

**MINUTES AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COLUMBUS AIRPORT
COMMISSION HELD AT THE COLUMBUS AIRPORT
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2019, 2018 AT 9:30 AM**

The following Commission members were present for the entire meeting.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>EXPIRES</u>
Mr. Carl Rhodes, Jr., Chairman	December 31, 2019
Mr. Thomas G. O. Forsberg, Treasurer	December 31, 2020
Mr. James Barker	December 31, 2023

The following Commission members were absent:

Ms. Tana McHale, Vice Chairwoman	December 31, 2021
Mr. Donald D. Cook, Secretary	December 31, 2022

Staff members present:

Amber Clark, C.M., Airport Director
Mary Scarbrough, Secretary
Eric Trivett, C.M., Maintenance Manager
Sonya Overton, Marketing Manager
Michele Renfroe, Flightways Columbus
Lorrie Brewer, Chief Accountant
Andre' Parker, Chief Public Safety
Melissa Chadwick, Public Safety
David Heath, Housekeeping
Erika Smith, Housekeeping

Others present:

John House, CCG Council District 10; Marilyn House; David Stieghan, U S Army Infantry School; Brian Thompson, Pete Novak, RS&H; Robert Boehnlein, Columbus Aero Service; John Walden, III, JWW Aviation, LLC; Julian Martinez, Pond and Company; Bill DesPortes, R. D. Aircraft; Marty Flournoy, EAA 677; Josh Rawlinson, Enterprise; Winfield Flanagan, Debbie Morris, Chris Badcock, Jack Wright, Jeff Hung

BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Mr. Carl Rhodes, Jr. welcomed everyone and called the January 23, 2019 Columbus Airport Commission Meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

Mr. Rhodes, Jr. extended his appreciation to all as he will serve as Chairman of the Columbus Airport Commission Board this year with honor. He announced the slate of officers for the Columbus Airport Commission Board for 2019 as follows.

Mr. Carl Rhodes, Jr., Chair
Ms. Tana McHale, Vice Chairwoman
Mr. Don Cook, Secretary
Mr. Thomas G. O. Forsberg, Treasurer
Ms. Amber Clark, C.M., Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer
Ms. Mary Scarbrough, Assistant Secretary
Ms. Lorrie Brewer, Assistant Treasurer

Mr. Rhodes addressed and cordially thanked Mr. Winfield Flanagan, one of the Columbus Airports most loyal patrons for his sixty-one years on behalf of the Commission. During his years of service as a Pilot at the Columbus Airport, he has served fourteen years on the Commission Board. He was appointed on March 5, 2005, served as Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, serving as all different rolls on the Commission, providing his guidance and wealth of knowledge with his dedication, support, and commitment through the years. Mr. Rhodes presented a plaque in Honor with deep appreciation to Mr. Flanagan. Mr. Flanagan will be greatly missed, as he has been a great mentor to others on the Commission Board as well to the airport as a whole, with his aviation experience.

Mr. Forsberg also, expressed his gratitude and how much he will be missed to Mr. Flanagan as well as his knowledge and education he has shared.

Mr. Flanagan personally thanked everyone as this will bring a final chapter and close out, expressing how much he has enjoyed working with all the Commissioner's past and present through his years on the Commission Board.

Mr. Rhodes, Jr. welcomed new Commissioner, Mr. James Barker, who is a Pilot for Synovus and TSYS, very familiar with the Columbus Airport. He has been a professional Pilot for thirteen years, has been in aviation for the past twenty years. He serves Columbus community in multiple ways including coaching and pitching American Little League's and volunteering professional skills with Civil Air Patrol, photo flights and storm damage in Georgia, mentoring young cadets looking to join the Air Force, all honorable. On behalf of the Commission they feel lucky to have you as a Commissioner.

Mr. Barker thanked Mr. Rhodes, Jr. and the Commission Board looking forward to serve them as well.

Mr. Rhodes, Jr. said he was looking forward to working with Mr. Barker on behalf of the Commission.

Mr. Rhodes, Jr. extended his appreciation to Mr. Forsberg for his service as Chair of the Commission in 2017 and 2018. A token was presented to Mr. Forsberg on behalf of the Commission Board. As Mr. Forsberg will continue to serve on the Board.

Mr. Forsberg expressed it has been his honor to serve as Chairman for the last two years, thanking everyone.

Motion by Mr. Thomas Forsberg to approve the minutes for the November 26, 2018 Columbus Airport Meeting; seconded by Mr. James Barker and unanimously approved by the Commission. Ayes: 3 / No: 0

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT 1 TO CONSOLIDATED RENTAL CAR PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Ms. Clark stated the Columbus Airport Commission collects rental car facility charges (CFC's) on vehicle rentals originating at the airport. These CFC's are used to fund facility maintenance and improvements specifically associated with rental car concessions. Funds are used at the discretion of the concessionaires, as administered by the Commission.

The rental car concessionaires have elected to upgrade the existing ready-return lot located east of the Columbus Airport Terminal.

The intent of these improvements is to:

1. Consolidate all Ready-Return operations to a single location
2. Increase the size of the existing Ready-Return lot by approximately 23 vehicles.
3. Extend a canopy into the Ready-Return lot, to provide for increased customer comfort

During the development of the improvement program, two deviations from the original program scope occurred, with approval of the previous Airport Director. A third deviation associated with the construction duration became evident during the project design. This amendment provides for the deviations listed below:

1. An Alternate temporary rental car ready-return lot: Conceptually the northern portion of the Long-Term Parking lot or the existing rental car storage area located on the hill north of the Terminal in conjunction with shuttle buses were suggested. Both of these suggestions were rejected by the rental car concessionaries. In response RS&H was directed to investigate use of the paved areas west of the Passenger Terminal. Multiple parking lot layouts and temporary signage were developed.
2. A Supplemental Canopy Design: Provisions of a covered walkway to the Ready-Return Lot was intended within the vendors design. However, during the design development, canopy vendors indicated difficulty in accomplishing the 60' span across three traffic lanes plus pedestrian walkways. To meet project requirements, RS&H provided a design detailing the specifications for a structural steel frame, plus spread footings to support the conventional aluminum canopy framing over the roadway, and provided additional detailing on the cantilevered canopies above the pedestrian walkway. Additionally, aluminum closures were developed to encompass the steel columns, beams, and framing to provide a consistent appearance to the roadway canopy system.
3. An Extended Construction Duration: The original estimate of construction duration did not fully account for the sequence of operations necessary for the installation of canopy systems, more specifically the large-span roadway canopy. This construction will include: canopy construction, sequence of foundation preparation, steel canopy delivery, installation, and curing, additional delivery and installation of aluminum canopies, column and beam enclosures, installation of lighting, and related pavement restoration. Originally it was thought the project would take eight weeks. With the new design it is anticipated that this construction will take fourteen weeks. This amendment provides six additional weeks of construction monitoring, at one day, bi-weekly.

The cost of this amendment will be an additional \$18,910.00, the original project amount was priced at \$98,238.00. With the addition of this amendment the cost of the Consolidated Rental Car Parking Lot Improvement Project totals \$117,148.00.

Approval is recommended.

Motion by Mr. Thomas Forsberg to approve to pay additional cost for alternate temporary rental car ready-return lot, supplemental, canopy design, and extended construction duration; seconded by Mr. James Barker and unanimously approved by the Commission.
Ayes: 3 / No: 0

Mr. Forsberg wanted confirmation that all these funds are in the current project budget, and not coming out of our operating budget?

Ms. Clark stated it is not and we do have sufficient funds to approve this amendment.

Mr. Forsberg asked if most of this is temporary, lot of movement, just during the construction of the new ready return lot.

Ms. Clark said the temporary parking portion is temporary, as far as the canopy and all it will be permanent.

Mr. Rhodes, Jr. stated those were his questions as well, thanking for the specific information provided on the transmittals by Ms. Clark.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT 1 TO RUNWAY 13-31 OBSTRUCTION MITIGATION-PHASE 3

Ms. Clark reported in an earlier phase of the Runway 13-31 Obstruction Mitigation Project a survey was completed of the runway approach surfaces at the Columbus Airport. Obstructions including trees and man-made objects were identified to penetrate FAR Part 77 surfaces associated with runway 13-31. FAR Part 77 surfaces are defined to ensure objects do not affect the navigable airspace surrounding the runway.

The Commission engaged RS&H to perform the acquisition of avigation easements, design and bidding services, and resident project representative services through Work Order Number 24. As a part of the detailed inventory of obstructions, survey crews noted additional obstructions on parcels adjacent to the previously identified parcels. This amendment provides for surveying of the additional parcels identified as E, F, & I.

In May 2018, the Commission opened sealed bids for the Runway 13-31 Obstruction Mitigation project. One bid was received and rejected as non-competitive. Two additional interested bidders failed to make timely submissions. This amendment provides for updating of the bid documents to reflect the additional parcels, ownership and clearing changes on two parcels, update permit applications, and re-bid the work.

The cost of this amendment will be an additional \$21,362.00, the original project amount was priced at \$263,222.00. With the addition of this amendment the cost of the Obstruction Mitigation Project totals \$284,584.00.

Staff recommends to approve.

Motion by Mr. Thomas Forsberg to approve the Amendment 1 to runway 13-31 obstruction mitigation-Phase 3; seconded by Mr. James Barker and unanimously approved by the Commission. Ayes: 3 / No: 0

Mr. Forsberg inquired that these funds were in the budget, but the bids were not competitive, and to this point we have not spent any money on this right at this point?

Ms. Clark stated there is a new schedule she can show the Commission for the bidding process if this is approved?

Mr. Rhodes, Jr. is there is any idea if the additional bidders, would re-bid.

Ms. Clark said we can reach out to them during this process.

Mr. Brian Thompson stated that RS&H will rebid this project and they are interested.

Mr. Rhodes, Jr. stated this might make things more competitive.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT 1 TO RUNWAY 6-24 OBSTRUCTION MITIGATION-PHASE 3

Ms. Clark stated in an earlier phase of the Runway 6-24 Obstruction Mitigation Project a survey was completed of the runway approach surfaces at the Columbus Airport. Obstructions including trees and man-made objects were identified to penetrate FAR Part 77 surfaces associated with runway 13-31. FAR Part 77 surfaces are defined to ensure objects do not affect the navigable airspace surrounding the runway.

The Commission engaged RS&H to perform the acquisition of avigation easements, design and bidding services, and resident project representative services through Work Order Number 23. As a part of the detailed inventory of obstructions, survey crews noted additional obstructions on parcels adjacent to the previously identified parcels. This amendment provides for surveying of the additional parcels identified as A, B, & C.

In May 2018, the Commission opened sealed bids for the Runway 6-24 Obstruction Mitigation project. One bid was received and rejected as non-competitive. Two additional interested bidders failed to make timely submissions. This amendment provides for updating of the bid documents to reflect the additional parcels, ownership and clearing changes on two parcels, update permit applications, and re-bid the work.

The cost of this amendment will be an additional \$25,552.00, the original project amount was priced at \$263,682.00. With the addition of this amendment the cost of the Obstruction Mitigation Project totals \$289,234.00.

Motion by Mr. Thomas Forsberg to approve the Amendment 1 to runway 6-24 obstruction mitigation-Phase 3; seconded by Mr. James Barker and unanimously approved by the Commission. Ayes: 3 / No: 0

Mr. Rhodes, Jr. asked if this was a similar amendment, exact same thing to the previous amendment, same type thing?

Ms. Clark confirmed it is same thing, different runway.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Ms. Clark began the monthly update reports with Ms. Lorrie Brewer.

FINANCE

Ms. Brewer provided the following update.

Ms. Brewer reported the Airport made a profit of \$45,223.00 with an adjusted net profit (without depreciation, amortization, grant or Passenger Facility Charge revenues) of \$8,692,00 in December. Year over year this amounts to a decrease of close to 87% in comparison to December of last year in which the adjusted net profit was \$65,184.00 (see Summary of Airport Revenues & Expenses).

Hangar and other rent revenues increased by over \$12,000.00. Flightways sales decreased in the month of December. Propellers sales were up; however, Propellers and Flightways will present their own reports.

Parking lot revenue increased by over \$1,100.00 this month in comparison to revenue received this month last year. This month last year our revenue was \$18,324.00, while this year our revenue was \$19,457.00 from the new parking lot.

Labor expenses were down about 14% compared to this month last year mainly due to a decrease in Public Safety salary expenses. Insurance expenses were down due to a worker's compensation insurance refund, utilities and other services were down by almost 14%, and repairs and maintenance expenses were down by over 30% in comparison to December of last year.

Enplanements and deplanements both showed increases compared to December of last year. The differences were 609 in enplanements and 356 in deplanements.

Tenants Past Due 60 Days or More: See report with financials.

Update on Airport Improvement Project 41:

AIP 41—Grant Total: \$1,619,802.00; Runway 6 Safety Area Improvements, 6-24 Construction Mitigation, & Perimeter Security Road
Grant Balance: \$490,335.00

Update on Airport Improvement Project 42:

AIP 42—Grant Total: \$190,774.00; Runway Safety Area Improvements—Localizer, PAPI and MALSR Modification
Grant Balance: \$0

Update on Airport Improvement Project 43:

AIP 41—Grant Total: \$1,764,726.00; Columbus GA Mitigate Runway 6/24 Obstructions—Phase 4; Columbus GA Rehabilitate Passenger Terminal (Design & Bid), Columbus GA Perimeter Security Road (Design)
Grant Balance: \$1,760,190.00

Cash flow for the operating account was negative for the month due to the payment of a large AIP invoice for which we had not received reimbursement and a large transfer to cash reserves for future projects. (See the Cash Flow Summary for more information.)

The PFC account had a balance of \$689,469 and the cash reserves account had a balance of \$1,792,673.00 at the end of December.

FLIGHTWAYS COLUMBUS

Ms. Michele Renfroe provided the following update.

- **Volume Report:**

We pumped a little over 51,000 gallons of fuel this past December. Our total volume decreased by 12%, year over year. We had a small decrease in Avgas this year compared to last year. There was a significant decrease in Government training traffic for Fort Benning. The Airline uplifts increased moderately. Retail Jet decreased moderately home base Jet increased due to having a new customer. We had a significant number of bad weather days with rain and low ceilings during the month.

- **Revenue & Profit Report:**

Our profits for the month were over \$21,000.00. Compared to last year, our revenue decreased slightly, and our profits decreased significantly. Our profit margin was down by 35% for the month. This decrease in profitability was due to not having as many justice flights year over year and also an increase in employees with uniform cost over the whole department.

- **Employees of the Month:**

All Flightways staff were super star employees for the month of November and December. Comments were positive saying staff were very friendly, helpful, job well done, great hospitality and Model FBO that others should strive to be like.

- **Justice Customer Update:**

Justice flights with Classic Air Charter returned to Columbus on 12/20/18. 7 flights arrived during the month of December either taking fuel or paying for ground handling services. CAC is averaging 3 to 4 flights per week with the average being the MD 80 aircraft. Out of the 7 flights arriving 5 received 7,750 gallons.

MAINTENANCE

Mr. Eric Trivett provided the following update.

HVAC

Two HVAC systems are scheduled to be replaced within the next couple of weeks that serve the east-side area of the terminal which includes the baggage claim area and the check point waiting area.

Staffing

We were able to onboard two new employees this month. We would like to welcome Cameron Hagan who is our newest Airfield Grass and Maintenance Technician. Also, we would like to welcome Richard Rosado who comes from Flightways as another one of our newest Airfield Grass and Maintenance Technician's.

We are still in the process of recruiting for two more positions. One full-time and one part-time position. A full-time position of Maintenance Technician for the terminal and hangar area and the part-time landscaper for the landside of the terminal.

Work Orders

For the month of January there were 35 work orders were open and 30 were closed.

MARKETING

Ms. Sonya Overton provided the following update.

- On behalf of the Airport Commission and Staff, Christmas Cards were sent out to all of our tenants and vendors. Vendors received a personalized Christmas Cards and Tenants received a Christmas card to warm their hearts with a personalized message and hot chocolate. Digital cards also went out wishing our tenants a Happy New Year.
- As part of the Forward with Focus Campaign we are in discussions with the Muscogee Chamber and East Alabama Chamber concerning Community involvement and support of local community leaders on both sides of the Chattahoochee. We will be working together to obtain travel data in support of Air Service Development for upcoming meetings.
- We now have fundraising items on sale in the terminal and in the Administrative office in support of Relay for Life 2019. Proceeds to benefit ACS and are on sale year-round. We will host a bake sale during the February tenant social at Flightways to also raise funds for ACS.
- This year the Columbus Airport will celebrate its 75th Anniversary of its existence on August 1st 2019. As this is considered the Diamond Anniversary, we are working on strategies and developing a marketing plan to celebrate this momentous occasion to be presented at the next Commission Work Session.
- This year the Columbus Airport will also celebrate its 10th Anniversary of its conception of Flightways Columbus on August 16th. We are working on strategies and developing a marketing plan to celebrate this momentous occasion to be presented at the next Commission Work Session also.
- We will be attending & exhibiting at the Schedulers & Dispatchers Conference next week in San Antonio Texas. We will be promoting Flightways through our exhibit with games & giveaways, taking pictures and streaming live throughout the week-long event.

PROPELLERS

Ms. Clark provided the following update, due to Mr. Ben Kiger working in the restaurant being short on staff this morning.

- Propeller's total sales for the month of December were just over \$5,800.00.
- Compared to December of 2017, food sales increased by 50%, vending sales by 29%, non-alcoholic beverage sales by 7%, and alcoholic beverage sales by 46%. In all, we saw a total increase in sales of 41%.
- The total cost of goods sold for the month was 38%, a 4% decrease from 2017.
- Our net loss for the month was \$3,722.00, which is a 12% improvement from December 2017's loss of \$4,442.00.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Chief Andre' Parker provided the following update.

We will be holding our first Wildlife Management Meeting of the year within the coming weeks. Bird sightings and reports are still down from last year. We have had no coyote sightings but there are signs of their presence. Public Safety personnel will continue to monitor wildlife activities and respond accordingly. Public Safety will also be restructuring or staffing to increase our presence within and around the terminal. We take the security of our airport community and traveling public seriously. Officer Richard Baran is currently perusing his Firefighter Certification at the Columbus Fire & EMS Academy where he is doing well. He still has a way to go and we're proud of his progress.

Mr. Rhodes, Jr. asked if the Tenants would be invited to attend the Wildlife Management Meeting?

Chief Parker confirmed all Tenants would be invited to the meeting.

Mr. Rhodes, Jr. thanked Chief Parker in regards to safety in handling and addressing wildlife at the airport.

OTHER MATTERS

Ms. Clark introduced Ms. Brandy Burkett, the new Human Resources Manager. We are super excited to have her, we are getting her acclimated to the facility, her office, and our needs. She will bring a lot of great things to the table.

Ms. Burkett stated it is great to be part of the staff at Columbus Airport!

Ms. Sonya Hollis went to Ms. Clark to compliment Mr. David Heath, when she was taking down the Christmas decorations, he offered to help her without being solicited. He helped her get all the items down and put away. This displayed a sense of proactiveness teamwork!

Ms. Clark acknowledged three Housekeeping employees, Ms. Lavone Crawford, Ms. Erika Smith, and Mr. David Heath, for their hard work in cleaning the conference room recently. They did a great job! The conference room looks amazing, smells clean, and I appreciate them.

Chief Andre' Parker went to Ms. Clark, for the recent great job of Mr. Aadil Muwakkil, who works the line at Flightways, during the inspection. They had to inspect some areas of the FBO ramp, he stayed late that night, making sure all they needed was taken care of. We will make sure he knows that he was recognized.

Councilor John House, Columbus Consolidated Government, Council District 10 At-Large, and Mr. David Stieghan, U. S. Army Infantry School, provided a presentation and handout regarding a Proposal for Corporal Eugene Bullard for the Columbus Airport to all Commissioner's and the Airport Director. Councilor House stated this is not an attempt to get a decision today, just putting out an idea for your consideration. Mr. Stieghan brought this up to Councilor House, if the Columbus Airport might consider renaming to include Corporal Bullard's name. Corporal Bullard was a born, native of Columbus, Georgia, and went to school in Columbus, Georgia. He was the first African American Combat Airplane Pilot. The seventh of ten children, born to Corporal William Bullard, and Ms. Josephine Thomas. His father's ancestors had been enslaved in Haiti by French refugees who later fled during the Haitian Revolution, which abolished slavery. His father's ancestors left the Caribbean for the United States and took refuge with the Native Americans of the Creek tribe. Corporal Eugene Bullard was a student at the Twenty-eighth Street School from 1901 to 1906. As a teenager, he stowed away on the German freighter Marta Russ, hoping to escape racial discrimination. He later said that he witnessed his father's narrow escape from lynching. Corporal Bullard arrived at Aberdeen and first made his way to Glasgow. In London, he boxed and performed slapstick in the Freedman Pickaninnies, an African-American troupe. On a visit to Paris, he decided to settle in France. He boxed in Paris and also working in a music hall. World War I began in August 1914, and on October 19, 1914, Bullard enlisted and was assigned to the 3rd Marching Regiment of the Foreign Legion, as foreign volunteers were allowed on to serve in the French Foreign Legion, By 1915, Bullard was a machine gunner and saw combat on the Somme front in Picardy... On July 13, he joined the 2nd Marching Regiment of the 1st Foreign Regiment and also served with the 170th French Infantry Regiment ... The 170th had a reputation of crack troops, being nicknamed Les Hironnelles de la Mort, or The Swallows of Death. Bullard opted to serve in the 170th Infantry Regiment and the 170 military insignia is displayed on his uniform collar. In the beginning of 1916, the 170th Infantry ... was sent to Verdun. During his convalescence, Bullard was cited for acts of valor at the orders of the regiment on July 3, 1917, and was awarded the Croix de guerre. While serving with the 170th Infantry, Bullard was seriously wounded in action in march 1916 at the Battle of Verdun. He and his wife had two daughters. After recovering, he volunteers on October 2, 1916 for the French Air Service as an air gunner. He was accepted and underwent training at the Aerial Gunnery School in Cazaux, Gironde. Following this, he went through his initial flight training at Chateauroux and Avord, and received pilot's license number 6950 from the Aero-Club de France on May 5, 1917. Like many other American aviators, Bullard hoped to join the famous squadron Espadrilled America nine N. 124, the Lafayette Escadrille, but after

enrolling 38 American pilots in the spring and summer of 1916, it stopped accepting applicants. After further training at Avord, Bullard joined 269 American aviators at the Lafayette Flying Marine Corps on November 15, 1916, which were a designation rather than a unit. American volunteers flew with the French pilots in different pursuit and bomber/reconnaissance aero squadrons on the Western Front. Edmund L. Gros, who facilitates in the incorporation of American pilots in the French Air Service, listed in the October 1917 issue of Flying an official publication of the Aero Club of America, Bullard's name is on the member roster of the Lafayette Flying Corps. On June 28, 1917, Bullard was promoted to corporal. On August 27, he was assigned to Escadrille N. 93, based at Beuzee-sur-Aire south of Verdun, while he staying until September 13. The squadron was equipped with Nieuport and Spade aircraft that displayed a flying stork as the squadron insignia. Bullard's service record also includes Squadron N.85, September 13, 1917 – November 11, 1917, which had a bull insignia. He took part in over twenty combat missions, and he is sometimes credited with shooting down one or two German aircraft. However, the French authorities could not confirm Bullard's victories. For his World War I service, the French government awarded Bullard the Croix de guerre, Medaille militaire, Croix du combattant volontaire 1914-1918, and Medaille de Verdun, along with several others. When the United States entered the war, the United States Army Air Service, convened a medical board to recruit Americans serving in the Lafayette Flying Corps for the Air Service of the American Expeditionary Forces. Bullard went through the medical examination, but he was not accepted, due to his skin color. He served beyond the Armistice, not being discharged. Bullard returned again to Paris. Bullard then worked as a drummer and a nightclub manager, eventually owning his own night club. In 1923, he married Ms. Marcelle Straumann, from a wealthy family. When World War II began in September 1939, Bullard, who also spoke German, agreed to a request from the French government to spy on the German citizens who still frequented his nightclub. He also owned Bullard's Athletic Club in Paris. He was wounded, spent trying to recover from a wound in New York, never fully recovering from his wound. Went to Spain and in July 1940, he returned to the United States. He was a perfume salesman, a security guard, an interpreter, but a back injury severely restricted him. In 1945 returned to Paris, his nightclub had been destroyed during the war. He received a financial settlement from the French government and was able to buy an apartment in Harlem, New York City. His final job was an elevator operator at the Rockefeller City. On December 22, 1959 he was interviewed on NBC's Today Show, which he wore his elevator uniform during the interview. On October 13, 1961, Corporal Eugene Bullard died of stomach cancer, was buried with full military honors in his lionnaire's uniform in the cemetery of the Federation of French War Veterans in Flushing, New York. He is known quite well in France with many documentaries and honors! In the United States a statue will be placed later this year in Warner Robbins, Georgia. The Georgia Military Hall of Fame and the Columbus Airport, in the main stream it has taken a long time. There was a historical marker on Talbotton Road, close to Jordan City here in Columbus, has been removed due to road repairs.

Mr. Forsberg asked if he knew if the marker would be returned.

Mr. Stieghan inquired with the city and was told that it would be returned once the road construction has been completed.

Ms. Marilyn House, wife of Councilor John House was in attendance and passed out lapel pins to everyone, honoring Corporal Eugene Bullard, from Georgia. There is and has been a plaque honoring Corporal Bullard in the Columbus Airport Terminal on the first floor for years.

Mr. Forsberg, we want to be thoughtful, all eyes open, opened minded with the condensed presentation, is there anything we should be aware of as it relates to him and his history on the negative side that we need to know before we consider something as monumental and large as name rights or something else?

Mr. Stieghan said Corporal Bullard was proud to be a Georgian, American, Boxer, Firefighter, and proud to live and fight in France as his father had taught him, always proud and told people that he was from Columbus, Georgia. Whether people leave or returns here it is irrelevant, they are still famous and important, people in the Chattahoochee Valley will remember him.

Mr. Forsberg agrees totally, not having done research himself, were there any crimes or any morale issues, or anything in his history that would be like wish we knew that before we put his name out there.

Mr. Stieghan the only thing that they have was in 1935, he had an accusation with a French officer in a bar, that all fell away. If you read or look enough there was justification to not let him be in the army air service, the real deal was that he was black. There is a dispute, some people say he shot down two German aircraft but, those two aircraft were landed behind German lines. In World War I, you had to take a piece of the airplane back, cause when you landed it and brought it back, or someone had to see it. The French never declared that he did, the plaque downstairs says he did, it depends on who is writing the story. There was no dispute he flew the two combat planes, and he fought on the ground as well, he was the first African American combat pilot.

Mr. Forsberg stated there is nothing glaring, and thanked Mr. Stieghan for the clearing and answering all the questions.

Mr. Rhodes, Jr. thanked Councilor House and Mr. Stieghan for providing the presentation and vital information on Corporal Bullard.

Mr. John Walden, III would like Mr. Larry Derby to attend an upcoming meeting, to talk to about his back ground, as his name was on the registry and removed to fill a vacancy on the Columbus Airport Commission for 2019. He would like Mr. Derby to be considered in an upcoming forth coming seat on the Commission.

Mr. Walden, III asked before the Commission goes into closed session if a hand full of tenants may talk with them privately.

Mr. Rhodes, Jr. said if they would like to talk and address the Commission, they would need to speak up now, step up to the podium, and we will be glad to hear anything you all would like to say.

Mr. Walden, III, asked where was Mr. Don Morgan today?

Mr. Rhodes, Jr. said they are not sure and do not know.

Mr. Walden, III, said okay and that is all for now.

Mr. Martin Flournoy shared that Mr. Richard D. Russell was named after a field at an airport.

Mr. Rhodes, Jr., thanked everyone in attendance, and Councilor House, Mr., Stieghan for attending, sharing the great information, presentation and handouts. It is very important that we are able to have folks in state colors, give reports, tell us what is going on airfield, and bringing things to our attention, thank you all!

Mr. Rhodes, Jr. opened the meeting to the floor, with no further business the meeting was adjourned to closed session to discuss personal matters at 10: 43 A.M.

Motion to go into closed session by Ms. Thomas Forsberg was made: seconded by Mr. James Barker and unanimously approved by the Commission. Ayes: 3 / No: 0

Motion to return to open session Mr. Thomas Forsberg was made: seconded by Mr. James Barker and unanimously approved by the Commission. Ayes: 3 / No: 0

Action was taken by the Commission on the items presented.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11.51 A. M.

APPROVED:

Mary Scarbrough, Secretary

Carl Rhodes, Jr., Chairman