



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
Dallas City Hall – 1500 Marilla, L1FN Conference Room “C”
Regular Meeting
June 4, 2007
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

MINUTES

Members Present

James E. Mitchell, Chair
Jon (Tad) Heimburger
Keith Kwoh
Sylvia Lagos
Linda Sharp

Members Absent

Diane Benjamin
Mary Volgeson
Mary Warner

Public Present

None

Staff Present

Joshua Hathaway, Office of Environmental Quality
Sarah Kitchen, Office of Environmental Quality
Lauren Dean, Office of Environmental Quality
Lilia V. Gonzalez, Coordinator, EHS

Minutes

Mr. James E. Mitchell, Chair, called the regular meeting of the Environmental Health Commission to order at 9:00 a.m. The minutes from the April 2, 2007 meeting were approved unanimously.

Environmental Issues Presently Under Discussion

Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager

Mrs. Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager, talked to the commission about the various environmental issues that are under discussion in the city. She informed the commission that the city is committed in cutting back on gas emissions. Equipment and Building Services (EBS) continue to work on reducing electricity mode internally. The city has accomplished the state's mandate of 5% for 5 years and beyond that. EBS is working with a consultant team and they are working with a different team hired by two different environmental groups at the part of the mayor's city coalition to come up with a pyramid strategy for green power. EBS and their consultant team are working on it from a city's standpoint. Other consultant is assisting EBS work on it with a perspective of all the cities in the coalition.

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Mrs. Jordan mentioned that the city could look into moving beyond just fighting coal plants and dealing with the cement kilns. She informed the commission that staff will be reporting back to Council in six months.

She also mentioned that they have been thinking about including in this years budget is environmental enforcement officers. The officers would enforce the law that prohibits the use of a motor vehicle that is emitting smoke. The positions can either come from the Police Department or the City Marshall's Office.

A copy of Mrs. Jordan's presentation was not provided to the commission members.

Status/Progress of Sustainability Task Force

Linda Sharp, EHC

Mrs. Linda Sharp mentioned that the taskforce met on May 21st. They talked about incentives for developers. Some of the areas for possible incentives would be reduction in tree mitigation, allowing for narrower streets and not requiring gutters. They are also looking at street lighting issue which is a big expense for developers. She also discussed using smaller lots and reduction in parking. The next meeting is June 5, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. in 4CN#2. Mrs. Sharp invited everyone to attend.

Thoughts on Directions

James E. Mitchell, Chair, EHC

Mr. Mitchell recommended sending an endorsement to the Transportation and Environment Committee on a budget item for the hiring of a consultant to help on the evaluation and adoption of ISWM. Mr. Heimburger made a motion for the commission to send a letter endorsing the concept of a consultant to assist the city staff including budgeting. Mr. Keith Kwoh seconded the motion.

Mr. Mitchell informed the commission that this is the last meeting with the commission. He's enjoyed it and has decided to resign. He hopes that the commission gets new members as new council people begin. He suggests that the time be used to focus on items of interest for the commission to continue. He also said that it was a pleasure serving with the commission and he wished the commission good luck!

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Commission Reports

Mr. Mitchell introduced Mr. Heimburger as the newly appointed Vice-Chair of the Environmental Health Commission.

Staff Reports

None

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

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