



Aviation/Aerospace/Engineering Cluster Meeting

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

Palm Beach County Department of Airports, PBIA

Minutes

Attendees: **Austin Andrews-Chairman**, Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne; **Jerry Allen**, Palm Beach County Department of Airports; **Cassandra Davis**, Palm Beach County Department of Airports; **Lisa DeLaRionda**, Palm Beach County Department of Airports; **Jodie DelBene**, Jet Aviation; **Angela Jamison**, CH²MHILL; **Norbert Ehrich**, Jet Aviation; **Gary Hines**, Business Development Board; **Mohammad Ilyas**, FAU; **Renee Jones**, BRPH Architects - Engineers; **Carla Brown Lucas**, Business Development Board; **Becky Magaw**, Business Development Board; **John Mason**, Jet Aviation; **Oren Masory**, FAU; **Phyllis Maas**, Maas Media; **Barry O'Connell**, Logus Microwave; **Kathleen Perry**, Boynton Beach Community High School; **Sean Quinn**, WaferWorld, Inc.; **Brian Rems**, Galaxy Aviation of Palm Beach; **Andrew Rothman**, Workforce Alliance; **Janina Simmonds**, Boynton Beach Community High School; **Kelly Smallridge**, Business Development Board; **Milo Srkal**, DayJet Corporation; **Kathy Stepanek**, Business Development Board; **Gary Sypek**, Palm Beach County Department of Airports; **Mary Vreeland**, The School District of Palm Beach County; **Joseph White**, Joseph White Marketing Concepts

Introductions and Welcome, Austin Andrews, Chairman

- Reviewed the mission of the cluster – to grow the Aerospace/Aviation/Engineering industry in Palm Beach County.

Special Presentation: Palm Beach International Airport Long Term Strategy

Angela Jamison, CH²MHILL; Lisa DeLaRionda, Community Relations Director; and Jerry Allen, Director of Planning and Development Division

- A key goal of the Department of Airports (DOA) is to make the 4 airports in Palm Beach County (PBIA, Lantana, North County and Pahokee) convenient for its users. It is also important that they work closely with local media to keep the public informed on airport happenings and national issues. They are a participant in a monthly media co-op where law enforcement, hospitals and other public safety organizations meet to collaborate on safety issues in the county.
- Angela presented the results of the Master Plan/System Plan study for the Department of Airports. The study began in 2005 and was to assist in planning through the year 2025. The study looked at such things as the airfield capacity, terminal options and land use for each of the 4 airports individually. The study completed inventories of each airport, made forecasts for each, and determined demand vs. capacity issues.
- Significant points: By 2025, the number of enplaned passengers in PBIA will increase from approximately 3 million to 6 million; the demand will exceed the capacity; and general operations (training, corporate and military flights) will decrease slightly but will continue to be an important part of the overall function of the Department of Airports.
- From this study information, the DOA will continue to work on a Capital Improvement plan and airport layout plan.

- Jerry reviewed some of the significant changes that PBIA has made in the recent past to meet the changing demands in this area: flyover from Interstate 95 and an additional parking garage.
- Currently PBIA runs 65 operations/hour. They hope to be able to expand their smallest runway, which would increase their operations to 110/hour.
- Q&A
 - Q: There have been rumors about a proposed International Cargo Airport. Will this help to ease the amount of traffic through PBIA? A: PBIA does not handle much cargo aircraft. What they do handle does not have a significant impact on the traffic through the airport; therefore there is not a demand for a separate cargo facility at this time.
 - Q: What is their involvement with the purchase of land at Haverhill and Southern? They have purchased 80-90 acres and propose to convert it to industrial land and lease out the property. This would bring increased revenue into the airport.
 - Q: How will travel in 2025 be different? A: Don't suspect a huge change in the technology of aircraft. There could be an increase in traffic through the North County and Lantana locations. The increase in smaller, more private aircraft will continue to serve as a supplement and not a replacement for commercial jets.
 - Q: Can we anticipate an increase in chartered international flights? A: That is difficult to predict. The DOA thought it would happen but there hasn't been an increase yet. The demand needs to come from the community and cannot be created by the airport.
 - Q: What kind of growth is expected in the North County? A: The DOA currently has 1800 acres in North County but it will be difficult to expand due to the preserves around the land. There are still questions about what commercialization will occur there as well.
 - Q: How is the DOA working to reduce costs to the consumer (at times, it is cheaper to fly out of Ft. Lauderdale)? A: The DOA tries to keep rates and costs similar to those in Ft. Lauderdale. Ft. Lauderdale has a larger revenue base with 15 million passengers versus 3 million here. This difference also leads to larger delays, which interferes with the convenience of flying from there. PBIA brought in AirTran, Southwest and JetBlue in the hopes of having lower fares to offer. They also offer incentives to airlines that are able to add additional cities to their itineraries.
 - Q: Can PBIA currently handle International aircraft? A: Yes, 747s can land.

Survey, Austin Andrews, Chairman

- A brief survey was distributed in an effort to gather data from cluster members to assist in meeting the needs/desires of the cluster.

Special Presentation: Embry Riddle Aeronautical University collaboration with the School District of Palm Beach County

Mary Vreeland, Director of Choice Programs and School Choice; Kathleen Perry, Principal, Boynton Beach Community High School

- The School District currently offers 139 Choice programs across 16 career clusters. For the future, the district is hoping to offer all programs in at least one location in each of the four regions of the district.
- Boynton Beach Community High School will be offering an Aerospace program, through collaboration with Embry Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU), beginning in the fall of 2007. The program will be the 4th one in the state of Florida. It will be available to 250 students (150 freshman; 50 sophomores; 50 juniors).

- Students will take college level courses that meet ERAU standards and are taught by faculty approved by ERAU. The program will offer a core curriculum in aerospace history, meteorology, etc. and will also provide a technical track where students will study airport maintenance and mechanics. There will also be flight training opportunities. Students will earn college credit for these courses, as well as have the opportunity to earn more credit if they take Advanced Placement level Math, English and Science coursework. It will be possible for a student to graduate from high school with enough credits to enter as a junior in college, for a savings of \$46,000 in tuition costs. Students will also be given admission preference for ERAU, but the credits could also transfer to other colleges.
- Cluster members can assist with this project through internships, scholarships, guest speaking, being a member of the advisory board, or even teaching in the program. Information about qualifications for teaching can be obtained from the program coordinators.
- Contact information: *Kathleen Perry*, Principal, Boynton Beach Community High School, 561-752-1221, perrka@palmbeach.k12.fl.us; *Janina Simmonds*, Choice Coordinator, Boynton Beach Community High School, 561-752-1526, simmonj@palmbeach.k12.fl.us; *Mary Vreeland*, Director of Choice Programs, The School District of Palm Beach County, 561-434-7371, mvreeland@palmbeach.k12.fl.us.

Planning session for Future Meetings (Topics, Speakers, Deliverables)

- Due to time limits, this will be discussed at the next meeting. Please provide Austin Andrews (austin.andrews@pw.utc.com) or Becky Magaw (bmagaw@bdb.org) with any ideas you have for future topics. In addition, if you would be interested in hosting an upcoming meeting or presenting at an upcoming meeting, let them know.

Potential Dates for the Next Cluster Meeting (please pencil into your calendars): Tuesday, February 13 @ 9:00 OR Tuesday, February 20 @ 9:00; Location to be determined.

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- ◆ Special thanks to Palm Beach County Department of Airports for hosting the meeting.
 - ◆ Special appreciation to Lisa DeLaRionda and Cassandra Davis from the Department of Airports for coordinating the meeting room and refreshments.
 - ◆ Special thanks to our presenters for the valuable information they provided.