

Metropolitan Taxicab Commission

Tuesday, May 9th, 2006 @ 10:00 am
100 North Tucker Boulevard

Members present: Chairman Hamilton (arrived 10:26a), Commissioners Bennett, McNutt, Reeves, Rudawsky, Satz, and Shiferaw

Members absent: Commissioner Harris, *(Note: One seat on the Commission is currently vacant)

MTC staff: Barker, Boutte, Deering, Hammond, and Tully.

Legal Department: Counselor McCarthy

The meeting was called to order at 10:24 AM by Vice-Chairman Reeves while Chairman Hamilton answered an important call.

MINUTES

Vice-Chairman Reeves requested approval for the minutes of the April 14, 2006 Metropolitan Taxicab Commission meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mr. McNutt, seconded by Mr. Bennett. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commissioners scheduled the next Commission meeting for Tuesday, June 20, 2006 at 10:00 AM at 100 North Tucker Boulevard in the Auditorium.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Hamilton returned to the meeting. Director Tully presented a staff recommendation. The Director recommended changing § 501.1 of the Vehicle for Hire Code to reflect the Commission's role assigning the fleet numbers rather than the company's previous role of assigning the fleet number. Counselor McCarthy recommended the change be via a rule promulgated. Chairman Hamilton motioned to confirm Director's Rule 501.1 as opposed to the Code 501.1 to allow the Commission to assign fleet numbers rather than the companies. The motion was seconded by Mr. McNutt. With no discussion, a vote was held and the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

OLD BUSINESS

Since the last Commission meeting, a Medallion sub-committee meeting has not been held. The meeting will be May 12th, 2006 at 2pm.

A copy of the annual audit was presented to each Commissioner. Chairman Hamilton commended Mr. Reeves for his work. Mr. Reeves subsequently commended the staff.

Chairman Hamilton then reported to the Commission regarding his trip to Jefferson City to meet with legislative members. He discussed the issue of non-emergency medical transportation. Previously, Chairman Hamilton made an executive decision to the suspended sections of the Code pertaining to the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation industry. Chairman Hamilton made a motion for the Commission to uphold his executive decision (suspending the sections of the code passed in January

pertaining to non-emergency medical transportation) until November 1, 2006 or until further action of the Commission, whichever date occurs first. The motion was seconded by Mr. Reeves. After discussion a vote was held. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Director Tully was instructed to send notice to the parties involved that the Commission voted to suspend the provisions of the code, consistent with the executive order of April 25th, until November 1, 2006. Mr. Reeves, on behalf of the Commission, thanked the Chairman for his efforts to resolve this matter.

Counselor McCarthy brought up the next item of old business. He referenced the waiver request from Chesterfield Car Service from the 24 hour operation requirement. After much discussion and debate by the Commissioners, the Chairman asked the Director to communicate with Chesterfield Car Service and advise them to find a more creative solution to the 24 hour compliance issue. A vote on the request for a waiver was tabled until next meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director reported on the recent cooperation with the SLMPD 4th District officers to enforce the Code under the city Courts. Chairman Hamilton asked the Director to follow up with the Municipal League and Mayor Lowery (Florissant) in order to lobby additional municipalities to adopt our code.

Director Tully reported the Airport class annual inspections and licensing is completed. The In-Cab signage has been placed. Issuance of the new Missouri "Taxicab" license plates will begin May 10th.

Commissioner Satz brought up an issue regarding the acceptance of credit cards. Commissioner Rudawsky inquired about the prosecution for non-payment.

The Director reported the office is receiving premium sedan applications.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Reeves had no report this month due to the short period of time since the last meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Beal, representing ABC/Checker Cab Co., presented his idea for London Cabs. He is requesting approval of a wrap advertisement to help pay for the vehicles. The Commission refused to make a decision without first seeing a mock-up or example of his proposed markings. The Commission would like to see the wrap advertisement incorporated with the required vehicle markings. Concerns regarding the appropriateness of the ads were discussed. The Commission is open to the idea of wrap advertising, but is not informed well enough to make any decisions or define any parameters.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mr. Satz motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. McNutt. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously and the Commission meeting was adjourned at 11:15am.

*The meeting recording was transcribed by A. Hammond.
Minutes were interpreted from the transcript by D. Barker.*