



City of Dallas

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
Dallas City Hall – 1500 Marilla, L1FN Conference Room “C”
Regular Meeting
August 3, 2009
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

MINUTES

Members Present

Tad Heimbürger
Meredith McQuiston
Rebecca Rader
David J. Metzler
Keith Kwoh
Diane Benjamin
Sheron C. Patterson

Members Absent

Linda Sharp
Mandy Valasek
Mary Warner
Kedra Williams
Sylvia Lagos
Reginald Seastrunk
Russell Scott
Cheryl Camin

Staff Present

Kevin Lefebvre, Office of Environmental Quality
Dilip R. Shah, Assistant Director, EHS
Lilia V. Gonzalez, EHS

Public Present

None

Minutes

Ms. Sheron C. Patterson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Minutes from the May 4, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.

Urban Forest Advisory Committee Update

Robert Curry, Vice Chair

Mr. Robert Curry is the vice-chair of the Urban Forest Advisory Committee (UFAC). UFAC started in December of 2005 by former Mayor Laura Miller. UFAC serves as an advisory group on matters of environmental stewardship, specifically concerning the care and planting of trees and the urban forest by advocating sound arboricultural and urban forest management practices.

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The Committee provides proactive leadership for development of public policy and serves to educate citizens of Dallas regarding the numerous environmental, recreational, social and aesthetic benefits of a thriving urban forest.

The committee is authorized to study, plan, advise, report and make recommendations on plans, programs or city codes which the Council or Park and Recreation Board determines necessary or advisable for the care, conservation, planting, pruning, removal or disposition of trees citywide.

A copy of Mr. Curry's presentation was not provided.

Home Energy Efficiency & Energy Conservation Kits
Kevin Lefebvre, Office of Environmental Quality

Mr. Kevin Lefebvre informed the commission that the Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ) through its partnership with the Dallas Sustainable Skylines Initiative is offering a home energy efficiency and water conservation kit free to eligible residents of Dallas. These kits are available to any low to moderate income homeowner or renter (with homeowner permission) in Dallas and can help them live green and save green. As part of the conditions of receiving these kits, OEQ will track the energy and water usage.

Mr. Lefebvre suggested to the commission that they speak to their community leaders to conduct a seminar and provide more information. The Senior Source will be volunteering their services and will be assembling the kits. Also, different city departments are helping in the organization phase of assembling the kits.

Mr. Lefebvre gave a brief on the MEEA Awards. He informed the commission that Angela Britt was the winner for the "Small Business" category. She framed the letter and proudly presents the MEEA Award at the State & Allen Lounge.

He informed the commission that the MEEA Awards was a huge success last year. Mr. Lefebvre suggested to the commission that they submit any suggestions for this year's awards ceremony via email.

The commission suggested that the "MEEA 2010 Awards Coming Soon" notice will need to be posted on the Green Dallas website. Mr. Lefebvre informed the commission that he would address any suggestions made regarding MEEA at the next meeting.

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2008 Annual Report

Sheron C. Patterson, Chair

The commission decided that the "Highlights and Activities" will have listed the MEEA Awards and the winners. The "Revised Goals/Work Plan for 2009" will include the subcommittees and EEWC. Mrs. Patterson will scan the signed memo to Lilia V. Gonzalez to be included in the annual report.

Commission Reports

None

Staff Reports

None

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.