

Valley Fliers May Board Meeting

Meeting Called to Order at: 6:30

Present: Morrow, Wildstone, Hewitt, Vader, plus 8 members and one potential member.

Excused Absent: DeWitt, Smith

Approval of April Minutes

Chris moved to accept as written. Kelsey seconded. The motion passed unanimously

Maintenance Officer's Report

The airplanes are in pretty good shape right now, though that doesn't seem true looking at schedule master. 117 has a broken voltage regulator, and it is backordered from Aircraft Spruce and Specialties. Chris doesn't have time to hunt for local source. A member volunteered to help find one. 9MA is down with instrumentation issues. 63S is okay, except for the continuing turn coordinator problems which seem to be due to wiring issues. 727 is fine. The landing light was due to a missing screw. He had to buy a replacement light to get the screw. Other than those issues the fleet is fine. Question from the floor: are 63S's mags really over 700 hours? Answer: yes, and so are 9MA's. 9MA mags will likely be rebuilt by someone on field at Auburn, but that is a two-day-downtime job. Follow-up Question: should we just rebuild 63S's motor instead of just its mags? Answer: that is an Alan question. Several people spoke in favor of getting it rebuilt soon. Comment from the floor: 727 had rough-running issues over the last few days. Chris said he would monitor it. Chris says we can start shopping for 63S engines. Sean says he would prefer to do that engine change our our schedule, rather than the engine's schedule. Sean asked if the compressions are okay on 63S? Chris said yes. Chris would be in favor of selling the plane and buying something else instead of upgrading its avionics. He thinks it would be best to sell it now before we put more money into it. There was a spirited discussion of the merits of keeping it or replacing it. Sean asked why we bought the 177? Commenter from the floor noted that 172s were really expensive when we needed to buy one. Chris suggests based on hours flown the club members don't like flying the Cherokee. Commenter from the floor suggests there is value in having 63S being online and available. Kelsey asked if we got a more well liked plane wouldn't that be a benefit to the club. Sean whether if we upgraded 63S we would get more interest in it? Commenter from the floor suggested the issue with 63S is a lack of comfort, not capability. Sean suggests we can continue this discussion in the future. He says we may need to send out a google survey to see what the club members want. Kelsey will look at used airplane prices. Kelsey asked whether if we sell we would not get much for the plane because of the age of the engine? The sense of the room is that it may not be hurt too much. Several people note we have had to invest quite a bit every time we purchase a new plane. Kelsey asks whether we should plan to replace planes after some set period of ownership. Chris asked members to go easy on the brakes.

Treasurer's Report

Alan was absent, so Sean will send out his reports when he receives them .

Safety Officer's Report

Geoff was absent, so no report.

New Business

Potential New Member Noah Green introduced himself. He was a student of Neel Smith's. He has been an architect for 8 years, but now helps build skyscrapers. He flies for fun. He would be buying Mike Belknap's share. Kelsey moved to accept him as a member, Chris seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Question from the floor: do we still have a waitlist? Yes, we have 11 people or so on it.

Old Business

Insurance Coverage

Sean gave information to two people, one he gave all the info and didn't get back to us. He wasn't able to connect with the other.

Free flight hour won by: Scott Glassmyer

Meeting adjourned at: 7:14

Next Meetings: The next board meeting will be held Wednesday, June 11th, with food available at 6:00 pm and business beginning at 6:30 also at Trotters.