

Quality of Life Council Committee

Meeting Record (DRAFT)

Meeting Date: 5-26-2009

Convened: 12:08 p.m.

Adjourned: 1:37 p.m.

Pauline Medrano, Chair
Vonciel Jones Hill, Vice Chair
Sheffie Kadane
David A. Neumann
Steve Salazar
Angela Hunt
Carolyn R. Davis

Briefing Presenters:

-Dr. Phillip Shinoda, Director of the Center
for Environmental Memnosyne Foundation
-Joey Zapata, Interim Director of the
Compliance Department
-Daniel Huerta, Park and Recreation
Department,

Special Guests:

Commissioner Phillip Collins, Former
Councilmember Ricardo Medrano, Chef Scott
Horwitz, Frank Ashmore

Staff Present:

Jack Ireland, Kathy Hernandez, Rodney
Patterson, Tom Perkins, Brittany Burrell,
Elizabeth Hernandez, Sally Rodriguez

AGENDA:

1. Approval of May 11, 2009 minutes

Presenter(s):

Information Only: _____

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): Motion to approve the
May 11, 2009 minutes.

Motion made by: Vonciel Jones Hill

Item passed unanimously: __X__

Item failed unanimously: _____

Motion seconded by: Angela Hunt

Item passed on a divided vote: _____

Item failed on a divided vote: _____

2. Dallas Green Expo

Presenter(s): Dr. Phillip Shinoda

Information Only: __X__

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

The first ever Dallas Green Expo is coming April 24-25, 2010 to the Dallas Convention Center. The expo's mission is to give attendees an opportunity to learn about the people, organizations, products, services and ideas that are behind the green revolution and to give them some practical tools to make positive changes in their own lives. The Dallas Green Expo will belong to and be shaped by the community and will be an opportunity for Dallas and the North Texas region to be seen on the leading edge of a powerful trend.

Plans call for extensive mass media marketing of the event, more than 200 booths, speakers, seminars, live music and an attendance of 20,000 adults and children the first year. The Dallas Green Expo welcomes businesses and organizations that are working toward a sustainable present and future through the development and implementation of sustainable business practices, and the development and marketing of green products and services.

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Motion made by: _____
Item passed unanimously: _____

Item failed unanimously: _____

Motion seconded by: _____
Item passed on a divided vote: _____

Item failed on a divided vote: _____

3. Maple Avenue Project

Presenter(s): Joey Zapata

Information Only: X

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

The Maple Avenue Project was designed to address code violations and enhance curb appeal along the Maple Avenue Business Corridor. There was a coordinated effort between Code Compliance, Strategic Customer Services and the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

The focus was on the seven most common violation types along Maple Avenue, therefore, stage I planning began in August of 2008. A letter was jointly prepared by the City and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for approximately 200 businesses which provided information about the seven common violations and how to remedy them. On October 2008, letters were distributed in English and Spanish. Twelve Code Officers hand carried and delivered the letters to the owner/manager at each business location. No enforcement action was taken to allow businesses a 30-day grace period to remedy violations before initial inspections.

In Stage II, code inspections began December 2, 2008. Inspectors identified code violations and issued Notices of Violation, cases were created and photos taken to document violations. Re-inspection dates were scheduled to allow reasonable time to abate. A total of 169 notices were issued to businesses.

In Stage III, follow-up inspections began in January 2009 and had two possible outcomes: violation remained or complied.

Next steps include Code developing a guide of city services for businesses along Maple Avenue to continue educating and maintaining the progress made, continue to have a visible presence on Maple Avenue and participate and encourage beautification efforts as the next phase, which enhances economic development.

Motion made by: _____
Item passed unanimously: _____
Item failed unanimously: _____

Motion seconded by: _____
Item passed on a divided vote: _____
Item failed on a divided vote: _____

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4. Dallas Park & Recreation Department 2008 Volunteer Program

Presenter(s): Daniel Huerta

Information Only: __X__

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

The Park and Recreation Department's volunteer program was established in 1986. The volunteer manual was adopted as a policy by the Dallas Park and Recreation Board in 1991. The purpose of the program is to utilize the skills, knowledge and expertise of volunteers to enhance and expand programs and services.

Annually there are approximately 2500 volunteers for training. The coordination of background checks with the Volunteer Center of North Texas, staff training, tracking of hours, record keeping, and program site audits all adhere to the Volunteer Policy.

Volunteer opportunities include park maintenance areas, recreation centers, Dallas Zoo and Aquarium, Fair Park Community Services, Golf and Tennis, Administration and Finance, Planning, Design and Facility Services. Volunteer Partners are the Volunteer Center of North Texas, public and private schools, colleges and universities, special interest and friends groups and corporations.

The City of Dallas thanks the Dallas Park and Recreation Department 2008 Volunteers for 195,000 hours of donated service valued at \$3.2 million.

To become a volunteer, contact Connie Roberson at (214) 670-8482 or by e-mail at connie.roberson@dallascityhall.com

Motion made by:

Item passed unanimously: _____

Item failed unanimously: _____

Motion seconded by:

Item passed on a divided vote: _____

Item failed on a divided vote: _____



Pauline Medrano

Chair