

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
LODI IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

March 9, 2010

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 February 9, 2010 – Regular Meeting

Treasurer's Report

Announcements/Presentations

Agenda Items:

- A. Crime Statistics Presentation from LPD Chief David Main
- B. Review Proposal to Allow Regular LIC Meetings at Alternative Locations
- C. Follow Up on Items from Previous Meetings

Department Reports

- Community Development
 - Planning Commission
 - Neighborhood Services Division
- Police Department
 - District/Watch Commander
 - Community Improvement/Code Enforcement
- Public Works

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

Comments from Boardmembers 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**

DRAFT

February 9, 2009

6:00 P.M.
ROLL CALL

BOARD		STAFF
<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	
Robert Takeuchi (Chair)		Joseph Wood, CDD
Eileen St. Yves		Araseli del Castillo, CDD
Tim Mustin		Lt. Todd Patterson, PD
Fran Forkas		Jamie Aldred, LPD
Sunil Yadav		
Rosie Ortiz (Treasurer)		
Reyes Jaramillo		

MINUTES

January 12, 2010 – Regular Meeting

Mr. Forkas motioned to approve, Ms. St. Yves seconded. Approved unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Ending balance is \$730.13

Mr. Forkas motioned to approve, Mr. Yadav second it. Approved unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Wood advised that he had provided them with material from Institute for Local Government regarding Engaging the Entire Community in Civic Participation – an article from the Institute for Local Government

Mr. Wood also stated that the Annual Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700) are due to the City Clerk by April 1st.

Mr. Forkas stated that he hasn’t received the form.

Mr. Takeuchi stated no one from the committee has received the form.

Mr. Wood replied he will make sure all members receive this form.

Mr. Wood asked if you wish to speak to please come to the podium and provide your name for the Secretary.

A. Main Street Project

Mr. Takeuchi asked Virginia Snyder to come up and refresh everyone about her idea regarding the Main Street Project.

Ms. Snyder asked if Tony Segale can come up and speak before having to leave in 15 minutes.

Mr. Segale from 415 W. Pine St. is very interested in this project. Mr. Segale stated he has provided a letter from the Lodi News Sentinel asking what kind of art he would like to see in 2010. Mr. Segale replied he would like to see Main St. converted if possible to a small artist studio. I am too busy to get involved in a major way.

Mr. Takeuchi asked if Mr. Segale can share what he does as your regular job and can you give us some of your personal opinion.

Mr. Segale replied primarily I am a commercial artist. I do a lot of signs and murals in town.

Ms. Snyder stated she is a Charter member of the Lodi Historical Society and that she is asking the LIC to consider a project to preserve Main St. We have a lot of empty run down beginning at the corner of Lockeford St. At present, volunteers are researching the Lodi Japantown on Main St. and Stockton St. near the Buddhist church. The goal would be to create a tourist destination featuring a mixture of art galleries, wine tasting, gift shops, office space and mom and pop businesses.

Ms. Snyder suggests donations of paint, labor and landscaping to help property owners upgrade their empty run down buildings that give an appearance of a slum. The first project restoration project could involve Lodi's first City Hall, Jail and Fire Station. The Lodi Historical Society would like to save this building.

Ms. Snyder stated with donation of shrubs and laborers the second project that could be an attractive park like area surrounding the open space by the water tower adjacent to the old City Hall. Right now it looks like an old dumping ground for rusty machinery.

Ms. Snyder asked that the Lodi Improvement Committee to provide leadership for Main St. restoration.

Mr. Takeuchi stated he had a short meeting with Mr. Wood. Mr. Takeuchi mentioned he is enthused about this project. Mr. Takeuchi states what he noticed about Lodi's impressive downtown Lodi was limited to one street.

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School Street and I think that can be expanded and we can far beyond the clean up but I think this is a good start.

Mr. Takeuchi asked Mr. Wood if it would be appropriate to seek a motion.

Ms. St. Yves stated she noticed in today's paper that BLBP is going to have their clean up day on Sunday, March 20th and maybe we can some how tie some of this together. Ms. St. Yves stated she is going to ask Mayor Mr. Kazakian to please have the City to clean up their properties first. The City needs to be the leadership in this project in order for this to work well.

Mr. Takeuchi stated that before we go forward with this I would like to meet with heads of organizations that would be helpful for us for example: Chamber of Commerce, Lodi Downtown Business Partnership, Tony Segale, Virginia Snyder and a representative from JAACL so we can get this going.

Mr. Takeuchi mentioned that Reyes Jaramillo was appointed by the LIC as our Clean Up guy for the City of Lodi.

Mr. Jaramillo stated he would like to thank Ms. Snyder for what she does. He stated she can count on his landscaping company to help with anything.

Mr. Dutra, Superintendant from Parks & Recreation mentioned that some of the old rusty equipment on our property is his responsibility as it is the Parks Corporation yard. Mr. Dutra would like to be part of this because he wants to be good neighbors. Mr. Dutra suggests putting in slats in the chain link fence to hide some of those rusty equipments. Mr. Dutra stated he would like to make our properties as nice for the community. Seventh Day Adventist church has offered 150-200 volunteers so that is something you might want to consider.

Mr. Takeuchi asked about the Old City Hall. Does he have any suggestions on the clean up and how to go about it?

Mr. Dutra replied that it is City properties and the City has authority over that building. Dennis Callahan over sees that building as the Building & Facilities manager so you might want to get a hold of him.

Mr. Wood stated he did some outreach from a number of groups. We have Karen Clementi here who is doing the research and support for the Japan Town as part of her thesis. Also here is the President of the Local Historical Society and Suga Moriwaki is here also to share some things with the committee.

Doug Chaney from 520 Louie Ave. from the Hand Up Organization in Lodi. He suggests you should be the building to seismic standards. Before you spend a lot of time and money on a project you should see if it is going to be feasible.

Mr. Takeuchi replied that is going to cost a lot of money and take a lot of time. He agrees it should be done but asked what he thinks of Ms. Snyders proposal.

Mr. Chaney replied he can guarantee you will get a lot of volunteers in this town.

Karen Clementi stated she is currently working for a historical consulting firm. In 2007, I was lead to Donna Grace who had done a lot of work for the Japan Towns across California. There is only three Japan Towns left. The buildings within the two blocks between Elm, Pine and Oak a lot of those buildings were intact. There may possible a historical district nomination to the national register. If they are eligible I am going to put together a historic district nomination. This nomination will serve as my thesis project but it will also be a viable nomination. I have to look at each building, do the history on each building. If it is eligible which I think it is, this would give the City a lot of tax breaks and bring in money from the feds to upgrade the area. This will benefit the City as it will bring money and increase the population over there. If it is on the registry it will be the fourth Japan Town. This will put Lodi on the map.

Mr. Takeuchi stated he was a lawyer for forty years in Los Angeles and one of his clients owned the Huntington Sheraton Hotel in Pasadena and we had a lot of problems with the application of historical site. All in all I think this is quite different because of the fact of what we are doing is building the Japan Town for the benefit of the entire state.

Ms. Clementi replied she will also be working with SHPO so by the time the City has this nomination in hand we will know. SHPO will already know. You can bring money from the feds if you can put this on the registry.

Suga Moriwaki from 2485 Central Park Dr. stated she brought copies of the Japan Town historian that came out this year so you will have some background of this area. They are available to the public for \$10.00 at the Historical Society in Mickes Grove.

Mr. Takeuchi asked if Ms. Moriwaki is the person responsible for heading up the effort for Japan Town in Lodi.

Ms. Moriwaki replied no, you should talk to Bill Henkel.

Mr. Takeuchi told the members that Virginia Snyder is looking from us to lead the City wide effort to revitalize and restore Downtown Lodi. We will start with the Old City Hall project.

Mr. Takeuchi would like to entertain a motion that this committee lead up the effort to take on this project. If this motion passes I would like to volunteer to take an active part. I would like this committee to be very active in this leadership.

Mr. Takeuchi asked if we can make such a motion.

Mr. Wood replied yes

Ms. St. Yves motioned and Mr. Forkas second the motion. Approved unanimously.

B. Spring Clean Up Activities

Mr. Wood stated that through each year the City of Lodi and Waste Management sponsor or facilitate spring clean up activities. We have participated in the past.

March 27-28 - City Wide Garage Sale

This is done in conjunction with the Lodi News Sentinel. Watch the Lodi News-Sentinel for details.

April 3 – Electronic and Universal Waste Free Drop-off Event

Televisions, computer monitors, laptops, computers, processing units, printers, fluorescent lamps, mercury thermometers and household batteries (no car batteries) can be dropped off at the Lodi Transfer Station, 1333 E. Turner Road, for no cost.

April 9 or 10 – Arbor Day/Great American Clean Up event

The annual community event for Arbor Day/Spring Clean Up is tentatively scheduled for this date at Lawrence School.

April 10 – Dollar Dump Day

\$1 per truck/car load between certain hours with the normal restrictions on household hazardous waste.

April 19-23 – Residential Curbside Clean Up

Residential customers may place the equivalent of up to six 32-gallon trash carts at the curb on their scheduled collection day. All items must be bagged, bundled, boxed or containerized and must weigh less than 50 pounds each. No household hazardous waste, tires, dirt, sod, rock or concrete.

Is the LIC interested in planning a special event, other than what is being discussed with the Main Street Project? Would the LIC want to take a proclamation to the City Council to make April the Great American Clean Up – Keep Lodi Beautiful month?

Mr. Jaramillo stated he would like to get more groups involved. I got a call from Hands Up Committee and we did a clean up with Tokay School. We had quite a few students from Tokay High help clean up on Main St.

Mr. Takeuchi mentioned that Mr. Jaramillo should be commended for all his work and stated he has been very valuable addition to our committee as well.

C. Tree Lodi

Mr. Takeuchi stated that Tree Lodi is an organization that is headed Joyce Harmon. Her group constitutes a number of people who are well known to this committee. They are dedicated to plant a whole bunch of trees in Lodi to make it beautiful. They do a very excellent job. Ms. Harmon called me the other day to mention they are in the process of expanding their board and wanted to know if the LIC would be interested in that.

Mr. Takeuchi states that he spoke with Tim Mustin who is in our committee. Mr. Mustin has been involved in the organization of Keep California Beautiful so I thought this would tie in nicely. Mr. Mustin has agreed to participate with Mr. Harmon so I will give him her number so he can contact her.

Mr. Wood mentioned to Mr. Takeuchi that Ms. Harmon was the past president and that we have the current president here this evening.

Mr. Dutra would like to introduce the new President Gordon Schmer. After five years Ms. Harmon has stepped down. She is still very involved. Tree Lodi is a non profit 501C3. We have the IRS status so you can donate to us. We have a website: treelodi.org.

Mr. Dutra spoke about DeBenedetti Park located on Lower Sacramento Rd. and Century Blvd. The City owns and has owned for twenty five years. It is forty-nine acres which will also serve as a retention basin. Our President is going to be responsible for organizing 400 volunteers, the budget is \$10,000 and we will be planting 200-280 trees this time next year with your help. There will be opening ceremony with Mr. DeBenedetti kicking off the first soccer ball. Tree Lodi is looking for partners. We have 3 pages of partners already. Mr. Dutra asked the chair that he tasks he and the committee to be there that day. January-February 2011 and also to be there to plant the 200-280 trees.

Mr. Schmer stated that Steve Dutra is the Vice President so we will use all his resources. Joyce Harmon is a great back up. She has past on all her records so I feel I have a great head start. I am looking forward to working with the group here.

D. Filling of Vacant Vice-Chair Position

Mr. Takeuchi stated the Stephen Jarrett was on our committee and regretfully resigned. We have a vacancy position for a couple of months. It was thought by many of the members of this committee to elect a new Vice Chair. Nominations are open for a new Vice Chair for the remaining couple of months.

Ms. St. Yves would like to nominate Sunil Yadav as Vice Chair.

Mr. Takeuchi would like to entertain a motion to close nomination and would like to attend a motion for Sunil Yadav to be Vice Chair.

Mr. Forkas motioned to approve and Ms. St. Yves second it. Approved unanimously.

Committee Membership

None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Community Development

*** Planning Commission**

Tienda Drive Senior Housing Project

Mr. Wood stated this project is going before the Planning Commission on February 10th for Site Plan and Architectural Review approvals. Mr. Wood stated they are looking at splitting it into two different parcels. They are going to phase it into two separate projects. Tomorrows meeting they will be looking at both phases.

Mr. Wood mentioned that also tomorrow evening is the Costco architectural and site review should anyone be interested in that.

*** Planning Commission – Past Action**

None

*** Neighborhood Services Division**

2010-11 CDBG Funding Application Period

The CDBG Application period for 2010/11 has begun. Applications are available on-line through the City of Lodi's webpage and are due by 5:00pm on February 10, 2010. We receive approximately \$750,000 each year. We will be looking at the applications received and will be back before the City Council in March and then again in mid March to allocate those funds

A. Police Department

• District/Watch Commander

Lt. Patterson microphone was not on so no update is available.

Community Improvement/Code Enforcement

Ms. Aldred stated they are meeting with Hands Up to propose a couple projects that are ongoing for example: going through the alleys, shopping carts round ups and if you have any other suggestions.

B. Public Works

None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (5 minute limit per speaker)

County Supervisor Ken Vogel mentioned that a colleague from the Board of Supervisors has joined us. Mr. Carlos Villapudua who is the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

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

Mr. Takeuchi asked Mr. Wood what we are doing on Celebration on Central.

Mr. Wood replied they were shooting for a May date. That date at this time is impossible so they are looking at which is September. We are setting up some meetings with the people who are interested in coordinating this.

NEW BUSINESS

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

A. Looking Ahead

- * March 9 – CDBG (tentative)
- * April 13th – Election of Officers
- * April 17th or 24th – Special Goal-Setting Session
- * May 11th
- * June 8th

Mr. Mustin mentioned before about having our venue moved to other locations to try to get us more in people's back yards. I would like to put this on the agenda next month.

Mr. Wood replied if we want to shoot for the May 11th or May 8th meeting for going mobile.

Mr. Takeuchi stated he has comments on whether we should do that at all.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Committee, it was, on motion duly made by Mr. Takeuchi adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ARASELI DEL CASTILLO, Recording Secretary



MEMORANDUM, City of Lodi, Community Development Department

To: Lodi Improvement Committee
From: Joseph Wood, Neighborhood Services Manager
Date: March 5, 2010
Subject: Staff Report for Regular Meeting of March 9, 2010

I. Announcements/Presentations

- A. Annual Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700)**
Due to the City Clerk by April 1st.

II. Agenda Items:

A. Crime Statistics Presentation

Lodi Police Chief David Main will be making a PowerPoint presentation on recent crime statistics. No advance materials were available.

B. Review Proposal to Allow Regular LIC Meetings at Alternative Locations

There has been discussion off and on through the past few years regarding having at least one or two meetings at remote locations out in the community, rather than at the Carnegie Forum. Committee Member Tim Mustin had brought this up most recently and Chair Bob Takeuchi had asked that this issue be put on this agenda for discussion and possible action.

If the Committee were to decide to hold meetings out in the community, Staff would recommend either the May 11th or June 8th meetings as the first opportunity to do so.

C. Follow Up on Items from Previous Meetings

This allows discussion of and possible action on any items that have been before the LIC previously, including but not limited to:

- Main Street Project
- Celebration on Central
- Spring Clean Up Projects
- Tree Lodi

III. Department Reports

A. Community Development Department

Planning Commission

Neighborhood Services Division

2010-11 CDBG Funding Application Period

The CDBG Application period for 2010/11 has been completed. A review of the 17 funding requests will be held at the City Council Shirtsleeve Session on Tuesday, March 16th, at 7:00am. Council will conduct a Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 17th, at 7:00pm to approve the draft Action Plan for 2010/11 which lists where the CDBG funds will be allocated for the coming year.

First Time Home Buyer Loan Program

The City received a grant award of \$800,000 in State HOME Program funds from the State Department of Housing and Community Development for a First Time Home Buyer Loan Program. In the past the City has operated a similar down-payment assistance (GAP) loan program using HOME Program funds through the Urban County. When the City separated from the Urban County to become an Entitlement community directly with HUD, those federal HOME funds then became available from the State of California, but on a more competitive basis. It is expected that this allocation of \$800,000 will provide enough funding to operate our program for the next 24 – 30 months and we would likely be able to apply for another allocation of funding in August of 2011.

While we have been awarded the funding, we have been delayed in getting our program up and running as we wait for the State HCD to review and approve our Program Guidelines. After a recent meeting with our HOME Rep at HCD, we expect that we will likely be able to roll this program out beginning April 8, 2010. We have put together a waiting list at this point of over a dozen interested applicants.

B. Police Department

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

C. Public Works

IV. New Business

A. Looking Ahead

- **April 13th – Election of Officers**
- **April 17th or 24th – Special Goal-Setting Session**
- **May 11th**
- **June 8th**