



STETSON FLYERS



Minutes of February 25, 2026, Club Meeting Meeting held at the Pat Clark Community Centre, 4355 Halmont Drive, Ottawa

1. John Weekes (Stetson President) chaired and called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.
2. Twenty-five club members attended the club meeting.
3. **Motion to approve the Minutes of Nov 25, 2025**, were accepted as submitted.
Moved by Al Ric and seconded by Hal MacDonald.
Motion carried unanimously.
4. **New members**: There were no new members present at the meeting.
5. **Membership Report: (Andy Leu)**:
 - a. The club has had about 65 renewals to date which is normal for this time of year.
6. **Webmaster Report: (Gary Puppa)**:
 - a. The website is running as normal. Flight School portal to be operational Feb 26.
7. **Field Coordinator Report: (Charlie Colwell)**:
 - a. The frigid field is operational for flights. Please keep heater clear of combustibles and remember to turn it off when you leave.
8. **CFI Report: (Nigel Chippindale)**:
 - a. Check into the Website to register for flight school.
 - b. Ground School is scheduled for Tuesday April 14th and flight school to start at the field in early May. Check the Stetson Website for dates.
 - c. Flight school will operate similar to previous years. There may be special workshops on specific topics of interest like programming AS3x. Stay tuned.
9. **Events Report: (John Weekes for Jeff Nidd)**:
 - a. The next scheduled event is the winter fun fly scheduled for March 7, 2026
10. **Monthly Financial Report: (Andy Leu)**:
 - a. Report to be provided at next meeting.
11. **New Business**:
 - A) Stetson's 50th Anniversary and Zone G fun Fly**
The 50th anniversary fun fly is still planned to be celebrated in style by hosting the Zone G fun fly in 2026. Please consider volunteering for the organizing committee by contacting John Weekes or Jeff Nidd directly.
 - B) Flying Field Status Update**
 - a) John Weekes is to be the sole point of contact. Please do not speak with anyone (especially the media) related to the field purchase to avoid annoying the

- City. It is essential that the club remains in the Cities good graces. The Executive has been speaking with individual members and strategizing to develop our approach with the City. John update us at the next club meeting.
- b) A number of weeks ago, John Weekes (on behalf of the club) sent an introductory email to the City Manager (Wendy Stephenson) outlining the club history, its contribution to the community etc.
 - c) Since then, John Weekes has communicated a number of times with the City Manager and the City General council related to the purchase of the dump site on which our field resides.
 - d) The deal closed Jan 21, 2026 with a number of details remaining to be finalized between the seller and the City.
 - e) The City representatives noted that they are currently dealing with major aspects of the purchase and asked that we contact them in a month or two to give them a chance to finalize the balance of these issues, at which time they could meet.
 - f) We anticipate that a lease for the upcoming year will be put in place.
 - g) The City has confirmed we have the field until Jan 21, 2027 unless alternate arrangements are made. At that time, all Stetson infrastructure would have to have been removed (fencing, shed, picnic tables, shelters etc).
 - h) Options: 1) Start looking for an alternate field. 2) Approach City to remain at the current field until such a time as the City develops the dump site. At the same time investigate new flying field options.

C) Finding a Replacement Field (Field Search)

- a) This will not be an easy task, will take time, and will need all members help to find a new suitable field with appropriate zoning and neighbours.
- b) We will contact Taggart and Tomlinson to see if they have appropriate land.
- c) Pierre C noted that Real Estate agent Bob Andrews may have land options.
- d) Hal mentioned that previously the land owner of the farmers field to the East of the field might be an option.
- e) It was noted that the brickyard located toward Russel was previously an option.
- f) Should we not find a new field in time, we would need to find a storage location for the Stetson trailer, fencing, picnic tables, and shelters.
- g) The Executive will reach out to the MAAC filed search committee to see if they have some ideas and or advice on how to proceed.
- h) Membership search assistance is essential. Please liaise with an executive member with any ideas prior to taking action.

D) Show and Tell Following the Meeting:

A number of excellent acquisitions, winter builds, and items for sale, were presented.

12. **Next Meeting:** the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday April 28th, 2026, at 7:00 pm at Pat Clark Community Centre, 4355 Halmont Drive.

Motion to adjourn: Moved by Rick Ramalho and seconded by Hal MacDonald.

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting close: 8:25pm.

Chaired By: John Weekes (MAAC 9358L), (President, Stetson Flyers)

Prepared By: Jon Harper (MAAC 17919), (Secretary, Stetson Flyers)