

**LODI IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

April 13, 2009

6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

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

MINUTES

March 9, 2010 – Regular Meeting

Mr. Yadav motioned to approve, Ms. Ortiz seconded. Approved unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Ending balance is \$700.00

Ms. St. Yves motioned to approve, Mr. Yadav second it. Approved unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Takeuchi mentioned that on April 24th there will be a strategic planning meeting starting at 9 a.m. There will be a luncheon served out of our proceeds.

Mr. Wood mentioned that anyone who has not submitted their 700 form needs to do so immediately to the City Clerks office. She is assessing fines.

AGENDA ITEMS

A. Election of Officers

Mr. Takeuchi suggested they go in reverse order so we will know who is going to be the Chair. The people who are not elected for treasurer, for example might be available to be Chair. I think we should start with Treasurer, Vice Chair & Chair. Is that alright Mr. Wood?

Mr. Wood replied sure.

Mr. Takeuchi asked if there were any nomination for motion for Treasurer. Ms. Ortiz had stated she was going to step down but has reconsidered. She wants to stay on as Treasurer. Mr. Takeuchi mentioned is everyone agreed, we can vote her in by acclamation.

Mr. Yadav stated he thinks we should rotate every year to give a chance to other people.

Mr. Takeuchi replied the only problem with that is that we have to change cards every year.

Mr. Yadav replied we have to change cards anyways for the new Chair & Vice Chair.

Mr. Takeuchi stated that the Chair is open to other comments from the committee.

Mr. Takeuchi announced Rosie Ortiz will continue as Treasurer.

Mr. Takeuchi asked if there were any nomination for Vice Chair.

Ms. Ortiz nominated Mr. Yadav as Vice Chair.

Mr. Yadav stated he does not spend enough time as a Vice Chair and I am very busy so I should step down.

Ms. St. Yves nominates Mr. Jaramillo as Vice Chair.

Mr. Takeuchi announced Mr. Jaramillo as the new Vice Chair by acclamation.

Ms. St. Yves would like to nominate Mr. Mustin as Chair.

Mr. Takeuchi is concerned that this person is not here and he may not accept.

Ms. Ortiz would like for Mr. Takeuchi to continue as Chair.

Mr. Takeuchi accepts to be Chair.

B. Follow Up on Items from Previous Meetings

- * Mr. Wood would like to start with the Main Street project. We do have a commitment from Temple Baptist Church. They will volunteer their time and also provide a small amount of funds to help cover the material cost for a project.
- Mr. Wood stated we are looking at May 22nd for the Clean Up. Mr. Wood stated he would like to focus on the fire station as a definite project and any other property owners who respond from now and then. Mr. Wood stated he has not heard back from the railroad.
- * Mr. Takeuchi asked what we expect to accomplish on the 22nd.

- * Mr. Wood replied since we can't do anything to these buildings for the next 10-15 years why don't we at least make the exterior look nice. Do some façade improvements such as paint. I would like to do something different with the windows other than showing a board. We can get a piece of plywood and cut out the window and paint close to what some of the pictures show what it uses to look like.

Japan Town

- Mr. Takeuchi stated he would like to talk briefly about Japan Town. Mr. Takeuchi stated that Tony Segale is going to make an effort to establish an art center in Lodi. We want to develop an International Center on the East side. We want to take advantage of the history in this area and it will be the first in California.
- Mr. Takeuchi stated that Ms. Clemente gave a short presentation here before. She is in the process of doing the ground work to prepare an application to make some of the buildings in the Old Japan Town a historical landmark.

Old City Hall Building

- Mr. Jaramillo asked Mr. Wood in regards to the fire station building. He stated he could have a friend come and make an assessment.
- Mr. Wood replied he would like to talk with Mr. Forkas in regards to this and try to wrap this up this week.
- Mr. Jaramillo asked about landscaping. Is there anything going to be done about that?
- Mr. Wood replied he would like to focus on the building itself, the physical structure of making it look nice.

Celebration on Central

- Mr. Wood stated there has been no response from Community Partnership for Families for the Celebration on Central event.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Community Development

- * **Planning Commission**

* **Planning Commission – Past Action**

None

* **Neighborhood Services Division**

First Time Home Buyer Program

- Mr. Wood stated they revised their guidelines. His concept was to review them and get back to us within a week and get back to us and that will allow us to present them to City Council on April 6th, 7th and kick the program off the following day. Mr. Wood mentioned he has not heard back from the State. Mr. Wood stated he hopes by the end of May we should have this program running. We have a list of 20-30 people on a waiting list. We will be busy once we get the go ahead on this.
- Mr. Wood stated a lot of the folks who are interested want to take advantage of the tax credit. I think this may not be available anymore once we get this program up and running. That is an additional frustration for our customers.

B. Police Department

• **District/Watch Commander**

Lt. Patterson mentioned with the pending retirement of Chief Main. This will leave a large hole in our manager staff for quite some time.

Lt. Patterson stated in the last few weeks we have had a lot of gang violence. We have taken a very proactive stance in this. About 8-9 of the more violent gang members have been sent to the state prison so hopefully this will cripple some of the issues we are having right now.

Lt. Patterson stated that towards the downtown business district we have been dealing with some difficult juvenile that have been vandalizing and making some customers uncomfortable. There is a town hall meeting scheduled for next month that hopefully we will get some other avenues to deal with this issue.

Mr. Takeuchi asked if you think this has to do with David Mains departure.

Lt. Patterson replied being it is almost summer time and kids are out more and with the downtown area. Parents leave their kids out there and we are their babysitters.

- **Community Improvement/Code Enforcement**

Ms. Aldred stated she has been working on the software to get that ready.

Ms. Aldred mentioned she will be meeting with her staff and have them brain storm for a clean up in the next 2-3 months. I would like them to be more pro active and creating projects for us to work on as a group.

C. Public Works

None

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

None

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

Mr. Jaramillo asked Lt. Patterson what he can tell him about medicine marijuana growing in Lodi.

Lt. Patterson replied he cannot speak on that. Corporal Chaban did the studies for the Chief on that. Lt. Patterson stated he does not have the numbers to give you a proper stance on that without some of the criteria Corporal Chaban who did the studies on that.

Mr. Jaramillo asked what we can do to check if a neighbor is doing this legally.

Lt. Patterson replied to call the Police Dept. and they can check to see if they have a medical card for this, also to see if they have the proper amount of plants and are following the guidelines.

Ms. Ortiz stated she has a lot of gang activity in my area. What can I do about that because I live on Maple St? 407 Maple is full of gangsters and they are constantly creating a lot of problems with our neighbors. For example, they have broken their windshields three times already. We cannot catch them on the act but we know it is them.

Lt. Patterson replied that you need to call the Police Dept. A couple of those addresses I know and am familiar with. A lot of the parents allow this to go on. I've been dealing with the fathers and now the sons. You also have early release. As a community if we all get together and continually call and let us know what is going on, let see what we can do.

NEW BUSINESS

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

- * Mr. Wood stated that transportation manager would like to do a presentation before the Improvement Committee to view the route changes and to provide an update on various transit items. They would like to do that at the May 11th meeting.
- * Mr. Wood stated he saw in the Lodi News Sentinel blog where Rich and Marty are inviting people to invite him to speak at their meetings. I can reach out for the July 13th meeting.
- * Mr. Takeuchi replied you can invite Maggie Kreamer who covers government groups so you can invite her to be covered in the newspaper. I would like to get some publicity for all of us.

A. Looking Ahead

- * April 13th – Election of Officers
- * April 24th – Special Goal-Setting Session
- * May 11th - Transportation Dept.
- * June 8th - Code Enforcement Presentation
- * July 13th – Rich and Marty

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Committee, it was, on motion duly made by Mr. Takeuchi adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
ARASELI DEL CASTILLO, Recording Secretary