

LODI IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 11, 2013

6:00 P.M.
ROLL CALL

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

**Note that Mr. Ditmore arrived after the Minutes were approved.*

MINUTES

The minutes of the April 16th and April 20th Special Meetings and the May 14th Regular Meeting were presented to the LIC for review and approval.

Mr. Forkas made a motion, seconded by Mr. Takeuchi, to approve the minutes as submitted.

VOTE:

The above motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes, Chair Mr. Yadav, Mr. Forkas, Mr. Litton, Mr. Takeuchi.

Noes: None

Absent: Mr. Ditmore

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Mr. Wood announced that Mayor Nakanishi has scheduled three town hall meetings. The next two are scheduled for:
 - June 20th – *Crime and Gangs*
 - September 19th – *Lodi Electric Utility Department*

The Town Hall meetings are to be held at the Carnegie Forum – Council Chambers and will run from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

2. Mr. Wood announced that as this was a Public Meeting, members of the public would be encouraged to participate. He asked that anyone from the public who wished to speak could please give their name and address for the record.

AGENDA ITEMS

A. Review of Cherokee Lane Community Needs and Opportunities for Improvements

Mr. Wood made a brief presentation regarding the LIC's focus on Cherokee Lane and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program's need for community input as part of the Consolidated Plan development process.

Mr. Wood then introduced Mr. Don Aguillard, Executive Director of the Central Valley Neighborhood Harvest, to speak about one of the other key issues of discussion, community gardens.

Mr. Aguillard provided information on issues such as water sources, vandalism, space needed, City regulations and volunteer opportunities. There was additional comment from the public.

Kathy Grant commented on the design of community gardens.

Curt Juran commented on Master Gardener Programs as a source of local expertise.

The discussion then opened up to cover issues related to Cherokee Lane improvements and other Eastside locations.

Rakesh Patel – 815 S. Cherokee Lane commented that he has problems with stormwater puddling in his driveway rather than draining to the gutter. Vehicles also scrape as they enter his driveway. He also mentioned that shopping carts from local shopping centers/stores are also a problem.

Ken Patel – 22 S. Main Street commented that the alley behind Main Street is a constant problem with illegal dumping and that the corner of Main Street and Oak Street is another dumping ground. He also complained about the lack of street sweeping.

Discussion amongst the LIC members led to the determination that sidewalks and handicap ramp installations were the key issues along Cherokee Lane. It was also suggested that the local motel owners look to form a Business Improvement District (BID) along Cherokee Lane.

B. Follow up on Issues from Previous Meetings

2013/14 Goals and Objectives

- Main Street Project
 - Identify new volunteer group if LPFA unable to complete the project.
- Cherokee Lane
 - Chair Sunil Yadav is leading this effort.
- New Fire Station #2 Design
 - Consider incorporating joint-use/community room.
- Community Outreach through Social Media
 - Review City policies
- Soliciting Financial Support
- Monitoring Alley Improvement Projects

Mr. Wood stated that Phase IV will be done this summer and that he will look to have Public Works consider the north-south alleys located between Sacramento Street and Church Street. From the comments

received at this meeting, he will also have them consider the Main Street alley as well.

- **Consolidated Plan Development**

Mr. Wood stated that California Human Development–WorkNet will be assisting with the community outreach meetings with the Hispanic and Pakistani communities.

- **Eastside Afterschool Programs & Activities**

Mr. Wood stated that the Care Lodi Program is starting this summer through the One-Eighty Teen Center.

- **Community Improvement Award**

- **Gang Program**

Mr. Wood stated that the Youth Outreach Unit is taking a group of at-risk youth to Mule Creek State Prison on June 22nd to take part in an Intervention Program that they offer. As a follow up to that, they are taking that group to Great America the following weekend.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Community Development

Planning Commission – Past Action

None

Neighborhood Services Division

Mr. Wood stated that they are preparing an application to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for HOME Program funding for the following projects/activities:

- Senior Rental Housing Project with Eden Housing (Tienda Drive) - \$5.6M
- First-Time Home Buyer (FTHB) Loan Program - \$700,000

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

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD MEMBERS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Bob Takeuchi asked about the CDBG Consolidated Plan process and the binder material that was distributed to them several meetings ago. Mr. Wood stated that that material would be referenced in future LIC meetings.

Tim Litton commented that he saw a group of youth playing handball at Tokay High and while he was encouraged to see them engaged in that activity, he noted that the youth had to climb a fence in order to access the handball courts. It was suggested that the school district provide access to those courts.

NEW BUSINESS

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

A. Looking Ahead

- July 9 – *Reschedule to July 16?*
- July 16 – Special Meeting
- August 13 – Community Garden issue will be brought back for further discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Wood, Staff Liaison