

TAXI COMMISSION MEETING  
Minutes of the July 21, 2008 meeting

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Frank Daggett called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

**II. ATTENDANCE**

Present: Members: Chair Frank Daggett; Councilor Eric Spear, Commissioner James Feehley and Peter Bresciano, Lieutenant Rodney McQuate, City Attorney Sullivan, City Clerk Barnaby and Deputy City Clerk Dianne M. Kirby

**III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM MAY 19, 2008**

Commissioner Feehley moved to approve and accept the May 19, 2008 minutes of the Taxi Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Bresciano and voted.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Complaint by Anchor Taxi

Chair Daggett stated that the Commission has received a complaint from Anchor Taxi and referenced the letter in their packet. He further stated that a letter from Taxi Owner Ladd, Sunshine Taxi, in response, has been received and a copy has been passed out to each Commissioner. He stated that if this complaint is true, it is very serious. He said that every passenger must have a seat belt.

Lieutenant McQuate asked who the driver was that observed this incident. Taxi owner Spadafora stated that it was him. Lieutenant McQuate asked if Mr. Spadafora saw all seven passengers enter the taxi. Taxi owner Spadafora said that when he pulled up at the Friendly Toast he saw a Sunshine Taxi and all he saw was arms and legs everywhere. Lieutenant McQuate said that in order to do anything, he would have to have a witness actually see them get in. Taxi owner Spadafora stated that he did not see them get in. Lieutenant McQuate said that the Police Department will stop any car that appears to have more passengers than allowed. Taxi owner Ladd stated that he questioned his driver and his driver said this did not happen.

City Attorney Sullivan stated that if something like this did happen, the police could suspend the operator's license and the Commission could suspend both the operator's license and the company's medallion. He further stated that a hearing would have to be held. He said it is appropriate to look into the evidence we have, but he feels that in this case, we do not have enough evidence.

Lieutenant McQuate stated that a memo should be sent to all taxi cab owners that drivers will face suspension for picking up more passengers than seat belts allow for. Commissioner Bresciano said he would caution the cab companies on this practice and inform them that the Commission will take action. Commissioner Feehley stated that all cab companies need to notify their drivers that if there is a child to be picked up, there needs to be a child car seat for that child or the child can not be picked up. He said that a child's car seat must be installed by the parent.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Taxi Medallion and Operator Renewals

Deputy City Clerk Kirby handed out listings of all taxi operator licenses and medallions issued during the renewal period.

2. Vehicle Inspection for July Renewals

Chair Daggett asked Lieutenant McQuate how the renewals and inspections went. Lieutenant McQuate stated that the renewals went well with only one license denied. He stated that he would set the vehicle inspections as soon as manpower is available.

**VI. MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:20 a.m., Lieutenant McQuate moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Spear and voted.

Respectfully submitted by:

Dianne M. Kirby, Deputy City Clerk