

## **Minutes of the Fairfax County Consumer Protection Commission**

June 21, 2011

7:30PM Conference 4/5  
Government Center  
12000 Government Center Pkwy.  
Fairfax, Virginia 22035  
Chairman Fee, presiding

Attendance:

Commissioners: Bahhur, Belkowitz, Bounacos, Boyd, Fee, Hine, Martz, Nguyen, Roark, Rosier, Stamp

Absent:

Commissioners: Hargraves, Kirk,

Staff:

Michael S. Liberman, Director  
Cable and Consumer Services  
Steve Sinclair, Branch Chief, Public Utilities  
Dave Reidenbach, Branch Chief, Regulation and Licensing  
Susan C. Jones, Branch Chief, Consumer Affairs  
Henri Stein-McCartney, Consumer Specialist II, Regulation and Licensing Branch

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by Chairman Fee.

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the May 17, 2011, meeting were approved.

### **Report of the Chairman**

Chairman Fee stated that the Trespass Towing Advisory Board was meeting next week.

### **Report of the Director**

Director Liberman informed commissioners that a one-hour DVD *Driving the Language of Parliamentary Procedure* is scheduled in Rooms 2 and 3 on Thursday, June 30, 2011.

### **Commission Matters**

Commissioner Hine had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Bounacos had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Stamp had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Rosier had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Bahhur had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Roark had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Boyd had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Belkowitz had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Martz had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Nguyen had no matters to bring before the commission.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business.

### **New Business**

**1. Taxicab Regulation: An Industry Overview.** Steve Sinclair, Chief, Public Utilities Branch presented an overview of the taxicab industry and provided information on price regulation, price deregulation, history of price regulation in Fairfax County, taxicab fare rent increases, industry price index, determination of certificates, control of entry issues, taxicab industry characteristics, promises vs. reality, unregulated market entry, Board approved formula, industry economics, industry feedback, and the certificate formula approach.

A discussion ensued on the rationale that consumers benefit from the regulation of taxicabs, market entry issue and whether it would be easier if more players were allowed, number of allotted certificates, use of the formula, etiquette training for drivers, customer survey, providing studies used by staff, and whether back-up data will be provided once the final calculations are complete.

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 PM