EAA Meeting Minutes 4/17/16

President Mark Scott called the meeting to order at 10:09. Other officers present were Steve Fraas, Vice President; Bill Jagoda, Treasurer and Rick Beebe, Secretary. There were 16 attendees. No visitors although we're happy to see Chris O'Connor back after a long absence.

Some discussion about membership. Don't forget your dues. They were due January 1.

Tech Counselors: Mark Scott talked about Stratux which is a inexpensive DIY ADS-B receiver.

Directors Report: Rick Beebe reports EAA had a successful week at Sun 'n Fun. Board meeting is at the end of this month so more news from the board next week.

Young Eagles: Brian Rechtiene gave us an update on the Youth Protection program. They've made it easier and less intrusive. It's mandatory after May 1 for Young Eagle pilots.

First Young Eagle rally is June 11. Cathy Batista of Meriden is passing the word among local schools, tying advertising for the Meriden Fly-in and the Young Eagle rallies. Our Fall one will be the weekend after the Fly-In. They would like to raffle off some Young Eagle rides during the Fly-In as well. We're up to 3 Young Eagles this year.

Chapters 27, 166 and 1310 combined our YE credits to sponsor Anna Schmidt for the Air Academy. She's a sophmore at the school Steve Socolosky teaches at. She's leading their RV-12 build and is very excited about this opportunity.

Teens to Flight: The lower fuselage was set up in the lobby. It looks really good! There are 9 students in the program and 4 or 5 show up every working session. One of them is a senior and laments missing out on the second year of building.

We received the notice from the IRS that we are now a 501(c)(3) charity which means that all donations are now tax deductible. Keep that in mine as we look for more support for the Teens to Flight build! Chapter 1443 in Oxford is folding. They will be donating a Champ which Mark Scott will sell. The proceeds will go to the build project.

Steve Socolosky's RV-12 project is moving along. Their wing kits will arrive tomorrow. He's got 17 kids working on the project.

Holiday Dinner: Jim Simmons is recommending the Manor Inn in Milldale. The price seems reasonable and there's a good selection of food and the price is comparable with the Villa Capri. Jim is going to eat there next month. We voted to go there pending Jim's sampling the fare.

Aviation Commission: They've hired a company called Stantec to update the airport master plan. The airport is doing well. Because they have the lowest fuel prices in Connecticut fuel sales have doubled. They're talking about doubling the size of the fuel tank to 12,000 gallons. Steve Fraas will talk to the aviation commission about buying an air conditioner for the meeting room. Installation of a large number of solar panels will begin at the south end of the airport next month.

Boy Scout Merit Badge. There's a scout troop interested in doing the aviation merit badge program again in October. Mark will lead that effort.

Airport Improvement projects: Mark is talking to Contance about an airport sign. Maybe we can help with grass cutting too.

Other business:

Mark was contacted by the Hanover school who wants to bring their students to see the airport and the build project.

Success Academy is also interested. They're an alternate school that focuses on trades.

Chapter picnic in September. We would like to emphasize showing planes and giving rides.

Brian Rechtiene asks you to save your aviation magazines instead of throwing them out. He hands them out when he gives Young Eagles talks.

Steve Socolosky talked about Rhinebeck Aerodrome. They'll be flying their Spirit of St Louis replica on May 31. They're also going to do an EAA fly-in the weekend after AirVenture. They are bringing several airplanes to AirVenture for display.

Presentation: Mark Scott gave a very interesting presentation on wind tunnels. He's spent the past couple of months at NASA Ames working in their wind tunnel. It's the largest wind tunnel in the world. It has two test areas. One is 40 feet tall and 80 feet wide and can create winds up to 300mph. The other is 80 feet tall and 120 feet wide and can create 110kt wind.

--Rick Beebe, Secretary