

Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
Michigan Aerospace Foundation, Inc.
September 12, 2007

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Aerospace Foundation, Inc., was held September 12, 2007 in the Willow Run Administration Building, third floor meeting room.

Present:	Dennis Norton – President	Harry Terpstra – Vice-President
	Jane Spires – Director	Rick Austin – Director
	Frank Sinagra – Director	Steve Berner – Director
	James Jackson – Director	Simon Baseley – Director
Absent:	Gary K. Brown – Secretary/Treasurer	Dan Drag – Director
	David Robertson – Director	Jim Dries – Director
Guests	Speed Gant, YAM	Mark Ernst, YAM

I. Call to Order and Introductions

President Dennis Norton called the meeting to order at 4:49 p.m.

II. Review and Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings

Approval of the minutes of the July 10, 2007 Board meeting was deferred due to the absence of Secretary/Treasurer Gary Brown.

III. Officer Reports

A. President Norton reported on a successful meeting with a corporate foundation. He and philanthropic counsel Randy Rosebush are working on a proposal to this foundation. They expect to turn in the proposal shortly, and it will be forwarded to the foundation for consideration at its November, 2007 Board meeting.

B. 1 and 2:

The Finance Report and the 2007-2008 Budget were not discussed due to the absence of Gary Brown.

3:

The Memorandum of Understanding between MAF and YAM that was proposed by YAM received extensive discussion. The Memorandum had been circulated to MAF Board members before the board meeting, and an e-mail vote taken on accepting or rejecting the Memorandum. The MAF directors had voted electronically 8-0 (4 not voting) to reject the new Memorandum. At the Board meeting, after discussion, the directors voted 7-0 (1 abstention) to confirm the e-mail vote and reject the new Memorandum. Vice President Harry Terpstra volunteered to contact YAM to initiate further conversations on such a Memorandum.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Development Committee

1. Director Frank Sinagra reported on the fundraising mailing to members of the YAM. That mailing was sent out in the week of September 2, 2007. Treasurer Brown had reported that over forty responses (with donations) had already been received.
2. Sinagra also reported on plans for MAF attendance at the 2008 Great Lakes International Aviation Conference (to be held Feb. 1-2, 2008 at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.) Two booths have been rented by the combination of MAF, YAM, and the Willow Run Airport (listed in the conference program as “Willow Run Partners in Aviation”). The \$1,800 cost of the booths is being split three ways, and the combined organizations are also sponsoring a cocktail reception at the conference. The conference registration fee also permits a sponsor to present a seminar. Mark Ernst (YAM) suggested a 30-minute presentation he has prepared on the history of Willow Run Airport.

B. Capital Campaign

1. No new information was available on the effort underway to obtain a Federal appropriation for Museum reconstruction.
2. Director Rick Austin reported that letter requests to two Michigan foundations (the Americana Foundation and the DeRoy Testamentary Foundation) were unsuccessful.
3. In addition to contacts with the corporate foundation mentioned above, philanthropic counsel Randy Rosebush has had conversations with a private foundation about a major donation. Rosebush is optimistic for the outcome of these discussions.
4. Norton and Austin had a fruitful meeting with Michigan State Senator Raymond Basham, who volunteered his assistance in obtaining State funding (through the Michigan Aeronautics Commission and MDOT) for the \$2.9 million needed to construct a ramp/taxiway between airport runways and the new museum complex.

C. Facilities

1. President Norton reported on the status of the Schoolhouse renovation work. Two bids for the construction work on the Schoolhouse were received, both considerably higher than expected. Norton has worked with the lower of the two bidders to trim expenses, but the renovation costs are still higher than the amount budgeted for this work. After considerable discussion on options, alternatives, and availability of Foundation resources, a motion was made to increase the Schoolhouse renovation budget from \$628,000 to \$988,000. The latter amount will not include site work that is pertinent to the entire museum campus. This motion was approved unanimously. (It is expected that renovation work will be completed by May of 2008.)
2. The Board also voted unanimously to authorize President Norton to sign a Schoolhouse reconstruction contract with the low bidder, with the amount not to exceed \$440,000.
3. A brief report was given on work being undertaken by Andy Bro and the Prentice Group. Vice President Harry Terpstra will attend

upcoming meetings with YAM officers, URS, and the Prentice Group, and will report to the Board on those discussions.

V. Organizational Issues

A. Chairman of the Board

President Norton noted the need to split the leadership duties of MAF, and proposed appointment of a Chairman of the Board. Norton stepped down as Chairman, but indicated he would retain his position as President. He recommended appointing Board member Steve Berner as Chairman. A motion to this effect was unanimously approved by vote of the Board. Berner will begin his duties as Chairman immediately, and will chair the November Board meeting.

VI. New Business -- None reported

VII. Old Business --None reported

VIII. Tabled from prior Meetings – Nothing reported

IX. Good of the Order – Nothing reported

X. For the future

A. Calendar: Board meetings: Nov. 13; Jan. 8; March 11

B. Website meeting: time to be determined

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.