



## MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

June 27, 2017

TCWS Pavilion

Meeting Called to Order at 1:30PM by President Jack Hilbert.

22 Members and 2 Guests Present

### Agenda Items:

#### I. 50/50 Drawing

- a. \$13.00 won by Ed Smith and generously donated back to the Club. Thanks Ed.
- b. \$25.00 total to TCWS.

#### 2. Candidate presented for Membership

- a. Erica Minnich
  - i. Sponsored by Jack Hilbert.
  - ii. Unanimously approved by the Membership.

#### 3. Treasurer's Report

- a. Dennis presented the May and June Treasurer's Reports.
- b. Motion to accept Treasurer's Reports as read by Bill O'Neill
  - i. Seconded by Dale Davis.
  - ii. Approved by the Membership.

#### 4. Field/Flying Safety Issues

##### a. Spectator Fence Review

i. After much discussion and a lot of information from Ed Koch on the BSN Sports fencing used by Berks Aero Modelers, for approximately \$500, the Watts Up Group and Fence Committee, including Steve, Kyle, Dennis, and Cliff, will be checking into the Spectator Fencing.

##### b. Fuel Overflow Bottles

i. Please use the fuel overflow bottles provided by Cliff at all the airplane stands so there will be no more burned grass from fuel spillage. Thanks Cliff.

##### c. Flying With a Spotter

i. Within the past 10 days there have been 2 incidents at the field involving full size planes, pilot aborted landings, and RC activity. In the first incident, neither the RC pilot or his 2 spotters saw or heard the full-size plane and did not see the runway lights on. The full-size plane was forced to abort his landing.

ii. The 2<sup>nd</sup> incident involved 2 RC pilots flying without a non-flying spotter.

iii. Members MUST have a spotter. One spotter can spot for 5 planes. This issue is in our Field Safety Rules. Members have already read and signed acknowledgement of these rules along with the potential consequences for not following them.

iv. This runway is considered a private airport so anyone wanting to land here is supposed to call first. Eric Engen, the BMA Chief Pilot and Airport Manager, tells pilots wanting to land that there is potential RC activity on the runway and if possible, they should do a fly by. Keep in mind if one of the 2 planes parked on the pad are gone, they will be returning soon.

v. George Bond added that pilots are not required to turn on landing lights during daylight hours. Nor are they required to do a courtesy fly by before making their final approach. This is exactly why Eric Engen makes incoming pilots aware of the potential for RC activity.

##### d. Field Safety Rules Being Amended

i. Field Safety Rules, amended as of July 1, 2017, will be sent out to members this coming week. They need to be signed and returned to Dennis Sell or dropped off at the field and put in the cash box in the plastic shed – asap.

#### Old Business

##### 1. BMA Site Update

##### a. Canopy Completion

- i. Canopy completed on schedule and looks GREAT.
- b. Privacy Fence with TCWS sign
  - i. Fencing purchased, painted, and installed, with sign from Colasanti Printworks. Gate still needs to be installed. Thanks to Zack and Matt Hilbert for their efforts. Looks GREAT.
- c. New Parking Plan
  - i. Until the new grass is in, parking will be on a radius, following the line between our new grass and the existing grass. Additional parking is on the north side of the airfield, along Mountain View Road – as we initially did when we first started flying at BMA. And as always, BMA Parking Permits must be displayed.
- d. Electric Issue
  - i. We have a resolution with BMA. Met Ed has assigned a design engineer, but he is busy with some higher priority projects and has not had time to meet with Jack to discuss our needs and what Met Ed can do for us. In the interim the pilots have made do with portable generators. We estimated our cost at between \$600-1,500. Thanks to Kyle's Father-in-Law's input we now have a better estimate at \$3-4,000. It appears permanent electric service from Met Ed may be put on the back burner for now. In the interim, Kyle will recheck the numbers, and Steve and the Watts Up Group will be looking into inverter generators to run lights in the shed and charge batteries. Ed B. will be assisting thru his contact with a power equipment supplier.
- e. BMA New Hangar Update
  - i. BMA is moving ahead with their new hangar. They are now having contractors come and look at the site and then make their bids on the project.
  - ii. Eventually we will be moving our first pad down the runway to the east and adding (4) more pads at the far east end to give pilots an option to mitigate the perceived impact of the new hangar.

## 2. Noise Level Plan Update

- a. Noise levels were taken by Jack at (4) different locations around the flying field with up to (5) gas/glow planes in the air at one time. With the help of Bill O'Neill, Dennis Sell, Ed Brazina, John Messersmith, and Matt Hilbert we were able to fly (5) planes at once while keeping within the noise limits. Jack will send results to the AMA and the Township.

## 3. Float Flying Activity Update

- a. George Bond reminded anyone wanting to fly at the pond to get some boots due to soft mud there up to your ankles.

b. Up to (5) pilots may fly at once at the pond, just as at the runway, BUT NOT SIMULTANEOUSLY. A maximum of (5) planes, regardless of where they are flying is the limit in the air at any one time. A separate spotter at the pond is needed if there are pilots and a spotter at the grass runway pilot stations as well.

#### 4. Watts Up Update

a. We have a rule regarding gas engine size being no larger than 62 cc but no limit on plane size. Also, no limit on electric motor size other than for EDF aircraft.

b. Steve and Kyle, and Ed Brazina, along with Watts Up, have been tasked with defining a new criterion for engine, wingspan, gas vs electric, etc. comparisons and limitations to allow for larger planes while keeping within the cc sizes and DBA noise limits.

#### 5. AMA Site Improvement Grant Update

a. We received a \$1300 Grant from AMA.

i. Within 6 months TCWS needs to send AMA a report how we spent the money.

#### 6. TCWS/BMA Events Update

a. May 7, 2017 Event with Pathfinders Group at BMA

i. Poor turnout due to inclement weather, but thanks to Jeff Shriver, Dale Davis, Matt, Zack, and Grayson Hilbert, Steve and Kyle King, Cliff Nash, Dennis Sell, and CJ Sasso we had a strong TCWS representation. The Pathfinders were kind enough to make a \$125.00 donation to TCWS for our efforts.

b. June 12, 2017 Pre-Teen Camping Event at BMA

i. Good turnout. While Jack helped make Delta Darts with the kids, Bill O'Neill did his magic – working with the TCWS trainer and buddy box, giving many students a chance to fly an RC plane.

#### New Business

1. Bill O'Neill had previously suggested TCWS have some type of Open House for local clubs and neighbors to “meet and greet” in July or August.

a. Motion was made by Bill to have this event, seconded by Matt and approved by the Membership.

i. Bill volunteered to coordinate this event.

#### Upcoming Local Events

1. Susquehanna Valley Modelers - Annual Fun Fly - July 8, 2017.

2. Annual TCWS Picnic - BMA Site - September 17, 2017.

- i. Still looking for a coordinator to step up and handle the picnic.

#### Next Meeting

1. July 16, 2017 at the TCWS Pavilion.

#### Close Meeting

1. Motion to adjourn meeting made by Ed Koch at 2:30PM.

- a. Seconded by Ed Smith.

- b. Unanimously approved by the Membership.

Respectfully submitted,

Nanci Messersmith, TCWS Secretary