

## March 2017 Meeting Minutes – Northwest Skyraiders (Model Airplane Club)

Meeting held March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017 7:00 PM at Denny's at 1246 North Central Ave, Kent, WA.

Ten members were present including:

- Mike Potter – President
- Mike Haverly – Vice-President
- Steve Holt – Secretary/Treasurer
- Dave Gardner – Safety Officer
- Jeff Byers
- Bob Einhaus
- Steve Helmick
- Ben Jones
- John Knoppi
- Kris Millard

Mike Potter called the meeting to order at 8:00. Mike asked for the Secretary / Treasurer's report. Steve Holt noted the balances in the savings and checking accounts for the club. During the month, Steve paid for the annual NWSR AMA Club #330 Charter renewal, insurance for the Chehalis – Centralia flying site and the license tab renewal for the large trailer for the carrier deck. Steve noted that 24 members had paid their dues as of the March meeting. Two new or returning members included Brian Mace and Jeff Byers. Also, the club received a signed letter of recommendation from the Auburn Airport Management Group for the club to use as it seeks a new flying field this spring.

Dave Gardner has published a first version of the club flying, contest, fun fly and swap meet schedule for the year and distributed it to the broad distribution list.

Bob Einhaus noted that McMinnville held a swap meet March 11<sup>th</sup>, Grants Pass will be on March 18<sup>th</sup>, and Portland on April 7<sup>th</sup>. The Northwest Skyraiders occupied a booth at the Northwest Aviation Conference and Airshow at the Puyallup Fairgrounds on February 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> where there were flight demonstrations for Control Line aircraft. SAM 8 and Nick Stratis also had booths at the show.

Relative to the topic of identifying and securing a new flying site for next year's flying season, Mike led a discussion.

**Auburn Airport** – We received the letter of recommendation from Kasey Maiorca from the management group at the airport, but the possibility of flying there in 2017 does not look promising.

**Auburn Buddhist Temple at 37<sup>th</sup> and Auburn Way** - Mike Potter has provided a copy of the letter of recommendation to the leadership council at the prospective Buddhist Temple site. Mike is expecting to hear back from the council in the next week or so as to the viability of an agreement to fly at this site.

**7215 S. 196<sup>th</sup> Street Superfund Site** - Dave Gardner received a response from the EPA site coordinator, Tony Stillman at AMA headquarters noting that the possibility of flying at this site will not be feasible due to a property ownership dispute that has not been resolved. It may be an option in the future.

**Renton site discussions** – Mike Haverly, Dave Gardner and Steve Holt met with Renton City Councilman, Randy Corman on Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. Randy has been on the Renton City Council continuously since 1994 and has served as the council president in the past. He helped us understand the roles of the city council

and the parks department advisory council that sets rules for the city parks. The club will be following up with Randy Corman and other city officials to see if a suitable site can be identified. Randy provided a lead on a flat four acre site along the May Creek Park that is owned by the city of Newcastle.

**Newcastle May creek Park Site along SE 95<sup>th</sup> Way** – Mike Haverly, Dave and Steve walked the proposed site on SE 95<sup>th</sup> Way, Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup> and even though there has been a lot of rain in the last month, the site was fairly clear of water. It is large and almost flat, has no trees on the flying field and is accessible by a locked gate from SE 95<sup>th</sup> Way.

Dave and Steve met with Rich Crispo, the Mayor of Newcastle on Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup> and discussed the possibility of using the May Creek Park site or if other sites were available in Newcastle. Rich noted that that site is part of a 23 acre parcel of land owned by Newcastle and that the large flat site was created when Highway 405 was built many years ago. And, when Coal Creek Parkway/Duvall Street was widened, additional soil was deposited there and graded smooth.

Rich Crispo provided the name of the Newcastle Acting Community Development Director, Thara Johnson and encouraged the group to contact the city offices, ask to be added to the city council agenda and present a proposal to the seven council members for a vote. The city council meetings are held every first and third Tuesday evening at 7PM in the city offices in Newcastle. Steve has put together a handout for when the club meets with the Newcastle City Council in the next week. Rich did not believe the fact that nobody in the club resides in Newcastle would be a significant hindrance since the NWSR club has members across the Puget Sound.

**Orting Lions Park** – Jeff Byers suggested the Lions Park in Orting as a possible flying site as some people currently have been seen using the park for various flying activities. He was encouraged to talk to the park management and follow up.

**Riverwalk Park in Kent** – Mike Potter will be talking to the Kent Parks and Recreation folks to inquire as to the possibility of flying at the site.

The club was encouraged to keep looking for a site to pursue for next year.

Mike Potter asked for any new business. No other business was addressed.

Mike adjourned the meeting until next month. The next meeting will be held on April 11<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month).

Steve Holt

Northwest Skyriders Secretary/Treasurer

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