

NEW YORK CITY
TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

Minutes of Commission Meeting

May 8, 2008

Present:

Matthew W. Daus, *Commissioner/Chair*

Elias Arout, *Commissioner*

Harry Giannoulis, *Commissioner*

Edward Gonzales, *Commissioner*

Jeffrey Kay, *Commissioner*

Iris Weinshall, *Commissioner*

Charles Fraser, *General Counsel*

1. The Chair called the meeting to order and reported the following:
 - The Chair reported on the death of Nestor Sulpico. Mr. Sulpico was the 2004 Driver of the Year. A moment of silence was observed to remember Mr. Sulpico. (Tr. p. 3)
 - The Chair reported on the recent medallion sale. The sale was a success, including a record bid of \$1,312,000 for a mini-fleet (corporate) accessible medallion pair. This sale included 87 wheelchair accessible medallions, bringing the total to 231 fleet-wide. Closings will take place over the next few weeks. (Tr. pp. 4-5)
 - The Chair reported the Mayor signed a new law, referred to in the City Council as Intro 256-A. This law codifies TLC best practices with respect to our Adjudications Division. Additionally, we will be exploring the use of video and telephone conferencing for the purposes of protecting consumer and visitor rights; and for the convenience of the industry, the implementation of a pilot program permitting testimony by video conferencing from our Staten Island facility. (Tr. pp. 5-7)
 - The Chair reported on the Taxi Technology Customer Service Enhancements. 10,773 taxis have installed the credit card and taxi technology equipment. 100% compliance is expected by the end of the summer. Tips continue to average 18-20%. The overall compliance rate for this program was 98%. (Tr. pp. 7-8)

- The Chair reported on the Taxi of Tomorrow project. The TLC issued a Request for Information (RFI) requesting information from potential manufacturers in terms of what they believe they can do to build the Taxi of Tomorrow and what interest there is out there by various manufacturers. The TLC has had 20 responses to the RFI, including several from major manufacturers. The TLC will continue to work with the Mayor's Office of Operations, our consultant, and the stakeholders committee on this project. (Tr. p. 8)
 - The Chair reported on Operation Secret Rider, an initiative to enhance customer service for taxi riders. The compliance rate remains in the high 90% range for the Passenger Bill of Rights. However, in response to an increase in unlicensed black cars and liveries operating in the central business district, Operation Street Hail will be given extra resources, to stop this problem before it grows worse. Additionally we will be asking the Police Department and Port Authority to increase their enforcement efforts. More details on increased enforcement efforts will be forthcoming, including a new zero tolerance policy and measures designed to stop hotel employees from taking kickbacks for dispatching for-hire or unlicensed vehicles for hotel guests. (Tr. pp. 9-12)
 - The Chair reported on the Accessible Dispatch Program. The contract was approved by the Comptroller and has been executed by all parties. We expect training to begin in June. A list of accessible dispatch trainers will be posted on the website shortly. (Tr. pp. 12-14)
 - The Chair reported that 1,046 hybrid vehicles are now on the road. (Tr. p. 15)
 - The Chair reported that at the June 12, 2008 Commission meeting, at 9:30 AM, a public hearing will be held on the Toyota Sienna rear entry vehicle specifications for the wheelchair ramp. (Tr. pp. 15-16)
 - The Chair announced the July Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, July 10, 2008. (Tr. p. 16)
2. A motion was made by Commissioner Arout to adopt the minutes of the April 17, 2008 Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Weinshall, and it passed 6-0 (Commissioners Daus, Arout, Giannoulis, Gonzales, Kay, and Weinshall). (Tr. pp. 16-17)
 3. Georgia Steele-Radway, Base Licensing Supervisor, presented the following base station license applications for consideration:

The following (34) bases are being recommended for approval:

NEW (2):

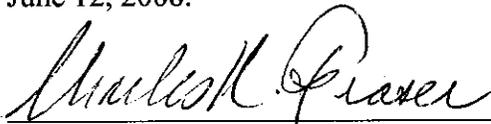
Express Way Metro Cars Inc	B02260
Oceana Car & Limousine	B02245
<u>RENEWAL APPLICATIONS (24):</u>	
18 th Avenue Too Inc.	B01041
1431 Car Service Inc. D/b/a Three Guys Car Service	B00983
Art's Place Inc. D/b/a On Time Car Service	B01653
Bliss 48 Inc.	B01103
B'nei Joseph Car Service	B01039
Easyride Car Service Inc.	B02021
Ecuador Corp.	B01215
Forest Avenue Car Service Inc.	B02028
Haderech Inc	B01351
New Relampago Car Service Corp.	B01487
New Ridgewood Car Service Inc.	B01187
Northside Luxury Car Service Inc.	B01525
Onnuri Limousine Tour Inc	B02015
Promenade Car Lease Inc.	B00859
Puerto Rico Car Service, Inc	B01273
RC Audubon Service, Inc.	B01339
Shaheeda Corp. D/b/a Jamaica Express # 2 Car Service	B01569
TJQ Car Service, Inc. D/b/a Quality Car Service	B00975
Top City Car Service, Inc.	B00925
Tremont Dispatching Corp.	B00030
Tremont Dispatching Corp.	B00401
United Limo. Service Corp.	B01009
V.J. Car & Limousine Service Inc.	B02093
Zion Car Service Inc.	B01029
<u>RENEWAL & OWNERSHIP CHANGE (4):</u>	
Cibao Radio Dispatch Inc.	B01663
Jaffa Car & Limousine Service Inc.	B00160
New Montague Car & Limousine Inc.	B01699
Union Radio Dispatch Inc.	B01285
<u>RENEWAL, OWNERSHIP CHANGE & NAME CHANGE (1):</u>	
First Class Services (To be changed to Flamingo Transportation & Limousine Services, Inc)	B01485
<u>RELOCATION & OWNERSHIP CHANGE (3):</u>	
Masada II Car & Limousine Service, Inc.	B01244
T-D Maintenance Corp. D/b/a Four Ones Car Service	B00008
T-D Maintenance Corp. D/b/a Four Ones Car Service	B00009
<u>Following base is being recommended for denial:</u>	
<u>DENIAL (1):</u>	
Blue Diamond Car Service Inc.	B02020

(Tr. pp. 17-18)

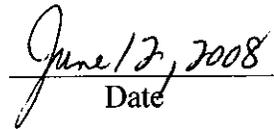
4. A motion was made by Commissioner Arout to approve all of the base station license applications that were recommended for approval. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gonzales and it passed 6-0 (Commissioners Daus, Arout, Giannoulis, Gonzales, Kay, and Weinshall). (Tr. p. 17-18)
5. A motion was made by Commissioner Arout to deny the base station license application that was recommended for denial if it does not comply with requirements within thirty days. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gonzales and it passed 6-0 (Commissioners Daus, Arout, Giannoulis, Gonzales, Kay, and Weinshall). (Tr. p. 17-18)
6. Peter Schenkman, Assistant Commissioner for Safety and Emissions, delivered a presentation on the 25 miles per gallon MPG taxicab rules implementation. (Tr. pp. 18-49)
7. A public hearing was held on the availability of vehicles complying with the minimum miles per gallon for taxicab rules. The following people testified at the hearing: Jason Rosenweig, Liden Maintenance Corp.; Ron Sherman, M.T.B.O.T.; Ted Strauel, Team Systems Corp.; Bob Muldoon, Sierra Club; Malcolm Rattner, Susan Maintenance Corp.; Steven Newman, Wailing Management Inc.; Steve Statharos, City Transport; Fernando Mateo, Federation of New York State Taxi Drivers; Vincent Sapone, L.O.M.T.O.; David Pollack, Committee for Taxi Safety; Warren Prosky; Michael Wanderman, Gothic Yellow; and Bill Lindauer, N.Y.T.W.A. (Tr. pp. 49-108)
8. Commissioner Arout made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Weinshall seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. (Tr. p. 108)

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:15 p.m.

Minutes as approved by the Taxi & Limousine Commission on
June 12, 2008.



Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs / General Counsel



Date