



City of Dallas

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
Dallas City Hall – 1500 Marilla, L1FN Conference Room “C”
Regular Meeting
February 4, 2008
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

MINUTES

Members Present

Jon (Tad) Heimbürger
Cheryl S. Camin
Keith Kwoh
David J. Metzler
Kedra Williams
Linda Sharp

Members Absent

Diane Benjamin
Sylvia Lagos
Meredith McQuiston
Reginald Seastrunk
Mary Warner

Staff Present

Dilip Shah, Assistant Director, EHS
Lilia Gonzalez, Coordinator, EHS
David Howe, City Attorney's Office

Public Present

None

Minutes

Mr. Tad Heimbürger, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. Minutes from the January 7, 2008 were approved unanimously.

Introduction of New Members

Dr. Sheron C. Patterson, Chair of Environmental Health Commission

Dr. Sheron C. Patterson is Senior Pastor of the Highland Hills United Methodist Church. Dr. Patterson has been in Dallas for the past 20 years and is originally from North Carolina. She has a strong interest in health being a cancer survivor and is very much interested in keeping Dallas healthy.

Environmental Health Commission Minutes
February 4, 2008
Page 2

Disaster Recover

Jennifer Cutrer, Parkland Health & Hospital

Mrs. Jorie Klein is the Director of Trauma and Disaster Services at Parkland Hospital. Mrs. Klein started in Parkland in 1982. She was one of the key person that coordinated to open the Reunion Arena to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita.

Mrs. Klein mentioned that she would like a better understanding of all the infrastructure and committees within the Dallas County and the north Texas region about the commitment to preparedness. Parkland has one of the oldest regional trauma advisory council that includes 19 counties. The challenges are to identify capabilities, build sustainability and handle the increased amount of patients. Mrs. Klein believes that through partnership and open communication there would be a more success plan. A copy of Mrs. Klein's presentation was provided to the commission members.

Future Topic Discussion

Tad Heimburger, Vice Chair

Mrs. Linda Sharp suggested that the commission do an overview of topics they have topics they've listened to in the past. She also mentioned that Mr. David Howe had always suggested taking one topic and focusing on that issue for a year. She suggested that the commission focus on emergency preparedness.

Ms. Kedra Williams suggested an easy way to educate the public on emergency preparedness. She suggested running a campaign announcement on the phone while the citizen is on hold when calling 3-1-1.

Mr. Tad Heimburger informed the commission that he spoke to Councilwoman Linda Koop and asked for her input on future topics for the Commission to work on. They also discussed the recent newspaper article about future smoking bans. Mr. Heimburger has observed a smoking related problem at the downtown transit stations. He has seen a lot of DART customers smoke while waiting on the train or bus and drop their cigarette butts on the ground. He is concerned that not only is it an air quality issue for other transit patrons but it becomes a storm water pollution issue as well.

2007 Annual Report

Tad Heimburger, Vice Chair

Mr. Heimburger briefly reviewed the annual report with the commission. He suggested that the commission discuss the annual report at next month's meeting.

Environmental Health Commission Minutes
February 4, 2008
Page 3

Commission Reports

None

Staff Reports

None

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

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