

**NEW YORK CITY**  
**TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION**

**Minutes of Commission Meeting**

**July 16, 2015**

Present:

Meera Joshi, *Commissioner/Chair*  
William Aguado, *Commissioner*  
Elias Arout, *Commissioner*  
Edward Gonzales, *Commissioner*  
Jacques Jiha, *Commissioner*  
Nora Marino, *Commissioner*  
Christopher Wilson, *General Counsel*

1. Chairperson Joshi called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. with Commissioners Aguado, Arout, Gonzales, and Jiha present and reported the following:
  - As part of the celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, TLC participated in the Disability Pride Parade, which was attended by over 3,000 people, and the Access to Independence Expo.
  - Since inception, the Accessible Dispatch Program has dispatched over 70,000 trips, or about 740 per week, and the average wait time is now below 20 minutes.
  - Accessible taxi drivers are doing about the same trip volume per shift as standard taxi drivers, and dollar-wise, they actually make an average of one or two dollars more, not including the approximately \$13 deadhead per trip accessible taxi drivers receive through the Accessible Dispatch Program.
  - The growing accessible taxi fleet now includes over 1,200 accessible green taxis and over 500 accessible yellow taxis. All five boroughs will enjoy efficient accessible service because of the expanded accessible fleet and a citywide accessible dispatch program that the TLC will soon launch. In addition, TLC will also work more closely with the MTA to bring riders in the Access-A-Ride program into the yellow and green taxis.
  - On July 2, TLC held the last in a series of outreach events regarding commuter vans, the purpose of which was to promote licensed commuter van service.
  - Beginning in August, drivers will be required to apply online for a license and put in a request for an appointment.
  
2. Item 4 on the Agenda, Adoption of Minutes (June 22, 2015, Commission meeting). The minutes were presented for approval. A motion was made to adopt the minutes. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

- Item 5 on the agenda, Base Applications for Determination, was presented to the Commission by Chris Tormey, Director of Applicant Licensing. The following bases were presented for consideration:

**CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP & BASE NAME (1):**

B01039 BNEI Joseph Car & Limo Service, Inc./d.b.a: BNEI  
Joseph Car Service

**CHANGE OF LOCATION (1)**

B02405 Power Luxury Radio Dispatch Inc.

- A motion was made to approve the base station license applications recommended for approval and deny the bases recommended for denial. The motion passed unanimously.
- Item 6, Commuter Van Decal Rules, was presented for public hearing and commission action. General Counsel Wilson introduced the rules, which would require that a Commuter Van Decal and a TLC License Number decal be displayed on both of the front doors of all licensed commuter vans, as well as permit both decals to be affixed to the rear door of commuter vans. The following people testified on the rules: Council Member Margaret Chin; Leroy Morris, Alexis Van Lines; Hector Ricketts, Commuter Van Association of New York; Juan Perez; Nick Smith, Office of Council Member Jumaane Williams; Council Member Jumaane Williams. Commissioner Marino joined the meeting at 10:40 a.m. The General Counsel called for a vote on the rules, and the rules passed unanimously.
- Item 7, Fare and Leasecap Rules, was presented for public hearing. Charles Furrey, Assistant General Counsel Wilson at the TLC, gave a presentation on the rules, which would make certain types of taxicab leases more affordable for lessees, protect drivers from overcharges under these leases, remove the optional gasoline surcharge for medallion owners or agent lessors, allow taxicab lessors to make non-cash payments to drivers, and provide for an evening rush hour surcharge for flat rate trips between Manhattan and Kennedy airport. The following people testified on the rules: Peter Mazer, MTBOT; Michael Simon; Alison Ungaro, Committee for Taxi Safety; Richard Thaler; Zubin Soleimany, NYTWA; Asim Akter, NYTWA; Nickoloi Hent; Mohammed Tipu Sultan, NYTWA; Bhairavi Desai, NYTWA. Commissioner Gonzales left the meeting at 12:04 p.m.
- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:15 p.m.

Minutes as approved by the Taxi and Limousine Commission on September 17, 2015.

  
Christopher C. Wilson  
General Counsel

9/20/15  
Date