined jet/charter landing data and activity for the three month period from July to September is up 15% from the same period last year.
 8. Realtors from the Norwood Group continue to work with Thomas Transportation on an agreement in principle for a new transportation center here at the airport. There are some concerns that the area directly opposite the terminal building may have too much wetland areas to accommodate the building size of approximately 9,000 square feet, but more work needs to be done.
 9. Work on the Airport Master Plan Update continues and we met with Erv Deck from Stantec recently to scope out a timeline for completion. The development program as well as a section on “green” program concepts, such as solar panels, is

- likely to be included in the AMP. We hope to begin circulating a final draft by the end of November.
10. Mr. Wozmak drafted a development program with a Tax Increment Finance District (TIFD) and has submitted this draft to the City Manager and Town of Swanzey officials to determine if it is in compliance with statutory regulations regarding content. As you may recall, the City submitted a proposal last year that was determined to be inadequate from a statutory point of view so this is our second attempt to have the current TIFD expanded to include the entire airport property. See the attached development program.
 11. Mr. Wozmak drafted a marketing brochure that seeks to line up with the development program. See the attached marketing brochure, which, once finalized, will convert to various social media formats as well to facilitate marketing. This marketing will be used to reach directly out to business entities that might be convinced to come to the airport to conduct business.
 12. We continue discussions with NHDOT and NH Dept. of Safety regarding use of the airport area for CDL licensing exams (Commercial Driver's License). This follows several conversations initiated by State Rep. Michael Abbott. While we are open to this possibility, the issue of permanent paint markings needed by DOS but not favored by NHDOT is the pinch-point. This is, of course, secondary to our primary mission here, but we will continue the dialog if there is an easy solution.
 13. The FAA conducted an airport land use audit to examine both the finances and leases at the airport. They also conducted random inspections of several hangars. The audit went very well with the only notation that there were a couple hangars with multiple automobiles and no room for a plane, which technically violates FAA regulations. While new regulations will be taking effect in July of 2017, there still may be issues with the non-aeronautical use of hangars.
 14. The family of Edwin Hopkins published a Card of Thanks in the Keene Sentinel and Mr. Wozmak has copies available at the meeting so you can fully appreciate the number of people it took to make this event special.
 15. Mr. Wozmak will be working with the City Manager to create a schedule for obstruction removal. Here is that tentative schedule. Keep in mind that these dates are tentative and not confirmed but the timeline of events is accurate: By mid-December, the Forest Management Plan will be published and available to the public. By the end of December, the Environmental Assessment, including the additional work associated with visual, noise and air quality impact will be published in Final Draft form both for a two-week comment period and review by NHDOT and FAA officials. On or about January 10th a public information session will be held for the various consultants to explain the work pertaining to the visual, noise, air quality and land appraisal impacts. Following the public information session the FAA will be issuing what is called a 'FONSI' or a Finding of No Significant Impact which will finalize the Environmental Assessment project. On or about the final week of January, tree removal will commence.

Mr. Wozmak welcomed any questions about his report. Mr. Thompson asked Mr. Wozmak about the results of the sound study. Mr. Wozmak replied that he had not received the final report and that the report should be completed by the end of the month. He continued it was difficult to summarize a 50 page report but said the noise attenuation from the props and the jets is better across the grass than it is the trees. The impact of removing the trees is measured in less than two decibels things in order to be of a significant impact under FAA regulations that had to be close to 165 decibels. The difference in the noise is marginal but will be different but not substantially greater in a way to measurable way to trigger anything at the FAA level.

Chair Dexter asked Ms. Bendel if she had a question. Ms. Bendel asked if the CDL licensing exams would be held on the runway surfaces or on the parking lots. Mr. Wozmak said the classes will not be on the runway surfaces and they are looking at an area over by the City owned T-hangars.

Chair Dexter said Mr. Wozmak reported there has been a 15% increase in corporate aviation activity and wanted to know if there was anything the City could do to increase that number. Ms. Bendel replied short of building a corporate hangar nothing immediately came to her mind. She continued the economic situation in the surrounding area needs to improve the most.

Chair Dexter said it was mentioned there were five hangars unoccupied and asked what is being done to advertise those hangars. Mr. Wozmak said the hangars are advertised on the City's website and additional advertising will take place once the marketing brochures are completed. Once the brochures are completed they will be advanced out to social media. Chair Dexter said there are also commercial websites available to advertise. Mr. Wozmak said he has not any spent money on outside advertising but would consider.

Chair Dexter asked the Committee if there were additional questions. Councilor Greenwald said there was talk of Eversource basing their trucks here at the airport and asked for an update. Mr. Wozmak asked Mike Moriarty to come forward to answer that question. Mr. Moriarty said Eversource had been looking for staging areas in the event of emergency disasters. He continued a couple years ago there was a disaster and Eversource contacted him and he had to make an immediate decision on whether or not to allow them to use the parking lot. The decision was made to allow them use of the parking lot. He continued this worked out but he does not like to get into the habit of making those decisions without having a plan. Mr. Moriarty said Eversource identified the large field on the land side as are an area they could use all times of the year. He continued they went as far as planning layouts, arials on where Eversource could bring in their tractor trailers and big generators. Mr. Moriarty said Eversource liked the idea the Keene airport had a restaurant. He continued someone was in communication with the DOT and it looked like things were coming together. Mr. Moriarty said it was left that the ball was in their court. He noted the plan did not get as far as approaching the City Council for approval. Mr. Wozmak said that he would follow-up with Eversource and that he saw this as an opportunity. He asked Mr. Moriarty if he knew how much

square footage Eversource needed. Mr. Moriarty replied they needed a building to fit 60 utility tractor trailer trucks. Mr. Bergevin said he was told Eversource was using The Cheshire Fair Grounds. Mr. Wozmak said that area would also make sense.

Councilor Greenwald asked about the old terminal building and said the City Council never received a follow-up report. Ms. Bendel said they were not leasing the old terminal building and was leasing the green hangar.

Councilor Greenwald asked about the discussions of a solar field. Mr. Wozmak said there are a lot of wetlands in the airport area but there is an area they are carving out in the Airport Master Plan for approval with the FAA that could accommodate a solar farm. He continued the area is a bit of an island surrounded by wetlands. The size and scope of the solar project was not determined. He said they needed 100 acres to start a solar farm. Mr. Wozmak said it is useful to look at a solar arrangement when there is a benefit. He noted a land lease is received from a solar arrangement and a lease is short money with a slight discount on power. Mr. Wozmak said it is not same as buying your equipment and getting 100% of the power and did not see this as great deal. Councilor Greenwald said it could be a possibility if they could power the waste water treatment. Mr. Wozmak said that was also his idea. Councilor Greenwald said he did not know if this could happen due to the wetland and asked Mr. Wozmak to look into solar powering the waste water treatment. Mr. Wozmak replied he would because of the Airport Master Plan. Councilor Sutherland said that it requires taking a serious look relative to the impact on the leases, to any investors and also payment of taxes to the town of Swanzey. He continued he was also concerned about the proximity of solar and the glare it may cause aviation. Mr. Wozmak said all of this is reviewed by the FAA and was the least complicated aspect because it is just a matter of aligning the solar panels correctly. Mr. Wozmak noted both companies that came to airport were dissuaded because of the wetlands. He said the question needed to be answered was does anyone want to build on wetlands. He noted the area was beautiful and there were 161 species of birds and was a tremendous spot. Mr. Wozmak said all of this could be disrupted with a solar farm and there would be a lot of push back.

4) Restaurant Report

Mr. Bergevin said when he entered The Flight Deck he listened to the noise of the beacon. He said it was making a screaming noise like it was running on dry ground. He added the noise was pretty noticeable. Mr. Wozmak said this was an older beacon and that had some rougher points. Mr. Moriarty explained the beacon has made that noise for 10 years and they service the beacon on a regular basis. He said this was the nature of it and he has heard the same rotating beacons make the same noise. Mr. Moriarty said they do stay on top of it and eventually the beacon will be replaced. He noted replacing the beacon is definitely something to consider.

Mr. Bergevin said when he entered the restaurant he took his jacket off and put his jacket back on because it was too cold. He told Ms. Keating to turn up the heat because it seemed like it was 64 degrees in the restaurant. He said Ms. Keating told him customers did not want to stay because it was too cold. Mr. Bergevin asked why the restaurant was

not heated. Mr. Moriarty said the HVAC unit in the hallway was replaced last year and all other units have been identified as beyond their age limit. He noted the old unit was going to be scrapped but they decided to use the units for parts in case of repairs. Mr. Moriarty said it was beyond his control and said they do all of the repairs within their means. He noted Gary Jackson Heating Services was called in to fix the most recent failure. Mr. Moriarty said Gary Jackson Heating Services refused to work on the unit because they told them several times the unit was too old to work on. Mr. Moriarty said he advised Ms. Keating it is a City Hall Facility issue and that it needed to be addressed. Mr. Bergevin suggested going higher up the ladder to get some adequate heat in the restaurant. He said the City is the landlord and Ms. Keating is the tenant. Mr. Bergevin said Ms. Keating cannot have customers in the restaurant because it is too cold. He noted if she cannot have any heat than Ms. Keating should not have to pay rent.

After Mr. Bergevin finished his statement Ms. Keating asked if she could address the Committee. Chair Dexter welcomed Ms. Keating's comments. Ms. Keating said she has had ongoing conversations with Mr. Wozmak about the heating issue. She said the temperature in the restaurant this morning was 56 degrees and was set at 72 degrees. Last week the temperature in the restaurant was at a high of 68 degrees but rapidly declined to 63 or 64 degrees for dinner. Ms. Keating said she sent an email to the City Manager, Medard Kopczynski asking the heat be fixed immediately. She continued the temperature was 56 degrees and she was concerned about pipes breaking. In addition, the kitchen is not heated. Ms. Keating said she tired of hearing about how the building is not insulated and wants the heat fixed immediately. She said received a call from the City in response to her email and was told they were not aware of the issue. She continued the City said the HVAC unit was slated to be replaced in the spring but would replace the unit if needed at an earlier time. Ms. Keating said another concern is that the restaurant serves breakfast on the weekends and the low temperature is an issue for customers. Mr. Wozmak asked Mr. Moriarty if the issue was a Facility issue. Mr. Moriarty replied yes.

Mr. Bergevin made a motion the City staff at The Keene Airport look into the heating problem and have an answer within the next 4 or 5 days to have the heat fixed. Councilor Sutherland seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Councilor Greenwald said he will not amend the motion but said it was unacceptable to even wait the 4 or 5 days. He said the City is the landlord. Mr. Moriarty reminded the Committee the restaurant that was at the airport 5 years ago had an issue with the struggling unit because the sprinkler pipe burst in the kitchen causing approximately \$13,000 worth of damage.

Mr. Bergevin said a couple of times he mentioned to the Manchester Quiet Birdmen there is a restaurant opened at the Keene Airport. Mr. Bergevin said he was told some of the men had flown over and have said nothing but wonderful things about the restaurant. He said he was told Ms. Keating did a wonderful job, was liked by the customers and there were no complaints.

Ms. Keating reported to the Committee the restaurant had some amazing days and some quiet days. She said they have started delivery for customers that do not want to come all the way out to the airport. Ms. Keating said they started delivery to help offset costs. She continued her main issue this week has been the heat.

Ms. Keating moved the discussion to the New England Flying Gourmet Challenge. She said Ms. Bendel introduced her to John Henry who loves flying and he delivers to a lot of airports. Mr. Henry was the one that helped facilitate the idea of the New England Flying Gourmet Challenge. Ms. Keating gave the Committee a copy of the New England Flying Gourmet Challenge. The Flying Deck and seven other restaurants joined together and the challenge is to fly to an eligible restaurant, eat, snap a photo and post it to social media. Participants apply a sticker to their flying gourmet card for each restaurant visited and then mail the card back in for a chance at the grand prize drawing. Ms. Keating said there are over 100 people signed up at the restaurant for the challenge. She said the New England Gourmet Challenge is bringing awareness to the restaurant and is interesting to see how people want to come and try something new.

She continued on one Saturday there were 40 planes that flew in and was a beautiful day to have breakfast and lunch. In general, Ms. Keating said there are 15-20 planes on a Saturday or Sunday. She continued it was nice for the locals to be able to see a plane land and take off. A Santa breakfast was scheduled for next week and Santa would be arriving via plane. Ms. Keating said she was hopeful these activities will bring public awareness. Mr. Wozmak asked if The Keene Sentinel was aware Santa was coming to the airport. Ms. Keating replied yes.

Ms. Keating said the busy hours have changed due to the time of year and the restaurant was now much more lunch oriented. She said since they have a liquor license they are required to be open 5 days a week. Ms. Keating reported they have opened a new soup and salad bar and have had a lot of repeat customers. She concluded that awareness is building and will hopefully benefit everyone. Mr. Wozmak said the whole uptake in bringing 100 plus people to the facility is also what drives attention to the age of the facility. He said this is the same reason he puts redoing the bathroom into his budget because two people have been trapped in the bathrooms. Mr. Wozmak said things such as the age of building, heating and insulation were not paid attention to and the airport was struggling to make a living here. He continued now that there is backing for development and these issues are more apparent and meaningful now.

Mr. Moriarty had an update during the meeting and said he was notified by the Facilities Department to install electric Modine heaters in the restaurant to supplement the low temperatures temporarily. Mr. Bergevin asked if that would affect the restaurant's electric bill. Mr. Wozmak replied he did not know. Ms. Keating noted electric heat is expensive. Mr. Wozmak said to Ms. Keating they would work something out.

5) Green Technology Development Report

Mr. Hutwelker said Chair Dexter asked him to talk about the presentation that was made at the KSC Alumni Center on October 18, 2016 with the Greater Keene Chamber of Commerce. He continued when Vermont Yankee closed there was a grant extended to this part of New Hampshire and received a \$300K grant which paled in comparison to the 30 million Vermont received. Mr. Hutwelker said of that \$300K it was his understanding \$50K went to the Chamber of Commerce and the way they chose to use it was to have multiple seminars. Mr. Hutwelker said he was not an expert and was conveying the message.

Mr. Hutwelker said there were three things that struck him. The first, Mr. Hutwelker said our politicians were asleep at the switch in his opinion when Vermont Yankee was closing because of the fact Southwestern New Hampshire only received a \$300K grant. He continued this area was certainly impacted every bit as much as Vermont with the loss of jobs and change in the real estate market. The second, Mr. Hutwelker said that he now understood how to get grant money and one reason why the Committee is so fortunate to have Mr. Wozmak. The third, a group has come together and what they have decided is to create is what they called an Ecovation Hub.

Mr. Hutwelker said the Ecovation Hub encompasses the Franklin County, North Central Massachusetts, Windham County, Southeastern Vermont, and Cheshire County. He continued their idea was to create in this area something that could be replicated throughout the country. Mr. Hutwelker said one of his colleagues is very involved with this and she is convinced this will succeed. The goal Mr. Hutwelker said is a fossil fuel electric generated economy to one that takes advantage of green energy. He continued his thought was two folded it is not only putting in the solar fields and the wind farms but it is creating industries that would be green industry. For example, Mr. Hutwelker said there is some kind of eliminated beam that is used in construction and is used by Benson Wood Homes and others. He continued these companies have to import it from Europe and one of the ideas was by utilizing the wood base here that this timber would be created here. Mr. Hutwelker said as he listened to these conversations he was thinking about what the Committee has discussed which is increasing economic development. He continued the airport had a flat land, transportation base and possibility of a transportation hub. Mr. Hutwelker said the airport could be the center for attracting firms that would produce products that would classify as green. The lender primarily involved was Brattleboro Savings Bank and the contact is Dan Yates. Mr. Hutwelker said he spoke with Steve Bianco at Walpole Savings Bank to ask if they would be working in the same area. Mr. Hutwelker was told that one of the challenges they are running into is getting appraisals to come in for green energy. Mr. Hutwelker said an example is a home built today with regular stick built construction that was middle to high end home would be in the \$200-\$225 range per square foot verse the same home with green energy standards would cost \$400 a square foot. He continued the appraisers need to come up to speed in order to appraise the value so the lender can lend. Mr. Hutwelker said it also has to do with the supply and demand. He continued the more green homes built and infrastructure available to supply the \$400 square foot would come closer to the price of the \$225 square foot home.

Mr. Hutwelker said he would like to continue to work with Chair Dexter to see what the Committee can do to be a part of the Ecovation Group and possibly encourage the Ecovation Group to come down to the airport to see the work of the Committee. He concluded it would be a win win if the Committee were to get involved with the Ecovation Group. Chair Dexter asked the Committee if there were any questions.

Mr. Wozmak said speaking of workforce he had a discussion with the Society for Manufacturing Engineers about how the opioid crisis has damaged a productive workforce. He continued they have 40-60 job applicants that cannot pass a drug test. Mr. Wozmak said there needs to be a focus on stabilizing the current workforce. He continued there is an evident problem when 40-60 job applicants are rejected because of the opioid crisis. Mr. Wozmak concluded the opioid crisis must be addressed.

6) Civil Air Patrol Presentation

Chair Dexter introduced Lieutenant Colonel Peter Hughes with the NH Civil Air Patrol, Monadnock Composite Squadron. Lt Col Hughes began his presentation with thanking the City and staff at the Keene Airport. He continued this program has meant a lot to a many young men and women. He continued there have been two cadets that have received congressional nominations from Congresswoman Kuster. The nominations were from WestPoint and the Air Force Academy.

Lt Col Hughes said besides giving the Committee an overview and update he wanted to discuss the future. He said they wanted to get an airplane at the Keene Airport. Lt Col Hughes continued there were six aircraft throughout the wing with other squadrons and Civil Air Patrol (CAP) has the funds. He said they buy fuel, air crews come in and they buy food. The goal Lt Col Hughes said was to be a benefit to the life of the airfield at the Keene Airport. He continued they wanted to bring back those emergency service capabilities to this region. Lt Col Hughes said there are monthly training search and rescue exercises that are going on somewhere in the state and the last time this happened at the Keene Airport was in 2009. The CAP is looking to bring in aircraft to operate out of the airport in August 2017. Lt Col Hughes said the Keene Airport has the third largest field in the state and is a great staging area. He continued there is a base radio and could have the ability to talk to aircraft and there is plenty of space for a mobile command space. Lt Col Hughes said the airport is an excellent place to run exercises. He said he would like to work with the staff at the airport and coordinate on putting an expose in newspapers to educate the public on the CAP.

Lt Col Hughes proceeded to give a brief history of the CAP. He said the Civil Air Patrol was born before WWII and one week prior to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Congress passed Public Law establishing The CAP as the auxiliary of the new U.S. Air Force. Three primary mission areas were set forth at that time: aerospace education, cadet programs, and emergency services. Lt Col Hughes said they feel there is a very strong program with the aerospace education and cadet programs at the Keene Airport. He said the emergency services at the airport need to be picked up and invigorated.

The CAP has had a presence in the Monadnock region since the 1940's and are one of eight CAP squadrons serving in the New Hampshire Wing. Lt Col Hughes said two of their local members received a congressional gold medal. He said the Governor, Senators and members of Congress were present and was a great opportunity for everyone to meet them.

Lt Col Hughes said there are currently six aircraft with CAP and are all B182's with a glass cockpit and garmon 2000. He continued they have a host of vehicles and the Monadnock Region Squadron has their own van which is great to get cadets around. Lt Col Hughes said there is a whole host of communications through the state includes which repeaters. He continued they have supported some local missions such as foliage control and forest fires.

Lt Col Hughes said CAP is located throughout the country in every state. The emergency services which Lt Col Hughes said he wanted to invigorate are comprised of several roles: Search and Rescue, Disaster Relief, Humanitarian Services, Aerial Photography, and Counter Drug Operations. He said one of his cadets was involved in the search and rescue of a lost hiker that was found. Lt Col Hughes said CAP also had aircraft from NH that flew down to Hurricane Sandy and took over 160,000 aerial photos. He continued emergency services also include folks in a control room and their main control room is located in Concord. The control room is used to direct all of the air patrols and ground team members to go out across the state accordingly.

Lt Col Hughes continued there was plenty of opportunity for non-pilot crew members such as a mission scanner. The Cadet Element Program is for cadets to complete one task in each element. The elements are leadership, aerospace, character and physical fitness. Lt Col Hughes said some of these cadets are 14 or 15 years old and they are leading groups of people around all week. He continued CAP is helping them to build character to learn, leadership skills and professionalism. He added this is a great opportunity for them to serve, learn and prepare for the future. Lt Col Hughes said CAP is also involved in the Color Guard Color Guard and regularly participates in local community events such as Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Loyalty Day and Wreaths across America. He said the cadets enjoy meeting the public and various veteran groups. Mr. Wozmak showed the Committee photos of the Honor Guard at the services for Mr. Hopkins. Lt Col Hughes thanked Mr. Wozmak for the invitation.

Lt Col Hughes said their headquarters has sent STEM kits on information for flight simulators, robotics and astronomy. He said the Monadnock Squadron meets at the airport on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 pm. The other CAP activities discussed were radio controlled aircraft, annual rocketry workshops and visits to air museums.

He concluded by stating the CAP wanted to get an airplane at the airport in 2017. Lt Col Hughes said they need pilots and told the Committee if they knew of any pilots to have them contact him. He continued pilot ads will be placed in the newspapers. Lt Col Hughes said they appreciate being part of the airport family and feel they can be a benefit for the airport to help reinvigate. Councilor Sutherland asked what age group

the cadets' start and what efforts are made for recruiting at risk children. Lt Col Hughes replied the CAP is open at age 12 (sixth grade) up to age 18. After the age of 18 there is an option to continue to the age of 21 and then transfer to the senior program. He continued they have helped several cadets that have been in tough situations. Lt Col Hughes said they have received donations from clubs such as The Lions Club and local scholarships have been given to cadets to get them to the next level.

Lt Col Hughes said they are looking to bring more awareness by getting more into the local schools. He noted a lot of the recruitment has been done by word of mouth.

Mr. Wozmak said from an economic development point of view in his conversations with Kay Behr in terms of bringing regional scheduled air service back, their primary obstacle is the pilot shortage. He continued the more people can encourage kids to look at a career as a pilot as a huge benefit.

Councilor Sutherland said drones were a high interest to young children and will have some impact. He continued it may be a growth opportunity for the CAP. Lt Col Hughes said in the STEM kit they were going to get quadcopters which was a good entry point. Last year the CAP gave their first introduction to drones and is working on how to operate these drones into search and rescue. Mr. Bendzinski said he thought the drones were not supposed to operate within one mile of the airport. Mr. Wozmak said that is true and the more expensive drones are programmed not to operate within a certain range of the airport. He continued the other people will call the airport to let them know the drone registration number and what they will be doing. The airport will then give them permission or not given activity of the drone.

Chair Dexter thanked Lt Col Hughes for his presentation and encouraged him to attend more meetings.

7) FBO Announcements

Ms. Bendel thanked Lt Col Hughes and said he has done a fantastic job with the CAP. She continued he has been great for the community and the cadets that come out of the CAP are great for the community. She said these young men and women will volunteer to be a part any activity whether it is air shows or funerals. Ms. Bendel said it is great to see these motivated young people being a part of the community.

She continued she had some great news in part because she is now leasing the green hangar from the City. Ms. Bendel said has been able to secure a contract to have a national helicopter company, located in Pennsylvania that is staying with the Keene Airport as they do work. She said they are not only doing work in Keene but also doing work over in the Concord Portsmouth area. Ms. Bendel said it was great they were staying at the Keene Airport even though the work was outside of Keene.

Ms. Bendel said business is great, jets are coming and the flight school is happening. In January, there is a Rusty Pilot Seminar that has an expected attendance of 50-60 people

and is teaming with a nationwide pilot organization. She said the speaker is coming up from West Virginia and the seminar is a big deal. Ms. Bendel thank everyone for helping make this happen.

Chair Dexter said that he wanted to close the meeting on a positive note. He continued the weekend before Thanksgiving there were 30 planes on the ramp and there was a wait 20 minute wait to get into the restaurant.

8) **Next meeting**-January 20, 2016

9) **Adjournment**

There being no additional business before the Commission, Chair Dexter adjourned the meeting at 9:52AM.

Respectfully submitted by,
Jennifer Clark, Minute Taker