NEW YORK CITY
TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION
Amended Minutes of Commission Meeting
January 20, 2011

Present:
David Yassky, Commissioner/Chair
Elias Arout, Commissioner
Harry Giannoulis, Commissioner
Mark Gjonaj, Commissioner
Edward Gonzales, Commissioner
Charles Fraser, General Counsel

1. Chairman Yassky called the meeting to order and reported on the following:

- Chairman Yassky reported that Alan B. Decker passed away. Mr. Decker was a long-time industry attorney and publisher of the Mini Press. (Tr. pp. 3-4)

- The Chair reported that the TLC will be moving its downtown office from 40 Rector Street to 33 Beaver Street on Monday, March 21. This office, but not the TLC’s other facilities, will be closed to the public on Friday, March 18. To accommodate the move, the March Commission Meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, March 10. (Tr. pp. 4-6)

- Chairman Yassky reported that it is unlikely the Commission will hold a monthly meeting in February. (Tr. p. 6)

- The Chair noted recent reports of livery fare gouging during the snowstorm. Livery fares are not regulated by the TLC, but fares must conform to the schedule filed with the TLC. If bases want to charge special snow rates, they must be included in the fare schedule. (Tr. pp. 7-8)

- Chairman Yassky reported on the Mayor’s proposal to allow cars that are not yellow medallion taxis to accept street hails outside Manhattan. A video from Channel 5 summarizing the proposal was shown. Two important facts underlie the administration’s desire to move forward with this: (1) 97.5 percent of all yellow taxi trips originate either in Manhattan or at the airports and (2) there is a substantial demand for street hail service outside Manhattan. The Chairman noted that no one has disputed these facts so the only question is how to go about meeting this demand. It would be a substantial gain for people outside of Manhattan to be able to hail an easily identifiable, legitimate car and not need to
negotiate the fare. Chairman Yassky recognized the concern among the yellow industry drivers and owners, but said that the outer borough trips, at 2.5 percent of overall taxi trips, are not a significant part of the yellow taxi business today. This proposal will not change the rules for dial-a-car service and this will continue to account for most of the trips outside of Manhattan. Finally, this proposal will increase the need for more and more aggressive enforcement. Towards this end, the TLC has hired 16 inspectors and is investing in handheld devices which will increase inspector efficiency. This proposal needs to be approved by the City Council. Chairman Yassky and the administration will fully engage with the industry on the full specifics of this proposal. (Tr. pp. 8-20)

2. Items 2 on the agenda, adoption of minutes (December 16, 2010 and November 18, 2010 Commission meetings), was presented to the Commission for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Gonzales to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously. (Tr. p. 20)

3. Item 3 on the agenda, base applications for determination, was presented to the Commission by Georgia Steele-Radway, Assistant Commissioner for Licensing. Bases B02332, B01716, and B00652, which are recommended for denial, were added to the agenda. The bases were notified of their status by mail. The following bases were presented for consideration:

The following bases are being recommended for approval:

**NEW (4):**

- B02433 77 Express Car & Limo. Service, Inc.
- B02396 Ola Car Service Inc.
- B02425 Ozone Park Car Services Inc.
- B02432 Viamax Service Station & Car Service Corp.

**RENEWALS (28):**

- B01552 Active Express Car & Limo. Service Inc.
- B01934 Adam’s Car & Limo. Service
- B01638 Alpha Car & Limo. Inc.
- B02107 Apollo Radio Dispatch Inc.
- B01346 Arecibo Car Service Inc.
- B02048 Big King Car & Limo.
- B02045 Catch Ah Ride Limo. Inc.
- B01146 Church Avenue Car Service Inc.
- B01328 Commack Inc.
- B01821 Empire Transportation Service Inc.
- B01466 Five Star
- B01454 Freedom Limo. & Car Service
- B01848 Grand Limo. & Car Service Inc.
- B01636 Heights Car & Limo. Inc.
- B01118 International Car Service Inc.
- B01608 Jerusalem Car.Com Inc.
A motion was made by Commissioner Arout to approve all of the base station license applications that were recommended for approval. The motion passed unanimously. (Tr. p. 21)

A motion was made by Chairman Yassky to deny all of the base station license applications that were recommended for denial if they do not comply with requirements within thirty days. The motion passed unanimously. (Tr. p. 22)

Item 4 (a), Proposed License Process Rules, was presented to the Commission for public hearing. No one signed up to testify at the public hearing on this rule. A vote on this rule was tabled to a future meeting pending further staff consideration of the rule. (Tr. pp. 22-23)

Item 4 (b), Proposed E-mail Addresses Rule, was presented to the Commission for public hearing. Richard Thaler of Omni Media testified at the public hearing. Commissioner Arout moved to approve the rules. The motion passed unanimously. (Tr. pp. 23-28)

Item 5 (a) – (f), Commuter Van Passengers’ Bill of Rights, License Transfer Fees, Vehicle Inspections and Re-inspection Fees, Forms of Payment and Bad Check Fees, Livery Workers Compensation, and Driver Dress Requirements, were
presented for Commission action. Commissioner Arout moved to approve the package of rules. The motion passed unanimously. (Tr. pp. 29-30)

9. Item 6 (a), TLC 2011 Fine Review, was presented to the Commission. Deputy Commissioner Pansy Mullings gave a presentation outlining proposed changes to the TLC’s fine structure. (Tr. pp. 30-46)

10. Item 6 (b), Group Ride, was presented to the Commission. Gary Roth, Senior Policy Analyst, gave a presentation on various group ride stands located throughout the City. (Tr. pp. 46-52)

11. Commissioner Arout raised concerns about the safety of TLC inspectors on the streets. TLC inspectors use vehicles that are not equipped with sirens or police lights. Commissioner Arout asked the Commission to look into equipping the vehicles with lights and sirens. Commissioner Gonzales suggested the Commission do a comprehensive review of enforcement safety procedures compared to enforcement arms of other City agencies. Chairman Yassky agreed to this suggestion and said he will report back to the Commissioners on the timetable for such an audit. (Tr. pp. 52-59)

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:24 a.m.

Amended Minutes as approved by the Taxi & Limousine Commission on April 21, 2011

[Signature]
Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs / General Counsel

[Date]