

# LODI IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 8, 2013

6:00 P.M.  
ROLL CALL

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

## MINUTES

None

## TREASURER'S REPORT

No funds at this time.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Wood stated that every two years they are required by HUD to conduct a point-in-time homeless count. It allows them to get a better count on homelessness in the United States specifically our community and in San Joaquin County.

At this event there will be service providers to provide benefits for homeless. They will also provide meals and other goodies to attract homeless to this event. The Lodi event is Wednesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> @ between 8:30-11:30 a.m. held @ Lodi Armory located @ 333 N. Washington St. Mr. Wood stated they are in need of volunteers; he will be there at 8 a.m.

Mr. Litton asked what type of outreach they are doing to let the homeless know of this event. Mr. Wood replied they had their Hand Up meeting earlier that day. The Behavioral Health Specialist is making contacts along with Uptown Thrift and Salvation Army. Mr. Litton stated he will help out at the event. Mr. Ditmore will try to make arrangements to help out.

Mr. Wood stated that anyone from the public who wishes to speak please come to the podium so your voice can be recorded.

## AGENDA ITEMS

### **A. Follow up on Issues from Previous Meetings**

#### Community Improvement Awards

Mr. Wood stated the presentation for 228 S. Rose went well in the Lodi News Sentinel.

Mr. Wood is trying to connect with 27 E. Locust to get a photograph and interview with Lodi News Sentinel.

#### Property Maintenance Ordinance/Landscaping Regulations

Mr. Wood stated they decided to use a generic language “or other surfaces approved by the department.” As new materials come forward it will be handled on case by case basis. Mr. Takeuchi asked if you can let them know what the final wording is.

## **2012/2013 Goals and Objectives**

### **Cherokee Lane**

Mr. Wood stated Mr. Yadav will be busy from January through April so this may be something to look at in May.

### **Eastside Afterschool Programs & Activities**

Mr. Wood stated he contacted Maria Cervantes, former Principal at Heritage School and now is at Joe Serna. She and others are interested in coaching for the Junior Giants in 2014.

### **Community Improvement Award**

None

### **Main Street Project**

Mr. Wood stated there has been no feed back from Mr. Doell. With the weather the way it is, it probably won't be until the spring.

### **Movie Night at the Park**

None

### **Soliciting Financial Support**

Mr. Wood stated that in the past, the City had solicited funding from Farmers & Merchants Bank and Bank of Lodi for activities in the low income neighborhoods. Mr. Wood has drafted a letter and will be sending it out. If funds are received they will put that money in the Community Improvement account. Mr. Litton asked if a letter should be sent to General Mills. Mr. Wood replied yes.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **A. Community Development**

#### **Planning Commission – Past Action**

None

### **Neighborhood Services Division**

Mr. Wood stated they are going into the 2013-14 Block Grant Fund year. The County stated for the City to choose what project that was approved through the previous HUD process and they would fund it. The City chose the alley project so there will be \$216,000 for that. Mr. Wood asked Mr. Forkas to look around town and identify the 3-4 worst alleys that we should use the funds towards improving.

Mr. Wood stated in 2012-13 they received \$630,000 from the Block Grant Program. It may be April or May when they find out what allocations are for 2013-2014. They are looking at a reduction to \$577,000 which is an 8.2/8.4 reduction. In nine years it may be as low as \$170,000 for the entire year. By that time they will likely revise the Block Grant Program. Mr. Wood stated the process is there will be a public meeting scheduled tomorrow and the application period will run through February 6<sup>th</sup>. The applications are reviewed and brought forward through a shirtsleeve presentation before the City Council on March 5<sup>th</sup>. They will let them know what applications have been received. Two public hearings are required. First on March 20<sup>th</sup> & May 1<sup>st</sup>. May 1<sup>st</sup> is the adoption of final plan and sent to HUD. Funds will be available July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Discussion continued regarding incorporating the LIC in the review/public comment of the funding requests. General consensus was that the LIC members were in favor of that. At this point, the March meeting would be the likely time to provide that overview of the funding requests.

**Building Division**

None

**B. Police Department**

- **District/Watch Commander**  
None
- **Community Improvement Unit/Code Enforcement**  
None

**C. Public Works**

None

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Curt Juran – 225 S. Avena stated he started a non-profit organization to do fundraising to donate those funds to local charities. He stated that there is no playground from Lodi Ave. to Vine St to Cherokee Ln. to Stockton St. His hope by attending the meeting that maybe we can figure out some way to open up some areas for small kids so they can play.

Mr. Wood is going to check with who owns the property and possibly contact them to see if they would be interested in selling or leasing for a possible playground for kids.

**COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD MEMBERS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

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Mr. Wood stated on June 20<sup>th</sup> Mayor Nakanishi is having a town hall meeting at the Carnegie Forum. Mr. Forkas would recommend it be at the old City Hall on Main St. if the paint is completed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

**A. Looking Ahead**

- February 12
- March 12 – CDBG Presentation
- April 9
- May 14

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Araseli del Castillo, Recording Secretary