

The General Aviation Committee met on February 17th. The first order of business was the introduction of Eric Vender Stel of Grand Rapids who volunteered to serve on the committee. Eric is retired from the Gerald R. Ford airport as the airfield maintenance supervisor. The committee accepted his application unanimously.

Steve Zelle of the Michigan Private Airport Owners Association presented the committee with a status report on the recreational use statute to protect private airstrip owners from liability under the recreational trespass act. Mr. Zelle anticipated that the bill would soon be introduced. (The bill was introduced on Feb. 25).

Brad Frederick reported that the equipment for mowing and maintaining North Fox airport was still at Selfridge Air Base waiting for approval to transport to the island. He also reported that a meeting was scheduled with MDNR to discuss possible additional development of the island for recreational uses and to further discuss other possible areas for recreational airport development.

Pete reported possible opportunities to work with the Michigan Science Teachers Association re. introducing aviation into science curriculums and encouraged all to look for opportunities to link local airports with schools.

Mark Perry announced a Women in Aviation open house in Ann Arbor in March. Mark will also be following up with two individuals who indicated an interest in heading up an effort to form a Michigan Pilots Association. This is in response to comments made in response to the questionnaire circulated at the Great Lakes Aviation Conference by the Committee.

Rick Hammond reported that the Commission would be considering a recommendation to require reporting the location of and marking meteorological evaluation towers in Michigan as recommended by the National Transportation Safety Board. (The Commission approved the recommendation at a special meeting held the next day).