
VEHICLE FOR HIRE COMMISSION

CITY OF EDMONTON VEHICLE FOR HIRE COMMISSION

MEETING NO. 3

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

MEMBERS

H. Naboulsi
L. Lubin
R. Clarke
C. Khehra
M. Fysh
C. Leahey
B. Katz

PRESENT

H. Naboulsi
L. Lubin
R. Clarke
C. Khehra
M. Fysh
C. Leahey
B. Katz

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Cosgrove Acting Secretary
P. Fearon Administrator

Don MacDonald
D. Campbell

Edmonton Transportation
Edmonton Police

1. Call to Order

Chairman called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

Chairman welcomed Bill Katz as a new member on the Commission.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED LUBIN/CLARKE

#1-3-10

The agenda is approved with the following amendments:

Item 8c TLPA be added

Item 8b MacDonald Outdoor Advertising be heard following Item 3

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Lubin, Clarke,
Khehra, Leahey, Fysh, Katz

CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes

MOVED FYSH/LEAHEY

#2-3-10

That the minutes from the regular meeting held on March 10, 2010 be approved.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Lubin, Clarke,
Khehra, Leahey, Fysh, Katz

CARRIED

8. New Business

b. MacDonald Outdoor Advertising

G. MACDONALD

Presentation made requesting approval of 5 items for advertising on taxis.

MOVED LUBIN/FYSH

#3-3-10

Proposal from MacDonald Outdoor Advertising be received as information.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Lubin, Clarke,
Khehra, Leahey, Fysh, Katz

CARRIED

4. Public Involvement

The following individuals requested to speak:

Mr. Husni Al-Khateeb	Mr. Steve Alvanos	Mr. Balraj Manhas
Mr. Karim Ebruhimi	Mr. Zenon Domansky	Mr. Narinder Parman
Mr. Jessie Halabi	Mr. Manjinder Punia	Mr. Jatinder Deol

The above persons made a presentation and answered the Commission's questions.

Summary of comments/concerns raised:

- Concern regarding unlicensed shuttle services operated by hotels businesses and car dealers.
- Increase in insurance rates and fees charged by brokers. Request intervention by City.
- Safety as drivers working long hours to pay high fees.
- Question to police on procedure to get an impounded taxi released.
- Limit number of limos.

- Why DATS vehicle operation does not fall under Vehicle For Hire regulation.
- Request City implement bylaw to allow drivers to have their own insurance.
- Concern over rule of 5 for accessible owners if disagreement arises with broker.
- Request to have people with industry experience represented on Commission.
- Continue to report gypsy limos.
- Concern over businesses continuing to operate after they have been charged for operating without a VFH licence.
- Drivers upset and frustrated as income is controlled but expenses up.
- Drivers Association met with Province and expects some answers in about a week over their concerns with industry.
- Request for central dispatch and eliminate brokers.

Chairman Naboulsi called a recess due to disruptive behaviour during the public portion of the meeting. Upon return he emphasized the requirement for mutual respect during Commission meetings. All concerns will be heard and considered within the Commission's authority.

5. Business Arising

a. United Cabbies Association proposal

FEARON

The written proposal promised by the United Cabbies Association has not been received to date.

b. Regulation Amendments

LUBIN

Operations and Program Committee is progressing and requires some further study. Hope to be completed by May meeting.

MOVED FYSH/KHEHRA

#4-3-10

That the Items 5a and 5b be received as information

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Lubin, Clarke,
Khehra, Leahey, Fysh, Katz

CARRIED

6. Reports from Committees

a. Executive Committee

NABOULSI

March 13, 2010 attended Transportation Options For Seniors all day symposium, the first one in Edmonton to deal with transportation alternatives for seniors and those who can't operate a vehicle and need assistance. I provided information about who we are as a Commission from mandate to mission statement.

March 23, 2010 the Executive met with the President, CEO and Senior Management of Edmonton International Airport Authority for about 1 ½ hours with view to consolidating taxis and limo zones into one zone map while maintaining a 20% differential between taxis and limos. It was apparent that our request was accepted with a positive response. They also indicated that they will open the door about further discussion for other issues and ended the meeting on a very positive note that we will meet again.

March 30, 2010 we facilitated a meeting between the Driver Association and The Yellow Group regarding their insurance issue. The conclusion was unsuccessful but certainly it wasn't a lack of effort on the Commissions part.

We are in the final process to complete our Annual Service Deliverable Report for 2009.

Edmonton Airport Authority had a lock out problem with operators from Airport Cabs and asked companies in Edmonton for help. I would like to thank those who provided service to our visitors and citizens of Edmonton to keep the transportation operation going. I am pleased to report that the services were not disrupted and the management of the airport was very pleased with the service provided.

MOVED NABOULSI/LEAHEY

#5-3-10

That the Executive Committee report be received as information

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Lubin, Clarke,
Khehra, Leahey, Fysh, Katz

CARRIED

b. Operation & Program Committee

LUBIN

Met with Greg MacDonald of MacDonald Outdoor Advertising

MOVED LUBIN/LEAHEY

#6-3-10

That the Operation & Program Committee do further study on the information received from MacDonald Outdoor Advertising.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Lubin, Clarke,
Khehra, Leahey, Fysh, Katz

CARRIED

c. Safety Committee

LEAHEY

Report attached to agenda and attached to the minutes as **Attachment 1**.

MOVED LEAHEY/FYSH

#7-3-10

That the Safety Committee report be received as information

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Lubin, Clarke,
Khehra, Leahey, Fysh, Katz

CARRIED

d. Driver Training Committee

KHEHRA

The Driver Training Committee met on March 19, 2010 and prepared the Notice of Motions for May 12, 2010 attached to the Agenda. These Notices of Motion are attached to the minutes as **Attachment 2**.

MOVED KHEHRA/LUBIN

#8-3-10

That the report from Driver Training be received as information.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Lubin, Clarke,
Khehra, Leahey, Fysh, Katz

CARRIED

7. Administrative Matters

FEARON

a. Vehicle for Hire Commission

i. March 2010 Service Deliverable Report

The March 2010 service deliverable report was attached to the agenda.

Highlights:

- 60 vehicles have been substituted or replaced in the 1st quarter, a higher number than any first quarter in the past 6 years.

ii. 2010 Commission Workplan Report

The 2010 Commission Workplan was attached to the agenda. Reminder that the Commission Governance workshop will be held April 24 at the Derrick Golf & Winter Club (34 Ave & 119 St.) commencing at 8:30 am.

iii. General Matters

1. A report on Safety is due to go to Community Services in mid May. Hope to finalize this week.
2. Public involvement session will be held in late June.
3. March 18, 2010 met with Alberta Infrastructure in Red Deer along with Calgary counterpart regarding buses and charter services. Changes are coming but they were not very transparent.
4. Court decision on Gateway Charters will be on June 17.

MOVED FYSH/LEAHEY

#9-3-10

That the Administrator's report be received as information.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Lubin, Clarke,
Khehra, Leahey, Fysh, Katz

CARRIED

b. Edmonton Police Service

CAMPBELL

Superintendent Campbell acknowledged the cooperation received from Phil Fearon during the demonstration by The Drivers Association. The demonstration was peaceful and they appreciated cooperation from all parties.

The analysis that Superintendent Campbell had hoped to get regarding offences by or against cab drivers is not going to be as easy to get as she had hoped. It will be based on human cooperation as an automatic printout is not possible.

MOVED LUBIN/FYSH

#10-3-10

That the Edmonton Police Service report be received as information.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Lubin, Clarke,
Khehra, Leahey, Fysh, Katz

CARRIED

c. Edmonton Transportation

MACDONALD

No report.

8. New Business

a. 2011 Commission Budget preparation

FEARON

Administration received first quarterly reports today. The Administrator will comment before next month's meeting.

c. TLPA (Taxicab Limousine and Paratransit Association)

MOVED LUBIN/LEAHEY

#11-3-10

That Chairman Naboulsi attends the annual convention on behalf of the Commission.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Lubin, Clarke,
Khehra, Leahey, Fysh, Katz

CARRIED

d. IATR (International Association of Transportation Regulators)

Phil Fearon is a board member on the International Association of Transportation Regulators.

MOVED LUBIN/FYSH

#12-3-10

That Phil Fearon attends the annual International Association of Transportation Regulators in Chicago in Septemeber 2010.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Lubin, Clarke,
Khehra, Leahey, Fysh, Katz

CARRIED

9. News Articles

MOVED LUBIN/KHEHRA

#13-3-10

That the news articles attached to the agenda be received as information.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Lubin, Clarke,
Khehra, Leahey, Fysh, Katz

CARRIED

10. General Correspondence

None.

11. In-Camera Items

None.

12. Adjournment

MOVED LEAHEY/FYSH

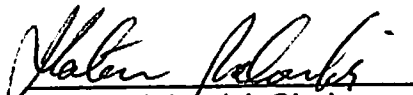
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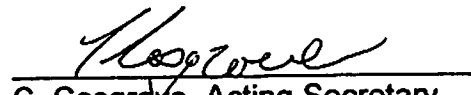
That the Meeting be adjourned. 4:10 p.m.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Lubin, Clarke,
Khehra, Leahey, Fysh, Katz

CARRIED

The next regular Vehicle For Hire Commission meeting will be held Wednesday, May 12, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room, Main Floor, City Hall.


Hatem Naboulsi, Chairman


C. Cosgrove, Acting Secretary