

Minutes of the April 12, 2005
Environmental Task Force Meeting

Attendees: Sarah Hartpence, Darlene Munger, Richard McMullen, Mike Weldon, Mike Sweet, Jody Gonzales, Cynthia White, Amanda Gross, Jan Thompson (visitor)
Eddie Baggs (speaker), Jessica Gullion (speaker)

The meeting was called to order by Richard McMullen at 7:05pm.

Eddie Baggs spoke about the Texas Country Cleanup program. Most batteries and thermometers get thrown away and end up in landfills and eventually get to water. This is why it is best to take them to one of these events so they can be disposed of correctly.

There was a short discussion of other locations to take some of the hazardous materials during the rest of the year.

There was a request from Rich McMullen to put an announcement about the event on the ETF website.

BREAK

7:30 pm meeting began again. Welcome to a guest, Jan Thompson, interested in serving on the committee.

The main speaker was Jessica Gullion an Epidemiologist with the Denton County Health Department. She gave a brief description of her department. In regards to West Nile Virus the department focuses on education. She explained that although the county does not have a prevention plan, all cities do have established plans. When asked what you can do individually she talked about larvicide's and mosquito dunks that can be purchased at Home Depot. Mike Sweet said that City of Denton had a program where they would give away mosquito dunks for free.

Jessica Gullion spoke about other health issues that are prevalent in Denton County. She spoke about a research program that she is working on with the cooperation of the Emergency Rooms at the 3 local hospitals. She has finished a study that correlates asthma visits to the ER and ozone particulate matter.

New Business: Motion made by Mike Weldon and 2nd by Mike Sweet to approve the minutes from the January meeting. Approved unanimously.

Announcements: UNT Watershed Workshop information provided by Mike Weldon. Jody Gonzalez explained briefly how Hazardous Chemicals are tracked by the county via the Fire Marshall/Emergency Management office.

Mike Weldon suggested that at a future meeting may be held at the Acme plant with a tour. The question arose whether to have a special meeting to tour the plant or have the meeting in place of our regular meeting in July. Mike Weldon said that Acme brick agreed to have the tour, answer questions and give us a place to conduct any regular business that we need to conduct all in the same night.

It was agreed that members would be allowed to vote on this issue via email and a decision would be made before our next meeting.

Richard McMullen adjourned the meeting at 8:45pm.

Next Meeting is July 12, 2005