

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
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Action Minutes

Thursday, July 23, 2015

8:00 AM

Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, Fourth floor, conference room

Taxicab Board

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the City of Ann Arbor Taxicab Board was called to order by the Vice-Chair, Kyle Lady, at 8:08 a.m. in the Fourth Floor Conference Room, 301 E. Huron Street, Guy C. Larcom Jr. Municipal Building.

The following people were in attendance:

Mark Neumann, Stadium Transportation

Gordon Berry

JP Heythaler, Blue Car

Present: 6 - Stephen Kunselman, Jamie Adkins, Robert Goeddel, LuAnne Bullington, Jacqueline Beaudry, and Kyle Lady

Absent: 1 - Michael Benson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Kunselman, seconded by Bullington, that the Agenda be approved with the following changes:

Add: Discussion of Educational Items

On a voice vote, the Vice-Chair declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[15-0942](#)

Taxicab Board Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2015

Attachments: 052815 Taxicab Board Minutes

The following corrections to the May 28 meeting minutes were noted:

Approval of the Minutes - correct May 28 to March 26.

New Business - correct Chapter 7 to Chapter 77.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kunselman, seconded by Bullington, that the Taxicab Board Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2015 be approved by the Commission as amended and forwarded to the City Council by 9/8/2015. On a voice vote, the Vice-Chair declared the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Neumann, Stadium Transportation, spoke about Uber and Lyft continuing to operate illegally in the City of Ann Arbor. He noted that the TNCs had been banned recently in Las Vegas, Nevada. Mr. Neumann stated he was also still waiting to hear about possible changes to insurance requirements for taxicabs.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Meeting Calendar

There was general consensus amongst the members to keep the current meeting schedule of the fourth Thursday of the month at 8:00 a.m.

2. Education Discussion

Vice-Chair Lady stated he and Chair Benson were discussing an education campaign, focusing on students, regarding the differences between licensed taxicabs, limos, and TNCs, including the licensing requirements, availability of service, and insurance risks.

Kunselman noted that the Board does not have a budget and that needs to be taken into consideration when planning this type of initiative. Kunselman stated that he felt that enforcement could work to educate in some cases. He also inquired if the Council committee on Student Relations might be able to be utilized or a partnership with the DDA or UM.

Bullington suggested a PSA on CTN.

Officer Adkins suggested the website could be utilized to list the registered taxicabs and show the vehicle picture. She noted that education could focus on the differences between the various transportation options and the rates.

Kunselman moved, seconded by Bullington, that the City Administrator's liaison be directed to contact the Communications Office regarding the drafting of a press release regarding local delivery service options. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

1. Annual Registrations - Update from Officer Adkins

Officer Adkins updated the Board on the following:

Seven taxicab companies have registered vehicles within the City of Ann Arbor. 27 metered cars are registered, with the majority (20) of the vehicles being Metro Cab.

Blue Car and Amazing Blue Taxi went primarily limo, but are still registering one vehicle each and requiring their drivers to license with the City.

Officer Adkins stated Blue Car indicated that the insurance rates are an issue and part of the decision for the company to convert to limo. Officer Adkins noted that she was informed that the operation as a taxicab, including accepting hailed rides, is considered a higher risk than the pre-arranged service model of a limo.

2. Insurance Requirements

Beaudry updated the Board regarding the information she received from the City Attorney's Office on the taxicab insurance requirements in Chapter 77. Beaudry stated Assistant City Attorney Larcom informed her that the requirements have been in the ordinance since at least 2005. It was not known why they were set at that requirement. Beaudry stated she asked for additional information regarding the City's requirements as compared to the State requirement, but had not gotten an answer.

Bullington stated she would like to look into lowering the rate if possible.

Kunselman stated if the Board starts looking at insurance requirements, they should first understand how a change would impact the City. He asked Beaudry to check with the City Attorney's Office regarding the difference in required rates between State regulated limos and the City's taxicab ordinance requirements.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Kunselman asked Officer Adkins for an update regarding enforcement activity. Officer Adkins replied that she would check with the courts and follow-up with numbers at the next meeting.

Lady also requested an update on any rate changes. Officer Adkins stated that several companies did change rates. She stated she will provide this for the next meeting.

INFORMATION/UPCOMING BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Neumann, Stadium Transportation, stated that the insurance requirements for limos is \$1,000,000. He commented that this is actually more than the City's requirement for taxicabs, which is \$500,000.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilmember Kunselman, seconded by Bullington, that the meeting adjourn. On a voice vote, the Vice-Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:35 a.m.