1	
2	
3	COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
4	
5	IN RE: LICENSE COMMISSION DECISIONMAKING HEARING
6	
7	<u>LICENSE COMMISSION BOARD MEMBERS</u> :
8	Richard V. Scali, Chairman
9	Robert C. Haas, Police Commissioner
10	<u>STAFF</u> :
11	Elizabeth Y. Lint, Executive Officer
12	held at
13	Michael J. Lombardi Municipal Building 831 Massachusetts Avenue
14	Basement Conference Room
15	Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139
16	Thursday, April 1, 2010 10:00 a.m.
17	
18	
19	REPORTERS, INC.
20	CAPTURI NG THE OFFI CLAL RECORD 617. 786. 7783/Fax 617. 639. 0396
21	www. reportersi nc. com

1			
2	INDEX OF AGENDA PROCEEDINGS		
3	Agenda Matters:	Page	
4			
5	Hackney Appeal Haredi	4	
6	Hackney Appeal Geome	9	
7	Tap Water Policy	18	
8	<u>Other Matters:</u>		
9	I deni x	34	
10	Holiday Inn Express	38	
11	Taxi cabs	40	
12	Handi cap Enforcement	47	
13	Hybrid Grant Funding	53	
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			

1	PROCEEDINGS
2	RICHARD SCALI: All right. Ready to
3	go? This will be very short. It's not going
4	to be very long.
5	MS. LINT: Seri ously.
6	The License Commission Decision-Making
7	Hearing, Thursday, April 1, 2010, 10:15 a.m.
8	We're in the Michael J. Lombardi
9	Municipal Building, Basement Conference Room.
10	Before you are the Commissioners. Chairman
11	Richard Scali and Commissioner Robert Haas.
12	And I think we only have three matters.
13	RI CHARD SCALI: Good morning,
14	everybody. We have a quorum with the two
15	commissioners out of the three so we'll go
16	forward.
17	MS. LINT: Good morning.
18	RICHARD SCALI: The hearings of
19	March 9th and March 23rd. The items up for
20	deci si on.
21	ELIZABETH LINT: Nothing from the

1 23rd. Those were all decided. 2 RICHARD SCALI: All right. So March 3 9th, first item is the one with regards to 4 the Hackney appeal for Mr. Haredi (phonetic). 5 MS. LINT: Yes. 6 RICHARD SCALI: This is the incident 7 where he was given a 90-day suspension that 8 was reduced to 60 days by hearing with 9 Mrs. Lint. And this is the gentleman that 10 had the urination in the parking lot? 11 ROBERT HAAS: Ri ght. 12 RI CHARD SCALI: So I guess the 13 di scussi on revol ves around whether we uphol d 14 Mrs. Lint's decision or not? 15 ROBERT HAAS: Right. I guess, 16 Mr. Chair, I would say a couple things: 17 One, the thing I found troubling about 18 the whole discussion, and I think the larger 19 issue here is not so much the act itself, was 20 the deception that took place after the 21 officers tried to conduct an investigation of

3

5

4

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

repeated denials that he did in fact engage in that behavior. And I would be in a very different place if it wasn't for that, but I really believe that he had an obligation -and, again, because his license is not a right, he has an obligation to be truthful and honest with the Hackney officers. And in this case he tried to deceive the officers until he was backed into a corner and then had to finally admit that he did in fact urinate in public. And to listen to some of the testimony that, you know, somehow it's okay to do that, I don't buy that argument at And I think we have to send a very all. clear message back to the taxiing industry that it's not okay to do that. And more importantly, when we're conducting an investigation, they have to be truthful and forthright and honest. And in this case I don't believe the driver was. And for that reason I would uphold the appeal decision of

1	I believe it was 60 days. Deducting the
2	amount of time that he already served, and
3	have him finish off the remainder of the
4	disciplinary matter is my motion.
5	RICHARD SCALI: Okay. And I guess I
6	find equally troubling the fact that Officer
7	Arcos tried on two occasions to get him to
8	tell the truth and he did not. And the third
9	time he decided he was going to tell him the
10	truth at that point. And he also has a very
11	questi onabl e hi story. He was suspended
12	al ready for 30 days on a second offense. So
13	this is his third offense. I think he served
14	somewhere around two weeks or something,
15	maybe 10 days or two weeks?
16	MS. LINT: Around 30 days.
17	ROBERT HAAS: 30 days.
18	RICHARD SCALI: He's already served
19	30 days.
20	ROBERT HAAS: Yes, around half the
21	time.

1	RICHARD SCALI: So the
2	Commissioner's motion then is to uphold the
3	Executive Officer's decision of 60 days with
4	time served already.
5	MS. LINT: Sounds like he's in jail.
6	RICHARD SCALI: Well, suspension
7	served. Due to facts as established and due
8	to the lack of honesty to the police officer.
9	ROBERT HAAS: And the pri or hi story.
10	RICHARD SCALI: And prior history,
11	being his third offense.
12	ROBERT HAAS: Yes.
13	RICHARD SCALI: So that's a motion
14	by the Police Commissioner. Moved.
15	Seconded. All in favor?
16	ROBERT HAAS: Aye.
17	RICHARD SCALI: So that's 2-0.
18	All right. I'm sure that's not going
19	to go over well in the taxi community.
20	ELIZABETH LINT: Particularly since
21	they felt they had such a large victory when

they left here that night. 1 2 RICHARD SCALI: He received his 3 license back but that was only a temporary. 4 ROBERT HAAS: I think our vision had 5 to be if we had to deliberate, why would you 6 continue to impose the penalty during the 7 deliberation then it becomes a moot issue. 8 think it was only fair that he get his 9 license back in the interim until we had to 10 think about it. And I thought about it quite 11 a bit, and the more I thought about it, I was 12 convinced -- I think the assessment was 13 correct and we have to send a very strong 14 message. 15 RICHARD SCALI: I would agree. 16 Okay. 17 18 19 20 21

1 ROBERT HAAS: We have another 2 Hackney matter, right? 3 RICHARD SCALI: Yes, Mr. Geome 4 (phonetic) Hackney appeal from Officer Szeto 5 at the Alewife cab stand in the back seat 6 with his shoes off while he was at a cab 7 Officer Szeto fined him \$25. stand. 8 appealed that matter saying that he felt that 9 was extreme. That he should have received 10 just a warning. I think this was a first 11 offense, am I correct? I don't have any 12 record of any priors on this, but I could be 13 wrong. 14 MS. LINT: I think it was a first. 15 RICHARD SCALI: Is it in the back of 16 the file? 17 No. 1, I find it disturbing that he's 18 in the back seat with his shoes off while 19 he's in a cab stand relaxing. And second of 20 all, there's a problem up there at the 21 All ewi fe stand because there are people that

are parked at the outside stand and the inside stand and there's a feeling that perhaps cab drivers are hanging out on the outside stand waiting to get the longer airport jobs or people with suitcases, so they're kind of laying low while they're observing people going into the -- coming out of the station. So I'm not sure that's the case here, but \$25 is not actually a huge fine here for a first offense.

ROBERT HAAS: As I remember it,
Mr. Chair, there's two issues here:

One, I think the driver in question is indicating that the reason he's parked in the cab stand is because of the radio problems.

But I think Officer Szeto wasn't taking disciplinary action for that reason, but he was taking action that the cab driver was in violation of regulations with respect to his conduct outside the stand. So I'm not sure how you -- I mean, I'm not sure if that's

just a convenient excuse why you don't go into the cab stand for the reasons you cited, or is there a legitimate problem with respect to if you're receiving radio transmissions or dispatch from inside that tunnel area, but I'm not sure how we investigate that issue.

But, again, I don't think he's being disciplined for that matter, so I don't think it's really pertinent to the decision relative to the fine.

MS. LINT: Well, he was really -that was what prompted Officer Szeto to
approach him. We know there's a problem with
receiving radio transmissions. That being
said, plenty of the drivers are in the line
where they're supposed to be in the line.
And then this was just made worse by the fact
that he was in the back seat with his shoes
off.

ROBERT HAAS: But if I'm correct,

Mrs. Lint, I think he said the reason he did

1 cite him was the way he was conducting himself. 2 3 It just compounded it. MS. LINT: 4 He would have cited him anyway for being 5 where he was, and the fact that he was in the 6 back seat just kind of put the icing on the 7 And then when he came in to see me and cake. 8 Officer Szeto, he was very argumentative and 9 just, you know, really felt that it's the 10 officer's obligation to give him a warning. 11 And I'm just trying to wonder why. 12 ROBERT HAAS: Didn't Officer Szeto 13 say he carded him once before also? 14 MS. LINT: I don't recall that. 15 ROBERT HAAS: I don't remember. 16 RICHARD SCALI: I don't think I have 17 any notes on that. I mean, there really is 18 an actual problem up there. And Officer 19 Szeto has come up to me a couple times for a 20 resolution. And the issue to me, the stand 21 inside the station is on the T property,

1 which is not our jurisdiction or city 2 j uri sdi cti on. 3 4 5 6 7 8 ROBERT HAAS: Ri ght. 9 RI CHARD SCALI: 10 11 12 13 14 under the -- in the station. 15 ROBERT HAAS: 16 17 18 19 20 or the dispatchers or the T? 21 RI CHARD SCALI:

There is no radio transmission in that spot. And then on the outside stand it's the city property, so those that are trying to receive radio transmission will hang out out there. The problem is the customer doesn't know where to go.

So, Officer Szeto's solution had been well, maybe perhaps we eliminate the T portion altogether and have everybody be on the outside, but I don't know if we can order the T to not have that stand

Whose obligation is it, the dispatcher's obligation to -- I mean, I'm just trying to figure out who is responsible to make sure the radio network is working properly. Is it the industry itself

It's not the T's

1	responsi bility. The radio service has
2	acknowledged they can't get transmission
3	there and are upset about that.
4	ROBERT HAAS: Have they tried to
5	rectify it?
6	RICHARD SCALI: I don't know. So
7	you're saying that perhaps they should deal
8	with the T on the radio transmission?
9	ROBERT HAAS: I'm wondering if they
10	should just run a radio booster antenna in
11	there and find out how much it cost.
12	RI CHARD SCALI: The radio service
13	provi der?
14	ROBERT HAAS: Yes. I mean, they're
15	providing a service to the cabs. That may
16	rectify the problem. I mean, if it's closed
17	prohibitive, my sense is they haven't even
18	looked at that as a solution.
19	RICHARD SCALI: That never came up
20	actual I y.
21	ROBERT HAAS: What we should do is

1 go back to them and say, you know, you are 2 providing a service to the cab industry and, 3 you know, you should make sure your network 4 is comprehensive enough to include taxicab 5 stands within a T station. And what the 6 Commission should be looking for back is 7 what's the cost to do that? And then we can 8 make a determination whether we think it's 9 appropriate to rectify the situation or not. 10 RICHARD SCALI: I don't think they 11 knew they could do it. I didn't know it was 12 an option myself, whether they can do it. 13 ROBERT HAAS: Ri ght. 14 It could be an easy matter. And some 15 of these boosters are very inexpensive. It's 16 just a matter of putting the booster and then 17 running the antenna line across the ceiling 18 of the cab stand area so they at least have 19 transmi ssi on. 20 MS. LINT: Great i dea. 21 But you need RI CHARD SCALI:

1	permission from the T to do that.
2	ROBERT HAAS: Yes. As long as the T
3	is not going to have to bear the expense, I'm
4	sure they're not going to have an objection
5	to it unless it interferes with their own
6	radi o network.
7	RICHARD SCALI: That would solve the
8	problem.
9	ROBERT HAAS: And then there are
10	i ssues with bandwidth.
11	RICHARD SCALI: Officer Szeto would
12	be very happy with that if that was the case.
13	ROBERT HAAS: I think we have enough
14	radio expertise within the city with the fire
15	chief and his staff and we can make a
16	determination whether that's something that's
17	practi cal .
18	RICHARD SCALI: Can I have Officer
19	Szeto i nqui re?
20	ROBERT HAAS: I would have him call
21	Glenn Turner at the fire department.

1	RI CHARD SCALI: Okay.
2	MS. LINT: Right.
3	RICHARD SCALI: See, glad I asked
4	the question then.
5	ROBERT HAAS: So getting back to
6	RICHARD SCALI: The point of this.
7	I'm glad that we had that discussion because
8	that's been a very longstanding problem.
9	So the issue is whether we should
10	uphold the \$25 fine. It sounds like you
11	ROBERT HAAS: My sense is yes.
12	RICHARD SCALI: it's justified.
13	And I do as well.
14	So I guess the motion is to uphold the
15	\$25 fine as presented. Moved.
16	ROBERT HAAS: Moved.
17	RICHARD SCALI: Seconded. And all
18	in favor?
19	ROBERT HAAS: Aye.
20	RICHARD SCALI: Aye. All right.
21	

1 ROBERT HAAS: And issue three. 2 RICHARD SCALI: Yes, the last item 3 with regard to the tap water policy. 4 MS. LINT: Water. 5 ROBERT HAAS: Oh. 6 RICHARD SCALI: All right. So 7 here's the thing, no one has really made that 8 many comments on this except for one 9 licensee, right, Mrs. Lint? 10 MS. LINT: Correct. 11 RICHARD SCALI: And there was an 12 inquiry that you made to Councillor Davis as 13 to the parameters of the problem and you 14 found out -- what were the findings on that? 15 MS. LINT: Very vague. I spoke to 16 Penny Peters and -- I didn't speak to her. 17 We were e-mailing back and forth. And I told 18 her I just wanted clarification; is it 19 anybody who walks into any licensed 20 establishment or is it customers? And she 21 said she thinks that Henrietta just meant

2

3

5

7

6

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

1617

18

19

20

21

customers, because someone had gone in somewhere and wasn't given a glass of water. But, it was still very unclear. So, I'm going to say it's just for customers.

ROBERT HAAS: I think there's another issue here as well, and I think -and I forget who was the gentleman -- I think he was from the Harvard Coop. He came in and made a valid point, too. It's my understanding with the different classifications of food services within the city, and some establishments, their business is to sell bottled water. So I think it would be counterproductive if that's part of their business and they're more of a takeout business and things like that, to have somebody come in and say well, gees, give me a glass of water. As opposed to somebody sitting at a table in a restaurant that is, you know, and is a paying customer, and that should be part of the service. And I'm not

1 sure what the levels of classification would 2 be but there's at least two. 3 MS. LINT: Sure. 4 ROBERT HAAS: And possibly I think 5 probably defining the -- I'm not sure. I 6 mean --7 RI CHARD SCALI: There was an issue 8 with Burger King, this is not recently, where 9 you go into Burger King, whether you buy 10 something or not, but they charge you the 25 11 cents for the cup. 12 ROBERT HAAS: For the glass. 13 RICHARD SCALI: And people say well, 14 that's outrageous, why should I pay 25 cents 15 for a cup? And, you know, I bought a burger 16 and whatever. And I understand now a lot of 17 them just have the water right there and you 18 just, you can just go up and get your water 19 and whatever. 20 ROBERT HAAS: And I think that's a 21 reasonable accommodation for folks to have a

1	water fountain there and stuff like that.
2	And maybe have smaller cups, and if somebody
3	needs to get a drink, you can do that as
4	opposed to serving people water.
5	MS. LINT: But I think all of us
6	tend to dine in the city on a fairly regular
7	basis. And I know from my experiences, and
8	even last Saturday night, when you sit down
9	and the server comes over and says can I
10	start you off with water? Do you want tap
11	water, bottled water or sparkling water? And
12	there's no charge for it.
13	ROBERT HAAS: My guess is the
14	bottled water is charged.
15	RI CHARD SCALI: You' re charged for
16	that.
17	MS. LINT: But, you know, when you
18	ask for tap water, there's no charge for it.
19	ROBERT HAAS: Right.
20	MS. LINT: So I think that someone
21	had an unfortunate incident, but I don't

2

charging for it.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

think on the whole that establishments are

ROBERT HAAS: I think part of the discussion, too, is that sometimes you have people that tend to be disruptive and are not there as a customer.

> MS. LINT: Ri ght.

ROBERT HAAS: And really then there's really no bright line in terms of difficulty in terms of how the people are managing the establishments, managing the population coming in and out or coming in and just sitting at a table and saying give me water. So I think we've got to be very careful, and I think we've got to be pretty descriptive in terms of where we think it's appropriate for a restauranteur to provide water as a basic service or at least provide an opportunity for people to get the water on their own with something like the Coopstone with a separate fountain.

2

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

RICHARD SCALI: I guess the question is do we really need to regulate this with some kind of a rule? I mean, I guess having talked to the CLAB members at our last CLAB meeting about this, these are higher end restaurants obviously, people with sort of medium-sized to larger restaurants. They all say they provide water for -- not for non-customers or for customers at the bar or whatever, it's not a problem. They didn't think this was a big concern. I think the question was more with the lower end restaurants where people are just sitting, you know, maybe buying a, you know, a small thing of french fries and drinking water. I guess if you're a customer, you're a customer, it makes no difference what you're buyi ng. The other question had to do with Courtside. He said he had a problem with people coming in, watching a game and sitting at a table and asking for a pitcher

of water and buying nothing. So, that's where he wasn't willing to compromise where they weren't buying anything.

So I guess the real question is, is this kind of a self-regulated thing or do we need to step in and -- I guess I'm not really getting a feeling we need a rule, but maybe just a clarification to people. I really don't know of any cities and towns that have a rule about this.

MS. LINT: I couldn't find any. I just wonder if you start getting into that area where you're regulating so many different things, that it becomes overly burdensome. And then how do you enforce it? Do we send investigators around to make sure that every place --

RICHARD SCALI: Serving free water?

ROBERT HAAS: And I think there's enough variation in the industry. I don't think one rule is going to cover every

1 si tuati on. Even in the few instances that 2 we've heard, clearly there's some concerns. 3 So I don't know, I don't know if it's a 4 recommended practice that if you have, you 5 know, that you have a sit-down restaurant, 6 then, you know, you should be at least 7 offering your patrons water as part of the 8 meal. 9 Tap water. RI CHARD SCALI: 10 ROBERT HAAS: Yes. And then as an 11 alternative, if you do have some alternative 12 takeout service, that you at least provide, 13 you know, accessibility to water. People 14 need to get water or something like that on 15 their own. 16 RICHARD SCALI: So you're saying as 17 a -- not as a rule or a regulation, but just 18 as a --19 ROBERT HAAS: I think it's a 20 recommended practice. You know, I mean just

after conferring with the industry, we

21

1	understand there's a variety of different
2	situations that occur. We don't feel one
3	blanket rule would be appropriate in all
4	situations, including depending on the
5	classification on the restauranteur, I think
6	the application would be patrons get water,
7	and stuff like that would be varied and
8	di fferent.
9	RICHARD SCALI: All right. So, the
10	general idea is that we would just send out a
11	message as a recommended practice. We would
12	recommend that all restaurants, no matter
13	what classification, they are to provide tap
14	water for free to customers.
15	ROBERT HAAS: To customers.
16	RICHARD SCALI: To customers. And
17	that they use their best judgment on that in
18	terms of what their need the customer's
19	needs are.
20	ROBERT HAAS: Right, right.
21	RICHARD SCALI: Anything else you

1 want to say about that? 2 No, but I think we ROBERT HAAS: 3 have to be clear that it's for customers and 4 not just for somebody that's walking off the 5 street and saying give me a pitcher of water and let me sit at the table, which is a cost 6 7 to the industry. 8 So make it clear RI CHARD SCALI: 9 that it's for customers and not for people 10 just sitting there. 11 ROBERT HAAS: I mean, I'm not sure 12 what you do with the fast food restaurants, 13 with McDonald's and Burger King that do 14 charge for the cup. I suspect even -- I 15 don't know if Starbucks does that or not. Do 16 they provide a pitcher or their own cups? 17 RI CHARD SCALI: They don't charge 18 for cups. 19 MS. LINT: They don't. 20 They have smaller ROBERT HAAS: 21 cups.

1	RICHARD SCALI: Those little white
2	plastic cups.
3	MS. LINT: Not this one.
4	ROBERT HAAS: I never seen anybody
5	order water.
6	MS. LINT: I have seen people ask
7	for hot water.
8	RICHARD SCALI: And bring their tea
9	bags?
10	ROBERT HAAS: I think it's
11	appropriate for them to charge for the cup
12	then.
13	MS. LINT: Bring the tea bags.
14	RICHARD SCALI: People sit there?
15	MS. LINT: They don't sit there.
16	There's a certain population in Central
17	Square.
18	ROBERT HAAS: A very frugal
19	popul ati on?
20	MS. LINT: Yes.
21	RI CHARD SCALI: Okay.

1	MS. LINT: Of course, then, there's
2	the argument that they're drinking hot water
3	and not something else.
4	RICHARD SCALI: They're adding to it
5	with some other flavor or something.
6	ROBERT HAAS: I don't know, the
7	restaurant takes some degree of liability
8	di spensi ng hot water, ri ght?
9	MS. LINT: Then they go over to the
10	little bar and they add sugar or cinnamon.
11	ROBERT HAAS: The fact that it's hot
12	water
13	MS. LINT: It's hot.
14	ROBERT HAAS: they' re accepting a
15	certain level of liability.
16	MS. LINT: It could be that
17	McDonald's lawsuit all over again.
18	RICHARD SCALI: They're on the
19	premi ses.
20	MS. LINT: As invitees.
21	RICHARD SCALI: Getting your law

1	school stuff out there, Mrs. Lint?
2	ROBERT HAAS: Well, by virtue of
3	your recommended practice, a person coming in
4	and asking for a cup of hot water is
5	technically not a customer if they're not
6	purchasi ng anythi ng el se, ri ght?
7	ELIZABETH LINT: That's right.
8	RICHARD SCALI: That wouldn't
9	qual i fy.
10	ROBERT HAAS: It's up to the
11	restaurant if they want to provide that to
12	them.
13	MS. LINT: That's right.
14	RICHARD SCALI: And so should we do
15	a mailing to notify restaurants about our
16	recommended practice?
17	ROBERT HAAS: Yes.
18	MS. LINT: It costs a lot.
19	ROBERT HAAS: When do you normally
20	do it?
21	RICHARD SCALI: We do it in October.

ROBERT HAAS: Why don't we do it
during the CV meetings?
RICHARD SCALI: That would be the
end of October.
ROBERT HAAS: Notify them then.
RICHARD SCALI: We'll do it at the
meeting.
ROBERT HAAS: Just bring it up at
that meeting, it's been brought to our
attention there's been issues and we've heard
some conversations, comments about the rule
across the board but I think, you know.
ELIZABETH LINT: We don't always
invite the CV's. Usually it's just the
al cohol establishments.
RI CHARD SCALI: Perhaps we should
invite everybody this year. We have done
that in a year or two. Just to extend our
meetings.
MS. LINT: It would cut down because
we're not going to have active CLAB members

come.

RICHARD SCALI: We'll have 50 less people than this year. If you're an active CLAB member, they felt they should get the benefit of not going to the meetings.

ROBERT HAAS: Well, if they're meeting regularly, then they don't have to come.

RICHARD SCALI: I agree.

MS. LINT: And we can present this at the next CLAB meeting.

RICHARD SCALI: The motion is as a recommended practice, to recommend to licensees, alcoholic and non-alcoholic, that they provide tap water for free to customers, not non-customers, in a variety of situations. That there be no one blanket rule, and that this depends on the category of restaurant and that we present this at our October, our annual meetings to our restauranteurs and the CLAB meeting as a

1	recommended practice. And that's moved.
2	Second?
3	ROBERT HAAS: Second.
4	RICHARD SCALI: All in favor?
5	ROBERT HAAS: Aye.
6	RI CHARD SCALI: Aye.
7	And I think there was a City Council
8	order on this, too.
9	MS. LINT: Yes.
10	RICHARD SCALI: So we'll need to
11	type that up and give it to Maryellen. She
12	was waiting on this.
13	Okay.
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	

1 ROBERT HAAS: There's one other 2 I'm trying to remember what it was. i ssue. 3 RI CHARD SCALI: That we discussed? 4 ROBERT HAAS: Yes. 5 RICHARD SCALI: I do have some 6 updates for you on things. On the record? 7 Do we want it on the record? 8 ROBERT HAAS: Yes. 9 RICHARD SCALI: Just an update on 10 the Idenix situation. Which we're going to 11 hear not until June 23rd, but Ms. Boyer did 12 take two sets of readings in March, two dates 13 in March, I can't remember the dates now. 14 But one where I denix was there with 15 Cavanaugh-Tocci and she was at 16 Mr. Lindquist's apartment house. readings were 51, 52 decibels. Mr. Lindquist 17 18 was upset because of the fact that we -- they 19 notified Idenix that we were going to be 20 She went out another night without there. 21 notifying them. Went to Mr. Lindquist's

house again from the same window and the readings came in the same. 51, 52 decibels. Maybe tops, 53.

ROBERT HAAS: Okay.

then did I want her to go back out there again? And I didn't think there was a need to go out there another time except until the new equipment comes in at the end of April.

And then to do readings with the new equipment in May, and then one before the June 23rd hearing so we have a full kind of summer reading with all the machinery on.

MS. LINT: The other issue that came up from her going down there doing the readings was the curtains are up and now they're complaining about there's sunlight being blocked. So, we -- Andrea and I kind of directed him to Inspectional Services because we don't -- well, first of all, as the Chairman said, we don't regulate the

1 sunshi ne. 2 ROBERT HAAS: Those curtains will 3 come down in the wintertime, right, when 4 there's low light? MS. LINT: No, I don't think 5 6 they're --7 RI CHARD SCALI: They were making 8 sure they raise them in the snow so they 9 don't have the roof issues. But the question 10 is did they need a permit? 11 Did they need a permit? MS. LINT: 12 Sean seemed to indicate that it needed to be 13 inspected, and Chris Gilman went down to talk 14 to Inspectional. And whoever he spoke to 15 then said I don't know what he's talking 16 about. So I told him to wait for Sean. And 17 Sean was going to go take a look at it. And 18 I have no idea what happened. 19 RICHARD SCALI: It didn't seem like 20 to me a permit was needed, but I don't know, 21 I could be wrong. I don't know the building

1	codes and all that stuff.
2	ROBERT HAAS: So did Andrea then
3	share the readings with Mr. Lindquist then
4	the second time?
5	RI CHARD SCALI: Yes. She did share
6	them with Idenix as well. They know the
7	readings. I think the hope is obviously that
8	the new equipment being put in at the end of
9	April will bring it down further.
10	ROBERT HAAS: Right.
11	RICHARD SCALI: And then, of course,
12	with everything on in May and June, that will
13	be a whole different scenario. So what that
14	means, I don't know.
15	ROBERT HAAS: Okay.
16	RICHARD SCALI: So if there's
17	anything else you want her to do before that?
18	ROBERT HAAS: No.
19	RICHARD SCALI: She just wanted to
20	know. She's got everything clear for you.
21	ROBERT HAAS: That sounds right.

1	RI CHARD SCALI: Okay.
2	We also have another situation with the
3	Holiday Inn Express which is a very old issue
4	which is coming up for hearing.
5	MS. LINT: Yes.
6	RICHARD SCALI: On the 6th is it?
7	MS. LINT: I think so.
8	RICHARD SCALI: You might just want
9	to run by and Look at the Holiday Inn Express
10	sign at night.
11	ROBERT HAAS: This has nothing to do
12	with the underage drinking?
13	RICHARD SCALI: That as well.
14	MS. LINT: We're going to explore
15	that as well.
16	RICHARD SCALI: Just as a preview to
17	it, I went by myself. There's a woman
18	Mrs. Spearing (phonetic) on the corner of
19	Sciarappa complaining that the sign is green
20	and bright and shines in her window.
21	MS. LINT: And what will come out of

1	the hearing. Andrea and I met with Holiday
2	Inn and Holiday Inn has new branding so this
3	is their new design. And the sisters want
4	the old design, and that's basically not
5	goi ng to happen.
6	ROBERT HAAS: Is it the matter of
7	intensity of the light or the design they
8	obj ect to?
9	MS. LINT: It's all of the above.
10	RICHARD SCALI: It's the color.
11	ELIZABETH LINT: It's the color, the
12	size, it's the lights. It's everything.
13	RICHARD SCALI: Just so you have an
14	idea of what it looks like.
15	ROBERT HAAS: Okay.
16	RICHARD SCALI: Just to kind of a
17	prewarning on that.
18	ROBERT HAAS: That's May 6th you
19	sai d?
20	RICHARD SCALI: I think April 6th.
21	I think it's next week.

1	ROBERT HAAS: I'm thinking April is
2	al ready over.
3	MS. LINT: Today is the first.
4	Don't rush it. It goes fast enough.
5	RICHARD SCALI: Taxicabs, there is a
6	meeting on April 7th.
7	ROBERT HAAS: I told you I'd be glad
8	to if you're going to have a problem with
9	open meeting, I cannot come.
10	RICHARD SCALI: If you're here with
11	me, you have to declare it as a hearing.
12	ROBERT HAAS: I'm more than happy.
13	MS. LINT: We already posted it.
14	RICHARD SCALI: It was posted as a
15	heari ng.
16	MS. LINT: We posted it just to be
17	on the safe side.
18	RICHARD SCALI: You can attend,
19	Commissioner, if you would like to. I know
20	you have another representative that you may
21	send as well.

1	ROBERT HAAS: Right.
2	RICHARD SCALI: It's just
3	reconstituting of the group, a reformation.
4	There will be a new head. It will not be me.
5	Mrs. Lint is perhaps thinking about it. I
6	don't know if she's stepping up to it.
7	MS. LINT: I thought they didn't
8	want me because I'm too tough.
9	RICHARD SCALI: I don't know. Maybe
10	they'll change their mind.
11	MS. LINT: Maybe they need somebody
12	tough. Not to say that you're not.
13	RICHARD SCALI: I'd be happy to step
14	down.
15	MS. LINT: Well, I don't think it's
16	appropriate for you to
17	RICHARD SCALI: It's not appropriate
18	for me to be the head of the group.
19	ELIZABETH LINT: Because issues come
20	before you to vote.
21	ROBERT HAAS: So I guess have we

1 decided or have we finalized what the 2 checklist is going to be for the continuation 3 of the taxicab school? 4 RICHARD SCALI: That was my other 5 questi on. 6 ROBERT HAAS: Okay. 7 RI CHARD SCALI: Because on May 11th 8 we're supposed to present something to all 9 the owners. I did a draft to you all 10 yesterday. So I need -- No. 1, you all to 11 look at the agenda to see if that's what you 12 want to talk about. I need to know who wants 13 to talk, No. 2. 14 ROBERT HAAS: Okay. 15 RICHARD SCALI: It shouldn't just be 16 Please just don't let it be me spouting me. 17 off. 18 ROBERT HAAS: That just means we 19 concur with you. 20 RICHARD SCALI: You can agree or not 21 agree, whatever. There should be various

1	people speaking. Michael Muehe wants to talk
2	about his training. And so look at that.
3	If you want to do the checklist ahead
4	of time, meaning if you all want to send
5	Mrs. Lint or me your ideas about what that
6	checklist should look like, I was going to
7	have Officer Szeto do a list for me, too.
8	But he's at in-service training this week.
9	ROBERT HAAS: I can verify he's
10	there.
11	RICHARD SCALI: He had no officers
12	this week because Officer Arcos is in Spain.
13	Here's a question for you: When you do
14	in-service training, do you have a choice
15	about what week you take?
16	ROBERT HAAS: Yes.
17	RICHARD SCALI: I wonder why he
18	chose this week when Officer Arcos is not
19	here this week.
20	ROBERT HAAS: Maybe it just
21	MS. LINT: It was one of those

ROBERT HAAS: It's at the back end.
He probably pushed it off to the very end.
RICHARD SCALI: This is the end of
the line?
ROBERT HAAS: This week and next two
weeks are the last week we're doing it.
We're wrapping it up, so he just pushed off
to the back end.
MS. LINT: Because we have
inspections and school vacation week and he
takes a long time then because of his kids.
RICHARD SCALI: I wanted you to be
sure there's no Hackney officers this week.
MS. LINT: It's been relatively
qui et as far as Hackney.
ROBERT HAAS: I mean if you find
yourselfin the future, if you need a police
officer to do something, then go back to
Lieutenant Ahern in Traffic Enforcement,
that's who they report to. And he can assign
one of the traffic officers.

1 RI CHARD SCALI: On a particular 2 problem? 3 ROBERT HAAS: If you have a 4 particular problem or a complaint, and both 5 officers are off and you need that matter 6 investigated. I'll send Lieutenant Ahern an 7 e-mail so he knows. Any time you're stuck 8 like that, refer it back to the Traffic 9 Enforcement Unit and they'll assign an 10 Technically both Benny and Antonio officer. 11 come out of that unit. 12 RI CHARD SCALI: Okay. 13 ROBERT HAAS: So as like a backup. 14 RICHARD SCALI: Just so you know, 15 when people are coming in with cards -- I mean, no one is unfamiliar with how the 16 17 system can do those kinds of things, but on a 18 complaint they may have to. 19 ROBERT HAAS: They can do the 20 investigation at least and figure out what 21 happened and at least present you with the

1	facts, and the Commissioner can decide if he
2	needs to take any further action. But at
3	that point you can interview the witness and
4	interview the persons involved.
5	RICHARD SCALI: A week goes by and
6	thi ngs change.
7	MS. LINT: Yes. Fortunately we
8	di dn' t get any.
9	RICHARD SCALI: Nothing huge.
10	ROBERT HAAS: I would just like l
11	said, when I go back, I'll send him an
12	e-mail.
13	RICHARD SCALI: Is it four days
14	i n-servi ce?
15	ROBERT HAAS: Yes, Wednesday through
16	Thursday.
17	RICHARD SCALI: So he'll be in here
18	tomorrow?
19	ROBERT HAAS: What's the day today,
20	Thursday?
21	MS. LINT: It's April 1st, Thursday.

1 ROBERT HAAS: If something happens 2 between the end of the day between now and 3 the end of the day --4 RICHARD SCALI: I want to make sure 5 I have the facts right. He isn't doing 6 anything wrong. 7 No, no. I suspect ROBERT HAAS: it's what I probably described. 8 9 RICHARD SCALI: It's been wonderful. 10 It's not a compliant. Just a clarification. 11 ROBERT HAAS: So getting back to the 12 handicap enforcement. What I'd like to do so 13 that we can demonstrate that, you know, we 14 want to take this issue on seriously. And I 15 think, you know, in fairness to Mr. Muehe is 16 that he doesn't understand that it makes -- I 17 tried to write that back in the e-mail, that 18 it makes more sense for a smaller unit that 19 knows the law and knows the regulations to be 20 doing that verification and enforcement as 21 opposed to saying to the general population

1 of police officers, oh, by the way, go out. 2 And I think it's much more effective and I 3 think we get it more. So I'm hoping he 4 understands that. 5 RICHARD SCALI: Well, here's the The issue is that -- I'm not sure 6 i ssue. 7 this is true, but they all understand that 8 Boston for some reason now is doing a more 9 comprehensive coverage with lots of police 10 officers. 11 ROBERT HAAS: It's probably through 12 their units, through their Hackney or Traffic 13 Enforcement. I can't see it being walk up to 14 the average police officer in the street and 15 say by the way, you're doing enforcement on 16 handicap accessibility to taxicabs. 17 ELI ZABETH LI NT: That's not logical. 18 ROBERT HAAS: No. 19 RICHARD SCALI: So I know that 20 Officer Szeto and so did Officer Arcos, we're 21 actually going to meet with Mr. Muehe next

1 week and come up with a sting operation for 2 And they're perfectly willing to do that. 3 that. 4 ROBERT HAAS: That's fine. I want 5 to make sure we keep that moving forward and 6 we do something. And, again, for no other 7 reason to reaffirm that the taxicab industry 8 is following the rules and regulations. 9 That's a benefit to us. 10 RICHARD SCALI: I actually asked 11 Officers Arcos and Szeto to come up with a 12 real schedule about that. I mean, once a 13 month, twice a month, whatever. I don't care 14 what days they do it. 15 ROBERT HAAS: Ri aht. 16 RICHARD SCALI: But they often say 17 they want to do it depending on the weather 18 because if the weather is bad, of course, 19 they can't. I would prefer it's a regular 20 day they go out and do it. 21 ROBERT HAAS: Or at Least schedule.

1 And if the weather is not conducive, they can 2 cancel and just cancel that date. 3 RI CHARD SCALI: They' ve been doing 4 it randomly right now and they've caught a 5 few Boston cabs last week from what I understand. I think there were like nine of 6 7 them last week? 8 MS. LINT: I don't know. 9 ROBERT HAAS: If there's still 10 violations taking place, I would think you 11 would want to do more. I would say with 12 disabilities situation, you have one or two 13 cabs not following the rules, do a couple 14 thi ngs. 15 One, we bring those folks in and say, 16 look, these are what the rules are and do a 17 follow up with the enforcement thing to see 18 if they got it or not. That's the only way 19 you're going to get compliance. 20 I would offer if there are no 21 violations and people do everything they're

1 supposed to be doing, that should be 2 comforting to the Disabilities Commission as 3 well saying our taxicab drivers are, you 4 know, fairly administering and following the 5 rul es. 6 RICHARD SCALI: I think we'll find 7 plenty of violations right now. 8 My sense is, too, if ROBERT HAAS: 9 we had violations, we'd be hearing about it. 10 We're not getting any complaints which means 11 it's not happening. But I'm also saying that 12 I would imagine that there's enough of a 13 population here where advocates for that 14 population, that if something happened, we'd 15 get complaints. 16 Well, I think though they MS. LINT: 17 cycle around. So right now they're 18 complaining about other things and it will 19 come back to that. 20 Who's they? ROBERT HAAS: 21 RI CHARD SCALI: Just drivers in

general.

ROBERT HAAS: I'm not talking about the drivers, I'm talking about the customers.

I would imagine that somebody like Ms. Sakim (phonetic), when she got told she couldn't go in the cab, we would hear about that. We're not hearing those kind of complaints.

MS. LINT: We're not hearing those.

RICHARD SCALI: Once in a while we get complaints from Mr. Muehe.

ROBERT HAAS: That's fine. They have a variety of different avenues to pursue in terms of filing complaints. It's not coming to the Police Department or the License Commission. There's still the Disabilities Commission and that's part of their role, you know. And I'm sure if they're getting those complaints, they're sending them to us. And if they're not, then they've got a problem.

MS. LINT: Yes.

ROBERT HAAS: My with respect to that kind of issue, we would hear more complaints and that would be an indicator to us that we've got a problem right now. But there's no complaints if you're not telling me about them.

RICHARD SCALI: I haven't seen them.

The last thing I want to mention, too,
is we've reached our max on grant funds for
hybrids. We are out of money. So we have,
as of Monday, we'll have 25 hybrid
conversions. We had 19 as of last week and
we approved six more. They're coming out
fast and furious because the Ford Escape
hybrids, 2009s are like \$17,000 now. Used
hybrids.

ROBERT HAAS: Oh, used ones.

RICHARD SCALI: They're all clamoring for them because they put down 5,000 and they get 10,000 back from us and they pay \$2,000. It's a good deal for them.

1 2 3 4 gone. 5 ROBERT HAAS: 6 selling the new medallions? 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 ROBERT HAAS: Free market. 18 RI CHARD SCALI: 19 20 need for it to be out there. I wouldn't want 21 Mr. Healy then to take the money that we get

I had people lined up at the window. But we are now out of the money that we had for the medallions that we sold, the money is now What's the process for RICHARD SCALI: We as a Commission have the total jurisdiction over that. We decide whether we wanted to sell the medallion. I would hope that if we did do that, we have to have a hearing to determine whether there's a need for that. I think the taxicab community may be against that, the ones that are current owners, because they don't want the additional competition. mean, it could be a van, it could be. It could be a hybrid. It could be just a reason that you

from that and use it for something else.

ROBERT HAAS: So we should do some advance work. And, again, my request would be is it going to have to be a hybrid medallion to be consistent with what we're using the money for. I'm not sure if we want the medallion, we're obligated to sell it. Will we get what we think is fair market price for it. So, if we get somebody who comes in and offers a hundred thousand dollars for a medallion, and we don't think it's appropriate, I don't think you're obligated to sell it, right?

RICHARD SCALI: That's not the problem. That's not a problem, they'll pay for it.

ROBERT HAAS: But my sense is if somebody's willing to pay the fair market value for a medallion, that says to me that the market is still open, right? Because why would you buy something for that kind of

1	value and if you're not going to get some
2	kind of return on it?
3	RICHARD SCALI: You'll get the money
4	for it, it's not a problem.
5	ROBERT HAAS: It's self-regulating I
6	believe. So, you know, but I would
7	MS. LINT: There would be a lot of
8	opposi ti on.
9	ROBERT HAAS: That could be. But if
10	there's a market for it and somebody's
11	willing to buy it and we're using it for a
12	good purpose. And actually they're reaping
13	the benefit because it becomes a grant that
14	goes back to the industry. You know, the
15	only thing I would, you know, probably want
16	to clarify with the City Manager is that he's
17	willing to
18	RI CHARD SCALI: Dedicate.
19	ROBERT HAAS: Go back into the
20	granting program, you know.
21	RICHARD SCALI: And there also is a
	1

1 grant we're applying for through --2 MS. LINT: Community Development. 3 RICHARD SCALI: -- Community Development, which is actually due today for 4 5 \$150,000 grants for hybrids only. 6 ROBERT HAAS: How come we didn't get 7 that? 8 RICHARD SCALI: I don't know. Di d 9 you -- it was out there? I didn't discover 10 it until last week with Rosalie Anders. 11 they put our program in and hopefully we'll 12 hear by May 9th. If we get that, that will 13 be another 15 more that we can grant. Or if 14 we want to grant less money than 10,000. 15 ELIZABETH LINT: I would get less. 16 I would give them five and you can double up. 17 It's a gift. It's just an incentive. Hal f 18 of them are going to do it anyway. 19 ROBERT HAAS: Right. And there's a 20 time for them to get some of the old cabs off 21 the road, and like you said, convert over.

1	And these are for additional hybrids not to
2	existing hybrids?
3	RICHARD SCALI: Right. Once you
4	get one time. You get one shot at the apple.
5	The other I'll let you go after this.
6	But the last thing is we have a
7	contract with the Ambassador Bridle to update
8	our handicap vans right now. It's up June
9	1st. We do not have the funding to do that
10	this year. It's a \$40,000 contract which is
11	not worked very well with Ambassador Bridle,
12	they' re managing these vans. So we reduced
13	the cost of it to like 15 to 25,000 hoping it
14	would be a lesser contract.
15	ROBERT HAAS: So we're paying
16	Ambassador for the van service?
17	RI CHARD SCALI: Yes.
18	ROBERT HAAS: And why wouldn't the
19	industry want those whose medallions are
20	they?
21	RI CHARD SCALI: They're individual

1 Al though Ambassador Bridle bought owners. 2 three or four of them, so they actually own a 3 Lot of the vans. 4 ROBERT HAAS: Why do we have to 5 subsidize the industry if the medallions are 6 owned? 7 MS. LINT: That's the question. 8 That's the question. RI CHARD SCALI: 9 Now that it's changed this passed year. Do 10 we have to pay them to manage their own 11 medallions? 12 ROBERT HAAS: Those medallions are 13 specific for handicap accessible vehicles, 14 right? They can't put them on another 15 They' ve got to be on a -vehi cl e. 16 RI CHARD SCALI: There's A van. 17 maybe two left that are individually owned by 18 other people. 19 ROBERT HAAS: But the point is it's 20 implicit or I would imagine explicit of the 21 fact that they have that medallion, they've

1 got to maintain that utilization for that 2 purpose and follow the same rules and 3 regulations for the people the vehicle is designed for. Why are we paying anything for 4 5 it? 6 RI CHARD SCALI: The issue is that 7 there are eight vans out there whenever they 8 wanted to be individual owners and doing 9 their own thing, and there was no way to 10 coordinate one main phone number where the 11 community could call and get just a van line. 12 So they -- we contracted out that this 13 company would then have an 800 number or 866 14 number? 15 MS. LINT: A dedicated line. 16 RICHARD SCALI: A dedicated line for 17 that line and you get a disability line any 18 time hopefully. 19 MS. LINT: But it has not been 20 terribly effective this year. 21 RI CHARD SCALI: But it's not been

1 effective in terms --2 ROBERT HAAS: What about radio 3 dispatch to get a call to dispatch the --4 RI CHARD SCALI: The number's owned 5 by Ambassador Bridle. It's their number. 6 have to take that number or get a new number. 7 MS. LINT: And what we've discovered 8 is a lot of the individuals that use the 9 service, call Cambridge Cab directly because 10 that's who used to manage it and they have 11 rel ati onshi ps. 12 Yes, I would imagine ROBERT HAAS: 13 if you're a regular rider, you probably have 14 your favorite cab company that you go with I 15 would imagine. And I imagine since a lot of 16 those folks are relying on that 17 transportation, they've established 18 relationships with people they feel 19 comfortable with. 20 RI CHARD SCALI: I think I should 21 have that conversation with Michael Muehe

1	because he's a proponent.
2	ROBERT HAAS: But do you understand
3	it's not yielded the kinds of results we were
4	hopi ng?
5	RICHARD SCALI: I need to convey
6	that to him. I want to make sure that you
7	if we don't rebid the contract, then we have
8	to do something else. Which as of June,
9	we'll be all different.
10	So all right I think that's probably
11	more than you need to know today. Anything
12	el se before us?
13	ROBERT HAAS: No.
14	RICHARD SCALI: Motion to adjourn.
15	ROBERT HAAS: Motion.
16	RICHARD SCALI: Moved, seconded.
17	And all in favor?
18	ROBERT HAAS: Aye.
19	RI CHARD SCALI: Aye.
20	(Whereupon, at 11:00 a.m., the
21	meeting adjourned.)

1	CERTIFICATE
2	COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS BRI STOL, SS.
3	
4	I, Catherine Lawson Zelinski, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, the undersigned Notary Public, certify that:
5	
6	I am not related to any of the parties in this matter by blood or marriage and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of
7	this matter.
8	I further certify that the testimony hereinbefore set forth is a true and accurate
9	transcription of my stenographic notes to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.
10	
11	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of April 2010.
12	
13	Catherine L. Zelinski Notary Public Certified Shorthand Reporter
14	Li cense No. 147703
15	My Commission Expires:
16	April 23, 2015
17	THE FOREGOING CERTIFICATION OF THIS
18	TRANSCRIPT DOES NOT APPLY TO ANY REPRODUCTION OF THE SAME BY ANY MEANS UNLESS UNDER THE
19	DIRECT CONTROL AND/OR DIRECTION OF THE CERTIFYING REPORTER.
20	
21	