



## City of Dallas

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**  
**Dallas City Hall – 1500 Marilla, L1FN Conference Room “C”**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**October 5, 2009**  
**9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

### MINUTES

#### **Members Present**

Keith Kwoh  
Linda Sharp  
Sheron Patterson  
Tad Heimburger  
David Metzler  
Russel S. Meyers  
Rebecca Rader  
Diane Benjamin  
Meredith McQuiston

#### **Members Absent**

Mandy Valasek  
Kedra Williams  
Reginald Seastrunk  
Mary Warner  
Cheryl S. Camin  
Sylvia Lagos

#### **Staff Present**

Eric Griffin, Office of Environmental Quality  
Kevin Lefebvre, Office of Environmental Quality  
Carlette Carraway, Office of Environmental Quality  
Lilia V. Gonzalez, EHS

#### **Public Present**

None

#### **Minutes**

Dr. Sheron C. Patterson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Minutes from the September 14, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.

#### **MEEA Awards Update**

##### **Kevin Lefebvre, OEQ**

Mr. Lefebvre asked the commission for any changes or suggestions for the MEEA Awards. The commission made suggestions and comments regarding marketing, community awareness and extending time frame. Mr. Lefebvre stated he would work on having a press release prepared and have the rules and guidelines drafted by mid to late October. The commission agreed to separate the categories. The categories will be K-8, High School and Collegiate.

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A motion was made to limit repeat winners from using the exact same project for more than one year in a row. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Eric Griffin updated the commission on the City's staff and departmental changes.

### **Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation Kits and Seminars**

#### **Kevin Lefebvre, OEQ**

Mr. Lefebvre informed the commission that the presentations and distribution of kits for Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation had ended. The next distribution cycle for remaining kits will only be available for the Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP). The kits included the following:

- Two compact fluorescent bulbs
- Air-filter whistle
- Draft stoppers
- Window caulk
- Window tape
- Weather-stripping
- Tank bladder
- Leak tablets
- Two faucet aerators
- Fill diverter
- Cease-The-Grease information
- Green Guide
- Low watt night-light
- Low flow shower head

### **Growing a Greener Dallas – The Promise of Community Gardens**

#### **Victoria Loe-Hicks, The Foundation for Community Empowerment**

Mrs. Hicks stated The Foundation for Community Empowerment works primarily with organizations that are working to lift-up low income communities, particularly in south Dallas. Mrs. Hicks provided information regarding community gardening's benefits, what Dallas lacks and the obstacles faced.

Dr. Patterson encouraged the commission to contact their councilperson and show support for community gardens.

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**Commission Reports**

Dr. Patterson stated that she conveyed to the Mayor's Office that the commission supports the initial vision of the Health and Wellness Program for the City of Dallas. Dr. Patterson requested the status or comments from the commission regarding reports on various topics of interest that were to be researched and reported back as discussed in previous meetings. The commission agreed to have reports at the November or December meeting.

**Staff Reports**

None

**Public Comment**

None

**Adjournment**

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.