

TAXI AND LIMOUSINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

November 8, 2007

- PRESENT:** Councillor Stephen Adams, Chair
Mr. Denis St. Laurent, Vice-Chair
Mr. Robert Richards
Mr. Jamie Bolduc
Ms. Susan Carroll
Ms. Lisa Dahr
Ms. Cathy Towers
Mr. Derek Mathers
- REGRETS:** Mr. Kevin Bulley
Mr. Tim Hosford
- STAFF:** Mr. Kevin Hindle, Regional Coordinator, Taxi and Limousine
Services
Mr. Randolph Kinghorne, Solicitor
Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m in the Community Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Captain William Spry Centre, 10 Kidston Road, Spryfield.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - October 11, 2007

MOVED BY Mr. Jamie Bolduc, seconded by Mr. Robert Richards that the minutes of October 11, 2007, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

MOVED BY Mr. Bolduc, seconded by Ms. Lisa Dahr that the agenda, as presented, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Mr. Denis St. Laurent entered the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Status Update on Transferability Report and By-Law T-108 Review

- A report dated October 18, 2007, on the above noted was before the Committee.

Mr. Kevin Hindle, Regional Coordinator, Taxi and Limousine Services, informed the Committee that December 11th is the tentative date for the Transferability Report to be before the Council. The report must still be reviewed by the Executive Management Team before this can occur. Mr. Hindle reminded the Committee that Council requested this report from staff at the February 27th, 2007 Regional Council Meeting.

Ms. Cathy Towers entered the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

Mr. Derek Mathers entered the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS

5.1 Taxi Driver Safety

The Committee was pleased to welcome Mr. Ben McBeth, Mr. Vince Garnier, Mr. Jim LeBlanc and Mr. Stuart Sampson, representatives from the Nova Scotia Department of

Environment and Labour. They presented members of the Committee and public in attendance with an information package which included the following items:

- C *Assessing the Risk of Workplace Violence* workbook
- C *Violence in the Workplace Regulations* booklet
- C *Free Workplace Violence Prevention Planning Workshops* schedule
- C *A Workplace Violence Prevention Strategy for Nova Scotia* booklet
- C *Safety Tips for Taxi Drivers* booklet
- C *A Guide to the Violence in the Workplace Regulations for the Taxi Industry* booklet
- C copy of the letter which was sent out to all Taxi Drivers in the Province to advise them of the Workplace Violence Regulations

Mr. McBeth began a question and answer period with the committee. Highlights of this period are as follows:

- C the Workplace Violence Regulations were drafted in December of 2006 and were passed on April 1st, 2007.
- C the Regulations contain two parts. The first part, the risk assessment, was to be completed in October by high risk industries. The second part requires that these industries create a plan based on the assessment in an attempt to mitigate risks and is due in April of 2008.
- C the employer will be responsible for incurring any costs that the risk assessment plan requires. Taxi drivers, although they are self-employed, dependant contractors, must still incur these costs.
- C the provincial government is not mandating that taxi and limousine drivers/brokers install cameras, shields or any other equipment in their vehicles. The only mandate is that a risk assessment be done and, in turn, reasonable measures be taken.
- C the Department of Environment and Labour is not an agency that provides funding. However, the Committee is welcome to make a proposal to the provincial government requesting a loan guarantee program for drivers.

The Chair thanked the representatives for their presentation and they exited the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

6.1 Correspondence

6.1.1 Letter dated October 15th, 2007 from Bob's & Blue Bell Taxi Re: Lack of Taxi Drivers in the Industry

The letter, on the above noted, was submitted as information.

6.2 PETITIONS - NONE

6.3 DELEGATIONS - NONE

7. REPORTS

7.1 Draft - Taxi and Limousine Advisory Committee Annual Report

Mr. Kevin Hindle clarified that item six (6) in the draft report has already been dealt with and put forward by the Committee. The report will be amended and forwarded to Council by staff.

8. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, December 13th, 2007.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Shawnee Gregory
Legislative Assistant