
VEHICLE FOR HIRE COMMISSION

CITY OF EDMONTON VEHICLE FOR HIRE COMMISSION

MEETING NO. 2

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

MEMBERS

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

PRESENT

H. Naboulsi

C. Khehra
M. Pnaich
M. Fysh
C. Leahey

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

C. Cosgrove Acting Secretary
P. Fearon Administrator

Don MacDonald Edmonton Transportation
G. Stewart-Palmer Shores-Jardine

1. Call to Order

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

Chairman welcomed Don MacDonald Director of Traffic Control with Edmonton Transportation who will now sit on the Commission as an advisor.

Chairman advised that this was the last meeting that Mr. Pnaich would attend and wished him well and presented him with a token of appreciation from the Commission.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED LEAHEY/KHEHRA

#1-2-10

The agenda be approved with the following amendments:

Item 8b be moved to 6a

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Khehra, Pnaich, Leahey, Fysh

CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes

MOVED KHEHRA/LEAHEY

#2-2-10

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

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Khehra, Pnaich, Leahey, Fysh

CARRIED

4. Public Involvement

The following individuals requested to speak:

Mr. Husni Al-Khateeb
Mr. Balraj Manhas
Mr. Duale

Mr. Henry Adegbuyi
Mr. Jakinder Sinh Deol

Mr. Steve Alvanos
Mr. Abouzar Aslam

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

Summary of comments/concerns raised:

- Zone rates to Edmonton Airport questioned
- Increase in insurance rates and fees charged by brokers. Commission should intervene.
- Request for central dispatch to be run by City
- Capital request to allow 10% discount to people using accessible taxi, would require formal request and a bylaw amendment
- Written submission from Balraj Manhas, President United Cabbies Association of Edmonton attached to Minutes as **Attachment 1**

Chairman addressed the meeting expressing that this is the first time concern regarding the insurance increase and request for central dispatch has been brought to the Commission. Concerns will be investigated and brought forward to the next Commission meeting. The Chairman requested the industry's patience in this process.

5. Business Arising

a. Committee Membership

NABOULSI

Mr. Naboulsi announced the following Committee Membership.

Executive Committee

Hatem Naboulsi, Leon Lubin, Charan Khehra, Chris Leahey or Robert Clarke

Operation & Program Committee

Leon Lubin, Mack Fysh, Robert Clarke

Safety

Chris Leahey, Robert Clarke, new member, Superintendent Danielle Campbell

Driver Training

Charan Khehra, Mack Fysh, Chris Leahey

b. Taxi Top Lights

STEWART-PALMER

Advised that there has been discussion with the province and an Alberta wide exemption for taxi top lights will be forthcoming.

c. Airport Rates

FEARON

Advised a report will be going to Community Services Meeting on Monday March 15, 2010. It will be available online on Thursday March 11, 2010. This is an information report only. Discussion has been going on for about 1 year. There cannot be a bylaw amendment as the airport is outside of Edmonton.

MOVED FYSH/KHEHRA

#3-2-10

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

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Khehra, Pnaich, Leahey, Fysh

CARRIED

6. Reports from Commission

a. Executive Committee

NABOULSI

Met with Councillor Sohi on February 26, 2010 and requested a representative from Transportation Department to sit on the Commission as an advisor. Don MacDonald has agreed to be this representative.

Mr. Lubin and Mr. Naboulsi met with Alberta Transportation on March 8, 2010 regarding the request for accessible taxis to use the transit area at South Campus. An agreement should be prepared to allow a trial from May 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010 with a clause for extension.

MOVED LEAHEY/FYSH

#4-2-10

That the Executive Committee report be received as information

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Khehra, Pnaich, Leahey, Fysh

CARRIED

b. Operation & Program Committee

FYSH

Written report included with Minutes as **Attachment 2**

MOVED FYSH/LEAHEY

#5-2-10

That the Operation & Program Committee report be received as information

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Khehra, Pnaich, Leahey, Fysh

CARRIED

c. Safety Committee

LEAHEY

The Safety Committee will review safety issues regarding assaults and security clearance requirements during 2010.

d. Driver Training Committee

KHEHRA

Recommendations will be coming at a later date.

MOVED FYSH/PNAICH

#6-2-10

That the reports from Safety and Driver Training be received as information.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Khehra, Pnaich, Leahey, Fysh

CARRIED

7. Administrative Matters

FEARON

a. Vehicle for Hire Commission

i. February 2010 Service Deliverable Report

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

Highlights:

- Roving inspections are down as more time is being spent in court.

ii. 2010 Commission Workplan Report

The 2010 Commission Workplan was attached to the agenda.

Highlights:

- Concern over new items that will be required to be posted within the taxi vehicles impeding vision of driver

**iii. 2009 Year End Report
2009 Year End Violation Ticket Summary**

The year end report card is being reviewed by the Commission and will be forwarded to Administration.

The year end Violation Ticket Summary has been completed.

Highlights:

- Financial surplus from 2009 will go into the reserve and be considered in 2011 budget development

iv. General Matters

1. 1st Public Consultation will be held the 3rd week of May. Will address driver safety, age limit on vehicles and emission reduction. This meeting is to receive information from public not to make decisions.
2. Written report on Administrative Matters is attached to Minutes as **Attachment 3**

MOVED LEAHEY/KHEHRA

#7-2-10

That the Administrator's report be received as information.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Khehra, Pnaich, Leahey, Fysh

CARRIED

b. Edmonton Police Service

No report. Superintendent Campbell was unable to attend

c. Edmonton Transportation

MACDONALD

No report. Thank you for the invitation.

8. New Business

a. Gateway Charters appeal decision

FEARON

The Commission has been advised that Gateway Charters will be appealing the decision through the Provincial Court of Appeal. A date has not been set.

9. News Articles

MOVED LEAHEY/FYSH

#8-2-10

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

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Khehra, Pnaich, Leahey, Fysh

CARRIED

10. General Correspondence

Letter to Edmonton International Airport Authority, addressed previously. No meeting with the Board of Directors has yet been set.

The public was given the opportunity to address or readdress the commission. The names of speakers and their concerns are summarized under Section 4 Public Involvement. Following this opportunity the public portion of the meeting was concluded at 3:20 p.m. The Commission then went into an in-camera session to address the concerns.

MOVED LEAHEY/FYSH

#9-2-10

That the meeting move in-camera.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Khehra, Pnaich, Leahey, Fysh

CARRIED

11. In-Camera Items

Concerns brought up during public involvement were discussed.

MOVED PNAICH/LEAHEY

#10-2-10

That the meeting return to public meeting.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Khehra, Pnaich, Leahey, Fysh

CARRIED

12. Adjournment

MOVED LEAHEY/FYSH

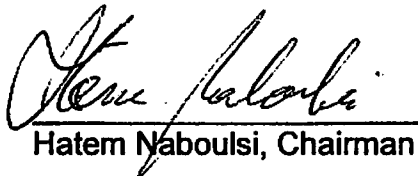
#11-2-10

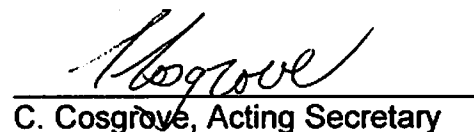
That the Meeting be adjourned. 4:20 p.m.

FOR THE MOTION: Naboulsi, Khehra, Pnaich, Leahey, Fysh

CARRIED

The next regular Vehicle For Hire Commission meeting will be held Wednesday, April 14, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room, Main Floor, City Hall.


Hatem Naboulsi, Chairman


C. Cosgrove, Acting Secretary