



Air Victoria Community Advisory Panel Meeting

Minutes November 20, 2008

12:30 - 2 p.m., Room 204, 700 Main Center

Those in attendance:

Marie Lester
Charles Kulow
Chris Jones
Ray Miller

Jerry James
Glenda Swierc
Alan Migl
Tara Bozick

Angie Sherman
Rachel Brown
Les Garcia

Marie Lester welcomed everyone and each person introduced themselves.

Marie Lester gave an update on the ozone season. Conditions were favorable to keep ozone levels low. Victoria's highest ozone day was 67 parts per billion. Gave breakpoints on new ozone levels. Work plan updates on emissions inventory - add three gas compressors, 1 or 2 locomotive engines and remove tow boats.

Air Victoria will change the way we do advertising. A local radio station will brand AV program on PSA commercials and they will run year round.

The PSA contest's top 3 videos were shown. All three winning videos were played on a local television station throughout ozone season.

Air Victoria team will be revamped and expanded.

Odyssey Event focused on propane lawn mowers and alternative fuels.

Upcoming events will be April 2009 with the ozone season kickoff/luncheon, Spring 2009 electric lawn equipment exchange and Fall 2009 will be a Clean Air bike fest with Parks and Recreation.

Rachel Brown was introduced as City of Victoria's Education Specialist. She gave an update on Blue Sky Initiative program. Five schools started the program last year and six more have been added this year. We have 1265 pledges + currently.

Jerry James discussed air quality legislation. EPA has lowered the clean air standard for ozone to 75ppb. TCEQ expanded their air quality program but additional funding is not for near non-attainment areas like Victoria. TCEQ's expanded programs still benefit Victoria by reducing pollution in nearby cities such as San Antonio and Houston. A new proposal to add three more areas to the funding has been proposed. The Texas Clean Air Working Group is working on their recommendations for the budget.

Les Garcia is the operations manager for Victoria Transit. Transportation is provided seven days of the week and nights for those that work, need medical assistance or shopping. Victoria Transit moved to Town Plaza Mall in September. A price increase will take effect in December.

Alan Migl gave a report on the Clean Air Program (CAP) with TxDOT. In 2005 the program took full implementation. It runs from May 1st – September 30th and encourages employees to carpool, bike, walk to work, maintain vehicle, clean lunch commutes to earn points for time off.

Participation increased in 2007 and 2008. Statewide there is a 67% participation. From 2005-2007 TxDOT has saved 250,000 gallons of fuel due to the program. Yoakum District placed first in the statewide competition.

Thanks to City of Victoria Development Services for providing lunch
Next meeting is on March 12th in Room 204, 700 Main Center