



Gillespie Pilots Association Meeting Minutes

P.O. Box 711591
Santee, CA 92072-1591
5 June 2021

Zoom Virtual Meeting

GPA President Captain Denis Breslin called the meeting to order at 0900 via Zoom.

President Breslin reviewed the ROE and explained some of the “wave” and “chat” features on Zoom.

- I. **Gillespie Pilots Association Website & live camera** (Due to technical/software issues, the camera is not working and the GPA is looking to replace it. Additional discussion below)
 - <https://www.gillespiepilotsassociation.org>;
 - **GPA membership dues are due** – still only \$10 for the whole year!
 - Check out the GPA on **Facebook**. Be sure to check out the GPA Facebook page.
 - **Socialflight.com** – What’s happening in Aviation – GPA meetings are listed under ‘Events’
 - List of 2021 GPA Officers and Board members
 - New GPA flyer thanks to President Breslin and Chris Van Stelle.
- II. **President Breslin - Welcome** Presented the meeting agenda and welcomed the guest speakers. This will hopefully be the last virtual GPA meeting, but it depends on the County and potential protocol changes after June 15th. There will not be a meeting in July, so the next meeting will be Saturday August 7th, with plans for it to be live at the Gillespie Terminal Building.
 - Today the San Diego Model Expo is being held at the San Diego Air & Space Annex on the north side of SEE from 0900 to 1500 hours.
 - The GPA is an advocacy group who speaks for aviation interest at Gillespie Field. They work with the 17 member Gillespie Airport Lessee’s Association (GALA) as well as the Gillespie Field Development Council (GFDC) to look out for those who use the airport and surrounding resources.
- III. **Dave Eby Director of Operations for Plus-One Flyers Flying Club** – Dave shared with the GPA some of the changes that have, and could begin to occur at Montgomery Field (MYF). Plus-One Flyers has aircraft based at both MYF and SEE, as well as several other airports in the area, but the majority of their operations are out of MYF. Crownair took over Gibbs’ lease on May 1st, 2021, and has changed the name to Executive Air Park (EAP). With the change have come increased costs, specifically fuel with an immediate \$.50 increase per gallon. Additional increases are expected after July 1st, 2021, when the price for tie-downs is also expected to rise. These increases have already caused Plus-One to relocate all their Beech BE-76’s to SEE with more aircraft likely moving in the coming weeks. Over the next 15 years additional commercial growth is expected which will extend Gibbs Dr. and overtake much of the current aircraft parking area and hangers paralleling Aero Dr. A lot of these changes are leading many to believe MYF is moving its focus to corporate jets and away from GA.

MYF does not currently have a pilot’s association or advocacy group. There was previously a group formed when a neighboring business jeopardized operations at MYF, but this group has since dissolved. There was some discussion about how the GPA and GFDC have so effectively worked with the County Board of Supervisors on behalf of the SEE users. SEE is a County airport and there has traditionally been support for the airports on the Board of Supervisors, while MYF is a City airport and many believe the same advocacy doesn’t exist with the City Council. President Breslin has offered to speak with those interested in starting an association at MYF, but none have come forward. Dave Eby said he will bring up the offer and suggestion at the upcoming Plus-One annual meeting and their social media platforms.



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- IV. **Webcam:** The SEE webcam has been inop for several months and the only practical solution is a new camera. In anticipation of returning to live meetings, GPA could also use a new PA system for the meetings. There is currently about \$5,600 in the budget, which would cover the cost of both projects, but in an effort to replenish the expenses, the GPA is looking for donations to the cause. President Breslin has offered a 1-hour FREE session in the Redbird simulator to the first five people to donate \$100 to the GPA. (Specifics on the systems and equipment being considered can be reviewed on the attached PowerPoint.) Donations are not tax-deductible, but can be easily made through the GPA website at <https://www.gillespiepilotsassociation.org>
- V. **Aviation News:** Some aviation related topics around the Country.
- At last month's meeting an in-flight emergency was discussed so a graph was shared discussing such emergencies. 78% of all in-flight emergencies are aircraft systems related. (See attached graph) Don't hesitate to declare an emergency if you need one.
 - A recent ruling by the DC Circuit Court of Appeals involving a P-40 warbird accident in which instruction was being given, may have opened the door to some unintended consequences. The Court's ruling has said a student when flying with an instructor is being "carried for compensation," which is contrary to previous and long-standing interpretation. Though this does not appear to negatively impact CFI's right now, it could have serious consequences in the near future. Multiple agencies, including SAFE, AOPA, EAA, and GAMA have all voiced their concern for this ruling. Members wishing to also weigh in are encouraged to submit a letter to Ali.Bahrami@faa.gov and use the points highlighted by SAFE as a template. (See attached)
 - There are some areas experimenting with remotely operated towers, which work through the use of multiple cameras atop a tower. Currently it's being tested at an airport in Leesburg Virginia and in the area of London, UK.
 - MYF has seen an increase in the number of flight operations and is reminding pilots to read back ALL "hold short" and call-sign designators. Continual violations may warrant a "call to the tower". Though there has not yet been the same reminder from SEE, it is the correct procedure and provides safety for everyone.
 - The FAA has released a final decision on the "**Pilot Records Database.**" This will require air carriers to report their pilots' employment history, training, and qualifications on the database. It will also require operators to review this database prior to hiring an applicant.
 - Lesson learned: Take greater care about failing checkrides, recurrent training, written exams etc. Keep you aviation record as clean as possible...
- VI. **SEE Airport Manager's Report;** Cathe Johnson was not able to attend but President Breslin was able to update the Association on KSEE **Operations.**
- March saw 12,331 operations with 11 complaints while April had 13,784 and 6 complaints.
 - Work has continued on the east ramps with almost all of the pavement and markings complete. The wash racks should be open soon.
 - KSEE is working with the FAA and will soon be installing LED PAPI on all of the runways.
 - The FAA will be having a meeting on June 9th regarding Vehicle and Pedestrian Deviations (VPD) over the last year. It is likely the FAA will impose training requirements, so the GPA will try to be a part of the discussion to ensure the training is appropriate.



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- VII. Gillespie Field Development Council** – The next virtual meeting is scheduled for Wednesday July 21st at 1800. They have changed their virtual platform to “WebEx”, so be sure to check their website for details on “attending” and providing input as well as the agenda for docketed items. All GPA members are **highly encouraged** to attend the GFDC meetings and to be involved in both group’s work. The GFDC is the body to take issues affecting Gillespie Field before the County Board of Supervisors. Their work has a direct impact on the airport’s operations.
- A significant topic expected at the last meeting was to be COVID relief for SEE businesses. Ultimately representatives from the GFDC, GPA, and GALA were able to have a positive meeting with County Supv. Anderson and his staff.
 - The SD Board of Supv. extended the rent deferral payments through the end of this year. They were originally due to be paid in full by July 31st, but the Supervisors extended the payback period to Dec. 31st 2026, - an additional 5 years.
 - There was some procedural discussion on the interactions between the GFDC, GPA, and GALA, but all agree going through the GFDC to the County is the best and most effective way to ensure SEE voices are heard.
- VIII. Allen Airways Stearman Fly-In:** GPA member **Bill Allen** discussed the Allen Airways Flying Museum Stearman Fly-In held at SEE May 13-16. There were over 20 classic aircraft from five states attending the event. This was not just a static event, rather it included several formation flights to neighboring airports and around the San Diego area. In one instance, three flights of five were able to fly by a retirement complex to the delight of all the residents who had come out to witness the event. Mary Ford attended the event and shared an eight minute video highlighting the planes, pilots, and attendees of the get-together.
- IX. Historic Aircraft Display** – We continue to follow the County’s lead with respect to meeting, so the same procedure will continue which started in April 2020. However, with the potential lessening of restrictions and not having a meeting in July, **Phyllis Trombi** will be at the SEE Terminal Building on **July 3rd** from **0900-1000** to sign off those who show up with their qualifying aircraft. ***If you are not vaccinated, you will be required to wear a mask.***
- X. Comments and Questions:** Andre Zeehandelaar wanted to let everyone know the **EAA Brown Field** Chapter of the EAA will be having an **Open House** on Saturday **June 19th**. The event will kick-off at 1000 hours with their *famous* pancake breakfast.
- XI. Raffle winner - Red Bird simulator:** There was no raffle this month. Instead, the first 5 donors of \$100 to GPA for purchase of a new PA system and a Webcam will receive a free hour of instruction in President Breslin’s FMX simulator as an encouragement to donate funds for the needed equipment.

Next GPA meeting **Saturday, August 7th, 2021**. The plan is for this to be a LIVE meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1007 by GPA President Breslin.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Wes Morris, GPA Secretary