

PMAC December 2006 Business Meeting Minutes

President Bill Ridenour called the December 6th meeting at Mason Junior High School to order at 7:34 p.m. with 33 members and one guest, Jerry Kowalski present.

The minutes of November's meeting were read by Secretary John Zonneveld and accepted with the following corrections:

- ❑ Ron Leake didn't win the 50/50 raffle at the November meeting.
- ❑ The distance of 25 feet refers to distance from the aircraft when taking DB meter readings, not elevation as was suggested by the November minutes.

Treasurers Report:

Dave McDonald read the December Treasurer's report:

- ❑ Dave will be getting park stickers and he will try to have stickers at the January 3rd meeting.
- ❑ The club donated \$100 to the West Bloomfield Methodist Church for the wife of John Hoover. Information about the memorial service is available on the web site.
- ❑ Dave would like all new and renewing members to fill out full enrollment sheets to make sure that we have up-to-date information. Dave can handle member enrollment via mail if they mail a photo copy of their AMA card along with their check.
- ❑ Dave visited Carlton's recently and they offered to donate to the club. In exchange, they only ask that we send some business their way.

Communications:

- ❑ Bill informed the group that the memorial for John Hoovers wife will be Saturday, December 9th at the West Bloomfield Methodist Church. Information is available on the web site.

Reports:

- ❑ Ed Kincer read the training committee report. A new student, Kevin Plowman soloed on Thanksgiving Day.

Unfinished Business:

- ❑ Ed Kincer – passed out a few copies of information he put together pertaining to the near-miss complaint that was registered on October 8th. The complaint was registered with at least the airport, DNR, MDOT, the White Lake PD and the FAA.

Ed listed several of the physical facts about our airfield in comparison to the airport.

The Pontiac Airport doesn't inform pilots of the model aircraft in the area. The AMA rule is that if the field is within 3 miles of an airport, RC aircraft must be maintained below 400 feet. Our field is within that 3 mile limit. Some other club airports have taken measures such as putting nets up at 400 feet.

Bill raised discussion of some of our events and the circuits that some of our warbirds flew was about 400 feet which is not as high as one might think.

Ed said that at some point, most of us pilots go above the 400 foot point and gave some examples of maneuvers that break that ceiling.

The recent meeting with Karis Floyd and Karl Randall was discussed. Mr. Randall said he didn't approve of the club being in such close proximity to the airport and viewed it as a liability. Prior to this incident, Karl didn't know of the club's existence. He was formerly part of the airport's legal team. Dave Stephens was an integral part of the meeting and Bill gave a recap of the discussion that was had.

Tom MacDonald reported that an attorney familiar with the case suggested we take any measures necessary to reduce the likelihood of this happening again but that there would likely be no further action taken.

Bill expressed that the meeting participants appreciated the seriousness with which we regarded the situation but that there was no desire to pursue an operating agreement.

Bill also said that Karis would like to have a follow-up meeting with the new executive board on December 15th.

Dave McDonald mentioned that there had been some discussion about visiting the tower and forming a closer relationship with the ATC staff. Ed recommended that we do not raise attention to our existence. Bill believed that it wouldn't be a bad idea to form a relationship with them and check in regularly.

Al Wesley countered that if we were invisible to them before, we need to become invisible again. He believes we need to exercise responsibility and make them forget about us again. Al added that whoever sent the official safety notification in the mail should be commended on how well written it was. Bill pointed out that Dave McDonald and Ed Kincer had put the notice together.

- Dave would like to make a motion to change the constitution as follows :

First part – add a sentence to article 5, section 1a – the list of the club officers. “These officers will be known as the Executive Board and act as the Safety Committee”. This statement clearly states who comprises the Safety Committee.

Second – Add to Article 11, rule 10 – “All pilots will follow the AMA safety code” – added sentence “Each pilot will be responsible for ensuring that they have a spotter looking for full-scale aircraft when flying”.

Some discussion was held on the motion and the spotter rule.

Bill ended debate on the motion as it has to be mailed out to all club members and will be voted on in next month's meeting. Further debate will be held on the motion at next month's meeting.

New Business:

- Dave McDonald has been going over the revenues from hobby shop advertising in the newsletter. It has been raising at least \$60 per month in advertising revenues. Dave proposed that we shift these ads to the web site to retain the revenue.

Bill asked if we have a hit counter on our web site. Ed said that our home page gets about 40 hits a day. Ed will provide Dave with the exact numbers. During the transition from Frank's term to Dave's term as treasurer, Dave is considering moving some of the money in checking to a CD account instead. He feels that we should avoid becoming

cash rich with all of the new members joining. TCF Bank has a 9-month CD that pays a higher interest rate than our low-interest checking account.

Dave said that the constitution requires that this month, the new officers and any old officers that are willing to sit down should do so and make out a budget and a schedule. The task must be completed this month and presented at the January meeting. Bill also brought up the auditing committee that must review last year's books.

The budget meeting will address this issue and present to the January meeting. Dave proposed Saturday the 16th at 1:00 at Billy's Tip 'N Inn for the budgeting meeting and the audit.

- ❑ Tom MacDonald raised discussion about the Visqueen shelter that has been put up. It only closes in 3 sides of the shelter. Keith said that it was put up a week ago Sunday and the north side has a 4-foot side up. Dale offered some plexyglass that could be put up. Bob Seeger suggested using a clear shower curtain instead of plexyglass so that it can be opened up.
- ❑ Keith raised discussion around the equipment replacement list that Dale had put together. The Ford Tractor is performing fine but it's the Bollens that need to be replaced. Bill suggested that a committee be formed to investigate the best solution for the club and present at next month's meeting. Dale agreed to do the necessary research with Hank Wildeman and present some replacement options to the club at next month's meeting.
- ❑ Greg Smithson brought up tech meetings on the third Wednesday of each month and asked that members come to the table with ideas for the meetings. Some discussion was had about changing the day of the tech meetings. Bill pointed out that the constitution specifies the dates for tech meetings and it would require a change to the constitution to change that time. Greg also asked if he had a budget for tech meetings at his disposal. Currently, the Admin VP has no budget for tech meetings. The issue will be discussed at the budget planning meeting.
- ❑ Ed shared a document from the AMA. A new program called TAG – Takeoff and Grow will entail the club setting aside a weekend in the spring to hold the event. The AMA will donate a simulator and an RTF trainer to the club should we adopt this program. Ed will fill out the application and send it in.
- ❑ Frank Vella offered a set of plans and partially built Phaeton that he started building and offered it to any member free of charge if they promise to finish the plane by March of next year. Otherwise, that member must donate \$20 to the club.

Announcements:

- ❑ Ed's guest Jerry Kowalski was introduced to the group. He is a designer and builder of foam airplanes and Ed has been flying with him for a few years now.

Prizes:

50/50 raffle sales - \$48

Winner – Hank Wildeman

Airplane raffle

Kevin Poehlman won and chose the laser incidence meter

Congratulations!

The next business meeting will be Wednesday, January 3rd, 2006 at 7:30 P.M. at Mason Middle School.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by John Zonneveld – 2007 PMAC Recording Secretary