

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Office of the Town Clerk

REPORT OF THE ORDINANCES, RULES, AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2013

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Ordinances, Rules, and Standards Committee (ORS) meeting was called to order on Monday, September 9, 2013, at 3:00 p.m., in the Town Council Chambers. On roll call, all Committee Members were found to be present.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Committee Member Pucillo, and seconded by Chairman Diamond, to approve the Agenda. On call for a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

Several taxicab business owners and drivers expressed their concerns regarding the Town's current rules and regulations regarding taxicabs.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Old Business

- 1) Review of Various Issues Concerning Taxi Cab Operations in Town
[Thomas G. Bradford, Deputy Town Manager]
 - a. Taxi Cab Stands
 - b. Selection of Taxi Cab Permit Holders by Lottery
 - c. Taxi Cab Hours of Operation
 - d. Taxi Cab Driver Proof of Fare Requirements
 - e. Taxi Cab Island Exit Requirements
 - f. Taxi Cab Rates and Rate Regulation
 - g. Fines for Violation of Taxi Cab Ordinance

Discussion ensued regarding the above matters. It was the consensus of the Committee to make the following recommendations:

1. The fine for parking in a taxi stand should be left at \$50.

2. Taxi cab stands should be restriped red and their signage be in conformity with similar signs in Town.
3. The number of permits should remain at 25.
4. There should be a limit of five permits per company.
5. A permit can only be held for up to three years. (Note: This change would not go into effect until next year's cycle as current permit holders would be grandfathered in. Permittees would be provided notice that their automatic right of renewal may not continue the following year).
6. The hours of operation for taxi stands should be changed from 10:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m.
7. The 30-minute advance notice requirement for prearranged charters should be removed.
8. The proof of fare requirement for prearranged charters should be simplified to require that drivers log their activities on a form to be determined by the Town.
9. Taxi cab drivers should still be required to exit the island by the most direct route to their home terminus after discharging a passenger.
10. The Town's rate requirements should continue to dovetail Palm Beach County's requirements that all rates be clearly shown upon the exterior of the vehicle and that the meter match the displayed rate.
11. The Town should mirror Palm Beach County's requirement that all taxi cabs have credit card readers in them by 2016.

B. New Business

- 1) Update on Request to Consider Increasing the lowest floor of structures in special flood hazard areas 6 inches higher than presently required.

Discussion ensued regarding FEMA's proposed changes to their flood plain maps and flood insurance rates.

It was the consensus of the Committee that the height should be raised, but the exact number will depend upon FEMA's actions. Staff was authorized to continue pursuing this matter and report back to the Committee once FEMA has finalized their maps and Staff knows how they will affect the Town.

- 2) Update on Request to Review existing language in Chapter 62, Marine Structures.

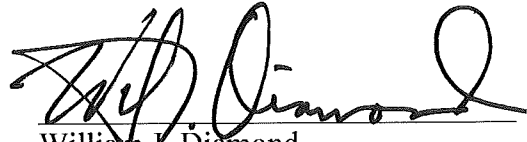
It was the consensus of the Committee to defer this item to the next ORS meeting so that Chapter 62 can be reviewed in its entirety.

V. ANY OTHER MATTERS – None

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Ordinances, Rules, and Standards Committee Meeting of Monday, September 9, 2013, was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

APPROVED:


William J. Diamond
Chairman

ATTEST:


Susan A. Owens, MMC, Town Clerk

9/10/13
Date

