

Kingston Area Taxi Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting Information: 09-2023

- Date: September 18, 2023
- Time: 7:05 PM
- Location: Kingston Area Taxi Commission
- Attendees: Commissioner Abreu, Commissioner Fraser, Commissioner Chapelle, Chairman Dowser, Commissioner Greenlees

Agenda Items:

1. Standing Committee Items
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting
3. Other Business
 - Status of Taxicab Inspections
 - Taxi Stands
 - Equipment and Use (Air Conditioning in Taxi Cabs)
4. Bylaws

Discussion Points:

1. **Standing Committee Items:**
 - Motion 23-011: Annual Tax Cab Inspections
 - Discussed the importance of formalizing the annual inspection process to ensure vehicle safety and engage with drivers.
 - Motion 23-012: Broker, Plate Holder, Driver Information Updates
 - Discussed the need to have up-to-date information on brokers, plate holders, and drivers to maintain accurate records.
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2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**
 - The minutes of the previous meeting held on July 12, 2023, were approved.
3. **Other Business:**
 - **Status of Taxicab Inspections:**
 - A total of 86 taxis have been inspected visually, with 223 active plate holders.
 - Most plate holders and drivers have complied with the inspection requirements, with some replacing old or broken vehicles.
 - The inspections have been a positive experience, with good engagement and feedback from the drivers.
 - The commission discussed ways to reach the remaining plate holders to complete the inspections by the October 18th deadline.

- **Taxi Stands:**
 - Discussed the issues with taxi stands at the rail station, including unauthorized parking and confusion over designated drop-off and pick-up areas.
 - The commission agreed to work with the planning committee to address these issues and provide clear signage and designations for the taxi stands.

- **Equipment and Use (Air Conditioning in Taxi Cabs):**
 - Discussed the concerns raised by industry members regarding the use of air conditioning in taxi cabs, particularly during extreme temperature days.
 - The commission agreed to look into the applicable bylaws and regulations around idling and the requirements for air conditioning as part of a safe working environment for drivers.

4. **Bylaws:**

- The commission gave third readings to:
 - Bylaw 1: To amend Bylaw 2, Section 41A, to adopt Section 41A
 - Bylaw 2: To amend Bylaw 2, Section 28, to adopt Section 28.3

Decisions Made:

1. Approved Motion 23-011: Annual Taxicab Inspections
2. Approved Motion 23-012: Broker, Plate Holder, Driver Information Updates
3. Approved the minutes of the previous meeting held on July 12, 2023
4. Agreed to work with the planning committee to address the issues with taxi stands at the rail station
5. Agreed to look into the applicable bylaws and regulations around idling and the requirements for air conditioning in taxi cabs
6. Gave third readings to Bylaw 1 and Bylaw 2

Action Items:

1. **Task:** Reach out to the remaining plate holders to complete the taxi cab inspections by the October 18th deadline.
 - Person Responsible: Commission Staff
 - Deadline: October 18, 2023

2. **Task:** Work with the planning committee to address the issues with taxi stands at the rail station, including clear signage and designations.
 - Person Responsible: Commission Staff

- Deadline: Next Commission Meeting
3. **Task:** Look into the applicable bylaws and regulations around idling and the requirements for air conditioning in taxi cabs.
- Person Responsible: Commission Staff
 - Deadline: Next Commission Meeting