PORTSMOUTH TAXI COMMISSION

Minutes of the October 21, 2002 meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sanford called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

II. ATTENDANCE

Members and Ex-Officio's Present: Chair Sanford, Members Daggett, Bresciano, Councilor Whitehouse, Lt. Winsor, City Clerk Barnaby

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 16, 2002

Frank Daggett moved to accept the minutes of the September 16, 2002 meeting. Councilor Whitehouse seconded the motion, voted all in favor.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Pioneer Taxi

RE: Medallion Request (not on agenda)

Frank Daggett moved to issue an additional medallion to Pioneer Taxi. Councilor Whitehouse seconded the motion, voted all in favor.

V. OLD BUSINESS

 Traffic and Safety Representative RE: Taxi Stand

Chair Sanford introduced John Burke, Parking and Transportation Director, to discuss the potential relocation of the taxi stand.

Frank Daggett believes that taxicabs need to be in a better location for public view. John Burke questioned if it is an issue of signage. Frank Daggett said that the location is the issue not signage.

Councilor Whitehouse suggested that the current stand remains and request from Traffic and Safety two spots on Daniel Street near Alie Jewelers. He said that the City would not lose much revenue and this would be the best place for visibility.

Lt. Winsor recommended that the third parking spot on High Street be removed and changed to a metered spot. He said that the last taxi stand spot is not used because of visibility.

John Burke suggested that Chair Sanford attend the next Traffic and Safety meeting. He does not feel that meter revenue is the main concern, it is the parking issues in front of a business.

Councilor Whitehouse moved to submit a letter for the November Traffic and Safety Committee meeting agenda with two members of the Taxi Commission attend the meeting. Frank Daggett seconded the motion, voted all in favor.

2. Inquiry about Bald Eagle Taxi Medallions

Chair Sanford explained that she has not received a request from Bald Eagle Taxi to operate again.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Taxi Operator Richard Nunez (not on agenda)

Lt. Winsor advised the Taxi Commission that Richard Nunez is not longer employed by Doug's Taxi and has been illegally operating as a taxi. Lt. Winsor said that the police department is watching his operation. He requested that the Taxi Commission report any such illegal activity to him.

City Attorney Sullivan entered the meeting at the request of the Commissioners.

City Attorney Sullivan explained the options to suspend the license including lack of job, illegally operating a cab, and under the discretion of the Police Chief.

Frank Daggett moved to revoke the license of Richard Nunez as per City Ordinance Chapter 7, Article II, Section 7.2.11 C 2 and D. Councilor Whitehouse seconded the motion, voted all in favor.

2. Police Department calling taxicabs (not on agenda)

Lt. Winsor explained that he has asked his staff not to call taxicabs for disorderly citizens. He believes that calling a cab puts the taxi driver at risk. He said that it is a debate in the police department and it will go committee for a decision.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Peter Bresciano moved to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. Councilor Whitehouse seconded the motion, voted all in favor.

Minutes taken and typed by:

B. Christopher Maxwell, Deputy City Clerk