

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
LODI IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

July 12, 2011

6:00 P.M.

CARNEGIE FORUM – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
305 W. PINE STREET
Lodi, California

For information regarding this Agenda please contact:
JOSEPH WOOD
TELEPHONE: (209) 333-6711

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6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Roll Call

Minutes June 14, 2011 – Regular Meeting

Treasurer's Report

Announcements/Presentations

Agenda Items:

- A. Amend By-Laws to Reduce Membership Requirement
- B. Follow up on Issues from Previous Meetings

Department Reports

- Community Development
- Police Department
- Public Works

Comments by the Public on Non-Agenda Items (5 minute limit per speaker)

Comments from Board members on Non-Agenda Items (5 minute limit per speaker)

New Business

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

Adjournment

Pursuant to Section 54954.2(a) of the Government Code of the State of California, this agenda was posted at least 72 hours in advance of the regularly scheduled meeting (or 24 hours in advance of a special meeting) at a public place freely accessible to the public 24 hours a day.

Joseph Wood
Neighborhood Services Manager

**LODI IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

June 14, 2011

6:00 P.M.
ROLL CALL

BOARD		STAFF
<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	
Robert Takeuchi (Chair)	Sunil Yadav	Joseph Wood, CDD
Tim Litton (Vice Chair)		Araseli del Castillo, CDD
Fran Forkas		
Lisa Nixon		

MINUTES

May 10, 2011 – Regular Meeting
May 14, 2011 – Special Meeting

LIC Member Fran Forkas motioned to approve the May 10th and May 14th, 2011 minutes. LIC Member Tim Litton seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Beginning balance, as of 4/22/11, was \$407.81
There was one check (#1080) to the Butcher Shoppe for \$73.23, drawn on 5/14/11, for the goal-setting session lunch. A service fee of \$3.00 was assessed on 5/20/11.
Ending balance, as of 5/20/11, was \$331.58.

Mr. Litton motioned to approve the report as of 5/20/11. Mr. Forkas seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

A. LIC Vacancies

Mr. Wood stated as you see there are two empty chairs on the dais. The Lodi Improvement Committee is made up of seven members and we have two vacancies. The application period is open until July 5th. Please direct anyone that may be interested to fill out an application at the City Clerk’s Office.

B. Mr. Wood stated that if anyone from the public would like to speak please come up to the podium so you can be recorded.

Mr. Takeuchi stated that if it is determined that there is no applicants for the remaining two positions then the Chair would suggest that we entertain a motion that we reduce the size of this committee. I am very concerned about reaching a quorum each meeting. If we keep this quorum at five instead of seven then the quorum size is reduced significant in terms of keeping this committee alive and I think there is good merit in keeping this committee alive.

Mr. Wood stated he will have an idea on our next meeting if there have been any applicants. If not, if you so desire we can have that on our agenda as an action item. It will take an amendment of the by-laws.

Mr. Takeuchi asked for Mr. Wood to put it on the agenda item if we do not fill those two vacancies.

AGENDA ITEMS

A. Presentation on Services Provided Through Point Break Adolescent Resources

LIC Member Lisa Nixon had mentioned that the counseling agency that she works for was interested in making a presentation to the LIC. The concept is to let the committee and the public be more aware of some of the agencies that are serving this Community and in reverse also giving the various agencies and organizations an opportunity to understand this commission exists. We are happy to serve as a forum for public issues. Ms. Nixon has arranged for Joel Wurgler, Executive Director of Point Break Adolescent Resources, come here this evening to make a presentation and give some background on this organization and services and programs provided.

Mr. Wurgler stated Youth for Christ is the parent organization but Point Break is the community assisting division. It is non religious in curriculum. In 2001 we did some research and discovered that there were few resources for high risk teenagers. Mr. Wurgler stated that Point Break is a surfing term. It describes the piece of land that jumps out under the ocean floor that causes the wave to break.

Mr. Wurgler stated that in the process of discovering the needs of these high risks students we developed a strategy to provide anger management, substance abuse counseling, gang awareness and intervention and workshops in schools. We provide on site classes for many schools throughout the county. Mr. Wurgler stated he brought Gino Avila, one of our staff members and is our main man when it comes to gang outreach for us.

Mr. Wurgler stated that they have classes that cost \$125.00 but we find that a lot of kids can't afford it. We are a non-profit organization. Our cost is extremely inexpensive but even that there are many that can't afford it. Mr. Wurgler stated what he has discovered that unless they are being paid by a school contract we often charge \$20 because we have found if we don't charge something, they don't come. The individual program is \$25 per session and that is our starting price. The workshops cost \$1500 for the whole day.

Mr. Forkas asked about the workshops in the High Schools. His question is how many students can you take in at a time?

Mr. Wurgler replied from 100-130 students.

Mr. Takeuchi asked if he can cover a little more about the financing of this organization.

Mr. Wurgler replied that 50% of our budget is donations from corporations, individuals and businesses. We also receive grants and work with school districts who receive grants. We have 13 staff members, 3 staff members for anger management, 3 staff members for gang awareness, 3 staff members for substance abuse counseling and a part time administrative assistant and a part time bookkeeper.

Mr. Takeuchi stated that the Lodi Improvement Committee as I say is often powerless. Although we are a part of the City of Lodi we are run by the Mayor and City Council. We don't have any power to do anything we try to do. When focusing on groups like you we try to show case these organizations. Mr. Takeuchi states we hope that people from the public are attracted to these meetings so they can hear about these issues.

Mr. Gino Avila stated that he approaches these kids on a relationship level. They already know what is right and wrong. What they want to know is that somebody cares. They want to know if they have an issue or problem that they have somewhere where they can go to who is not going to yell at them. That is how I approach the classes that I do.

Mr. Avila stated that Lodi is having a lot more gang issues. The reason of that is that is becoming more visible. They have always been here and it has always been an issue but it has never been addressed or as open as it is today. Mr. Avila stated that the gang issues in Lodi are territorial. You have Central block which are the Northerners and you have Southerners living in Central block.

Mr. Takeuchi stated that what Mr. Avila is saying in part is that you're fulfilling a role to respond to these people and telling them that it is o.k. for what they are doing and reach to them heart to heart.

Mr. Avila responded that not to tell them its o.k. what they are doing but it is normal what they are feeling. To tell them the way they are dealing with it, is wrong. We have to understand that the gangs' level of mentality is run by a high level of respect. That is what they want. That is what they are fighting for. It's not so much for money.

Mr. Avila stated that Lodi has a high standing rank in the prison system. There are a lot of big time guys who come out of Lodi, Stockton & San Jose.

Mr. Takeuchi asked why that is.

Mr. Avila replied because it is small and recruitable. It is also social status. They want to be recognized for power.

From the audience, Doug Chaney stated that from the Lodi Improvement Committee meeting dated March 9, 2010, Chief Main stated there were 74 police officers in Lodi

plus 125 volunteers. The estimate then was 300 documented gang members and 150 undocumented. There were 300 parolees living in Lodi and 102 sex offenders.

Again from the audience, Dennis stated that he had a neighbor in Stockton, Robert Garcia. His father was in gangs and his father was in gangs. His family decided they were going to change and get out of gangs. They got out of the gangs but they didn't move and now Robert Garcia is dead. Now the family is back into gangs because they couldn't stand the pressure and stayed where they were at.

Mr. Avila responded that if you live in a highly structured prison gang there is a high probability you will not be able to get out. Mr. Avila stated he was involved in a prison gang and I got out and I live in the neighborhood as when I grew up. I was given a pass as you say because of all the things I did when I was in prison. I have been doing this for four years and have been out for six years.

Mr. Takeuchi asked if they believe that gangs to be the main problem in our society today because I kind of do for the reason it impacts on kids. It impacts on self esteem, the kids, the way they live/act. The way they conduct their lives and it takes away from our society. I consider it to be one of the main problems we have. If it is, what is it that your organization can do to make sure or to try to alleviate the problem of gangs and is it simply a matter of the non gang people that are very concerned about gangs to give you money.

Mr. Wurgler replied that what we do is one aspect of it.

Mr. Avila stated they ask kids what is the number one reason that is holding you back from getting out. They always say "what are my friends going to think."

Mr. Takeuchi asked Mr. Avila for his personal background in terms of where you're coming from and your ability to speak to these people one on one.

Mr. Avila replied I have a large family. 8 boys, I'm the youngest of the boys and 5 sisters. I always found myself alone because my parents didn't have time for 13 kids and being the youngest nobody wanted me around. I couldn't hang out with my sisters because they were girls so at the age of 12 I got jumped in. My father was strict and I was an alter boy. I carried a gun in church under the alter boy robes. I was in little league baseball and carrying a gun in my duffel bag. My mom died when I was 16 of leukemia and my father died 6 months later of a heart attack and I just lost it and went crazy. I got involved in heroin and ended up in prison at DVI two weeks after turning 18. That prison was mostly Southerners institution so I had to fight to get into the hole for my own protection. I was a Northerner.

Mr. Takeuchi asked does Northerner mean Norteño.

Mr. Avila replied yes. Now they call them Northerners. The new generation is now called Northerners and Southerners. I spent my whole adult life in prison. I never got

to the level in the prison gang where I had the authority to say he's got to go or he get's to stay.

Mr. Litton asked are you referring to "he's gotta go" to die?

Mr. Avila replied yes. He's got to die, got to go.

Mr. Takeuchi stated he can't think of anyone more dedicated with a mind set that is ready to do what you are doing than some of the Police officers in the City but they admit they are the worse people to do it.

From the audience, Judy Gervasi stated she has been teaching in Lodi for over 25 years and I have found that a lot of these young people have given up on them. They don't reach out to them. They have no one to connect to. They are not going to connect with me.

Mr. Wurgler stated he will get her phone number and she could call them anytime and we will work with them at any cost. We will do whatever it takes. That is our goal.

Mr. Wood stated that he had heard from one of the PeaceKeepers that one of the biggest hurdles he had was the Police Dept. itself. A lot of the officers did not trust him as he was a former gang member. Have you encountered that here in Lodi, Stockton or Tracy?

Mr. Avila replied yes and no. In Tracy there are a couple officers don't believe anything we are trying to do. I don't take it personal because their intensions are good.

Mr. Wurgler stated that all volunteers who work with them go through training and if they are going to work with teenagers they better never have a crime against a teenager ever in your history. There better not be a sexual crime in your history. There are all kinds of restrictions but problems sometimes with volunteers are you don't have the control that you need.

Mr. Wurgler stated that his goal today is to help Lodi understand where we are at. If we can work with and if the funding is there we will but even if it's not Lisa will still be involved with you. We are still going to work with Lodi High School and work with kids who are referred us from Lodi.

Mr. Takeuchi stated that the great benefit we had was meeting Mr. Wurgler and Gino. Thank you very much for coming.

B. Follow up on Issues from Previous Meetings

Main Street Project

Mr. Wood stated that the target date is set for Saturday, June 18, 2011. Mr. Wood stated the wash down of the building is set for Friday, June 17th.

Mr. Forkas stated that Public Works is supplying sand bags to pick up any water that comes off the property. That is in place and ready to go.

Mr. Takeuchi asked if the Fire Dept. is helping with this.

Mr. Wood replied yes. They are having the engine company coming on Friday morning to do it as a hose drill. They have 15-18 off duty employees and volunteers coming Saturday to paint the building. United Rentals will not have the man lift available because it is over booked. I yet have let the Fire Dept. know because I wanted to ask you folks to see what you wanted to do. I think we should paint the lower portion of the building. I think the Fire Dept. is a creative bunch and may be able to have means to access and paint the upper portion of the building. If not, once we secure the lift is to reschedule with a follow up date and paint the top half. Mr. Wood states the Fire Dept. is very enthused about this project and is very appreciative that the Improvement Committee looked to them to be able to participate. Mr. Wood stated the Fire Dept. will have their BBQ rig out there and I will be barbequing lunch for all who helped.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Community Development

Planning Commission – Past Action

None

Neighborhood Services Division

None

Building Division

B. Police Department

- **District/Watch Commander**

736 S. Cherokee Lane – Oasis Motel – Mr. Wood confirmed with LPD that there have been no calls for services or any issues at this address. There is no active case or complaint in regards to the complaint.

- **Community Improvement Unit/Code Enforcement**

None

C. Public Works

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

A public member thanked the committee for taking charge of the Main Street Project.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD MEMBERS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

A. Looking Ahead

- **July 12th** – El Concilio/Hispanic Business Committee-CoC/Mex-American Lions Club
- National Night Out
- **August 9th**

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Araseli del Castillo, Recording Secretary

DRAFT



MEMORANDUM, City of Lodi, Community Development Department

To: Lodi Improvement Committee
From: Joseph Wood, Neighborhood Services Manager
Date: July 11, 2011
Subject: Staff Report for Regular Meeting of July 12, 2011

I. Treasurer's Report

Beginning balance, as of 5/21/11, was \$331.58.
No checks drawn or fees assessed.
Ending balance, as of 6/22/11, was \$331.58.

There is an invoice for \$53.68 from Henderson Bros. for the rain gutter downspout for the Main Street Fire Station building. I would suggest that a check be cut for that amount.

II. Announcements/Presentations

A. National Night Out – Tuesday, August 2nd

Introductory briefing will be held at 5:30 in the LPD Community Room. A list of black parties will be provided at that point. Participating LIC members are encouraged to visit whatever neighborhoods they would like. LPD Officers will be assigned to Council members only. The new Lodi Police Chief will be introducing himself to the community at this event.

III. Agenda Items:

A. Amend By-Laws to Reduce Membership Requirement

As there continues to be two vacancies on the LIC Board and as there were no applications received in the City Clerk's Office by the closing date of July 5th, it appears that the LIC should consider an amendment of the By-Laws in order to reduce the membership from seven (7) to five (5) members.

The language to accomplish that is as follows:

SECTION 2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Effective ~~July 21, 2009~~ **July 12, 2011**, pending approval by the Lodi City Council, the ~~nine (9)~~ **seven (7)** person Board of Directors shall, by attrition, be reduced to a ~~seven (7)~~ **five (5)** member board. Such attrition shall occur by ~~resignation or removal of directors currently serving, failure to complete their~~

~~term or failure to seek reappointment at the end of their term~~ **the elimination of the two current vacant positions.** During and after the transition, a quorum of the Board for voting or meeting purposes shall consist of fifty percent (50%) plus one of all directors then serving on the Board. After transition is complete, directors shall continue to serve three year staggered terms, based on their original date of appointment.

A complete copy of the proposed amended By-Laws is attached for reference. Pending approval of the amended By-Laws by the Lodi Improvement Committee, they will be brought before the City Council for ratification on August 3, 2011.

B. Follow up on Issues from Previous Meetings

Main Street Project

The first portion of the project, encompassing the lower portion of the building was completed on June 18, 2011. An e-mail was received from Brad Doell, Lodi PFA, in which he stated that he has a friend that owns a couple lifts that he said he would donate for the completion of our project. Brad still suggests that we still get lifts from United Rentals as it will speed the painting process up. He will also talk to a few firefighters that are very artistic and see if they are interested in the painting of the apparatus bay door.

A date needs to be set for the next and hopefully final phase of work.

IV. Department Reports

A. Community Development Department

- **Planning Commission**
- **Neighborhood Services Division**
- **Building Division**

B. Police Department

- **District/Watch Commander**
- **Community Improvement Unit/Code Enforcement**

B. Public Works

- Alley Drainage Improvement Project – The second phase was bid and the lowest bidder was Knife River Construction out of Stockton for the amount of \$236,510.50. There is a total of \$347,209 in CDBG funds available for this project. Work on this next phase, which includes three alleys located south of Lodi Avenue (*see attached map*), should begin in September.

V. New Business

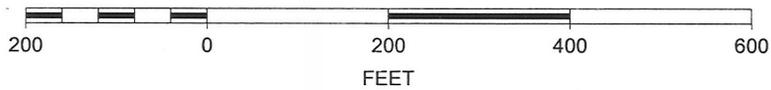
A. Looking Ahead

- **August 9th**
 -
 - *National Night Out*
- **September 13th**
 - *El Consilio/Hispanic Business Committee -CoC/Mex-Amer Lions Club*

2010-11 Alley Improvement Project



SCALE 1 : 2,516



BY-LAWS OF

THE LODI IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

ARTICLE I

ORGANIZATION

SECTION 1.

Under the auspices of the City of Lodi, there is hereby created the Lodi Improvement Committee.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSES

SECTION 1. GENERAL PURPOSE

The Lodi Improvement Committee is organized and created for the purposes of maintaining and improving the quality of life and appearance of Lodi by the coordinated efforts of a broad spectrum of the community.

SECTION 2. SPECIFIC GOALS/PURPOSES

- A) To combat illegal drugs, prostitution, and other crimes by such measures as cooperation with or establishment of groups such as Crime Stoppers and Neighborhood Watch.
- B) To eliminate blight and encourage the maintenance, improvement, or rehabilitation of properties throughout Lodi, with the cooperation of residents, property owners, business, and government.
- C) To act as an advocate for residents in issues dealing with the upgrade, improvement and maintenance of all infrastructure, including streets, alleys, water, sewer and storm drainage systems.
- D) To encourage compliance with building, housing, fire, and other health and safety laws, and local property maintenance ordinances by property owners, residents, and businesses.

- E) To coordinate with churches, civic and community groups, and other community based organizations to educate and inform the public on ways of achieving these goals, and to keep the public informed of the efforts.
- F) To work with business community to encourage a healthy business climate.
- G) Provide acknowledgement to properties and businesses throughout the City that show marked improvements in service and appearance that contributes to the image and quality of the community.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

General membership shall be open to all persons.

SECTION 2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Effective ~~July 21, 2009~~ **July 12, 2011**, pending approval by the Lodi City Council, the ~~nine (9)~~ **seven (7)** person Board of Directors shall, by attrition, be reduced to a ~~seven (7)~~ **five (5)** member board. Such attrition shall occur by ~~resignation or removal of directors currently serving, failure to complete their term or failure to seek reappointment at the end of their term~~ **the elimination of the two current vacant positions.** During and after the transition, a quorum of the Board for voting or meeting purposes shall consist of fifty percent (50%) plus one of all directors then serving on the Board. After transition is complete, directors shall continue to serve three year staggered terms, based on their original date of appointment.

SECTION 3. SUBCOMMITTEES

There may be as many subcommittees as deemed necessary by the Board to accomplish any specific goal to be achieved by the Improvement Committee.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

SECTION 1. EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The Executive Officers shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Treasurer. New officers shall be elected by the Board annually at the first meeting in April.

SECTION 2.

The Chairperson or Vice Chairperson shall serve as spokesperson for the Lodi Improvement Committee and liaison with the Lodi City Council.

SECTION 3.

Any Executive Officer or Board of Directors member who misses three (3) unexcused meetings within a one year period without the consent of one of the Executive Board Members shall be deemed to have vacated the office.

ARTICLE V

FINANCIAL MATTERS

SECTION 1. REVENUES

All revenues of the Lodi Improvement Committee shall be administered through a bank account, to be monitored by the City of Lodi and into which all donations, gifts, or other revenues raised by the Lodi Improvement Committee shall be placed. All expenditures must be approved by a majority vote of the Board, subject to City Council overview and signed by Treasurer and one Executive Officer.

SECTION 2. AUDITING

The fund account for the Lodi Improvement Committee shall be audited as part of the City's regular annual audit and quarterly expenditures reports will be submitted by the Treasurer to the Finance Department of the City of Lodi.

ARTICLE VI

TERM OF EXISTENCE/DISSOLUTION

SECTION 1. CONTINUOUS OPERATION

The Lodi Improvement Committee shall continue and be permanent until dissolved by action of the City Council or the Improvement Committee Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII

BOARD PROCEDURES

SECTION 1. PROCEDURES

After the transition described in Article III, Section 2 above is complete, five Board Members shall constitute a quorum and may conduct business at any regular meeting. A majority of those present may act by affirmative vote. No proxy voting is allowed.

SECTION 2. MEETING

Regular meetings of the Board shall be held once a month, on the second Tuesday of each month, at a location to be determined by the Board and opened to the public. Special meetings shall be held as necessary. All meetings shall be subject to the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Gov. Code §54950 et. Seq.),

SECTION 3. COMMUNICATIONS

All external communications to the public or media shall be through or authorized by the Chairperson, or in his/her absence, by the Vice-Chairperson or a designated Board Member.

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1.

These Bylaws shall constitute the empowering documents for the Lodi Improvement Committee and may be revised by the City Council or a majority vote of the Board of Directors, at a regular meeting previously announced for the purpose, subject to ratification by the Lodi City Council.

ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL VOTE ON _____, RATIFIED BY MAJORITY VOTE OF THE LODI IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE ON JULY 21, 2009.

CHAIRPERSON

APPROVED AS TO FORM

D. STEPHEN SCHWABAUER
CITY ATTORNEY