Minutes of the Fairfax County Consumer Protection Commission

August 16, 2016 7:30 PM Conference 4/5

Government Center

12000 Government Center Pkwy.

Fairfax, Virginia 22035 Chairman Fee, presiding

Attendance: Commissioners: Belkowitz, Fee, Gulakowski,

Hine, Kirk, Nguyen, Roark, Rosier, Woodruff

Absent: Commissioners: Callender, Hargraves, Kazmi

Staff: Michael S. Liberman, Director

Cable and Consumer Services

John W. Burton, Assistant County Attorney

Susan Hafeli, Senior Utility Analyst

Public Utility Branch Susan C. Jones, Branch Chief

Consumer Affairs

Rebecca Makely, Fiscal Manager Cable and Consumer Services

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 PM by Chairman Fee.

Minutes

The minutes for June 21, 2016, meeting were approved.

Report of the Chairman

Chairman Fee had no matters to bring before the commission.

Report of the Director

Director Liberman had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commission Matters

Commissioner Woodruff spoke about his difficulty with Verizon's customer service having to call multiple times to discuss prices and services, and their complex billing invoice.

Commissioner Roark had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Belkowitz had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Rosier stated she was reappointed to the commission at the July Board of Supervisor's meeting.

Commissioner Gulakowski had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Kirk mentioned door to door solicitor U.S. Pirg and Clean Water Action were in his neighborhood without a proper solicitor's license.

Commissioner Hine had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Nguyen inquired about solicitor's license for selling lemonade.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

1. Taxicab Ordinance Review. Susan Hafeli, Senior Utility Analyst, Public Utilities Branch, provided a review on Chapter 84.1. In the presentation the following topics were discussed: taxicab industry in Fairfax County, competition from TNCs, taxi vs. Uber options, timeline, outreach efforts, operational revisions, regulatory framework, and organizational and editorial revisions.

Chairman Fee made the motion to authorize staff to advertise a public hearing on September 20, 2016 for changes to Chapter 84.1. Commissioner Gulakowski seconded the motion.

A discussion ensued on some of the suggested changes to the code, adequate time to review proposed changes, concerns about input from the public, whether the advertisement will clearly explain the reason for the public hearing, the impact on taxicabs if the public hearing is delayed, and vehicle safety.

Seven commissioners approved and two commissioners opposed the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting ended at 9:10 PM.