

Lamorinda Community

Calendar, Notes, News

Lafayette

Calendar	
City Council	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road	
Monday, June 23	
Planning Comm.	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road	
Thursday, June 19	
Design Review	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road	
Tuesday, June 24	
Park, Trails, Rec.	7pm
Community Center 500 St Mary's Road	
Friday, July 11	
Circulation	7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room 500 St Mary's Road	
Monday, June 16	
Senior Services	3:30pm
Community Center, Alder Room 500 St Mary's Road	
Thursday, June 19	new date moved from 6-26
check online: Town of Lafayette: http://www.ci.lafayette.ca.us • all meeting notes • calendar updates Chamber of Commerce: http://www.lafayettechamber.org • local businesses • upcoming events	

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Discover the Pride of Lafayette

Big Turnout for Budget Workshop

By Cathy Tyson



A full house of concerned citizens participated in a budget workshop, letting Lafayette's City Council members know where they believe budget dollars should be spent. There will be a public hearing on the Proposed Budget at the June 9th Regular City Council Meeting.

Quite a few seniors in attendance persuasively made their case for increased funding for expanding senior programs including adding a second Spirit Van.

Clearly the public input made an impression on the Council, although there was an undercurrent of concern regarding maintenance costs of a second van going forward. "We're going

to have to move to provide more services. I see Spirit Van II as essential," said Carl Anduri.

City Manager Steve Falk summarized the situation, "The Council liked the recommendations made by the Senior Services Commission but indicated that it would prefer to wait until the Senior Needs Assessment is completed before it fully implements those recommendations. I thought it was a good meeting, and I was impressed by the members and organization of the Senior Services Commission. They have a mission – to advocate on behalf of the City's aging population and they do it well."

The City Manager's budget for the next fiscal year that begins on July 1, 2008 and runs through June 30, 2008 is only a recommendation; the City Council has ultimate authority in these matters, according to Falk. Seniors will be happy to

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note that a Staff Report prepared by Tracy Robinson, Administrative Services Director on June 2, 2008 states that the Council "instructed staff to change the Senior Services budget to reflect 49 hours of temporary personnel. The issue of adding regular, benefited staff to this program was deferred until after the Senior Needs Assessment is completed. This change resulted in an increase of \$7,045."

How Big is Too Big?

By Cathy Tyson

Way back in 1981, Lafayette's Planning Commission approved a six parcel subdivision on Cosso Court, off of Happy Valley Road. At that time there were conditions of approval, to paraphrase, 90% of the net lot not be covered with buildings, at least 70% of the lot shall have a permeable surface, and homes and garages shall not have a combined ground footprint of greater than 3,000 square feet.

A lot has changed in Happy Valley in 27 years; wealthy homeowners may be interested in something just a bit larger than 3,000 square feet. At last week's Planning Commission meeting Talon Design Group, representing the owners of a Cosso Court lot, asked for a change of conditions for their proposed two-story 8,919 square foot gross floor area home. Other homes along the court have asked for and received "footprint exceptions" to allow for more square footage.

Although the 1.129 acre site

seems large, it's considered a highly constrained lot, "due to setbacks, tree driplines, a sanitary sewer easement and the creek setback requirement," according to a Staff Report.

Additionally, a very large mature oak tree is right in the middle of the center buildable area of the lot. Commissioners had a lengthy discussion about moving it, or cutting it down and imposing substantial mitigation measures, planting more trees on the property and possibly contributing to city in-lieu fees.

The City Engineer is concerned with drainage impacts, the amount of hardscape – particularly the driveway, even taking into account the pervious nature of interlocking pavers suggested for the project. He also recommends reducing the building footprint size.

The bottom line after the applicant's lawyer spoke, staff reports, commissioner discussion, and public input, is that the matter will be continued until July 3, 2008 in order for the applicants to meet with the City Engineer to discuss the requested issues.

In related news, an adhoc committee is working on a house size ordinance and will be meeting this week to finish up this proposal. The original concept was to limit the size of new construction to the average size of a number of homes adjacent to the property. According to a reliable source, once the committee's work is done the proposal will have to go through an extensive public review and input process before ultimately going to the Council for consideration.

Deadline Extended for Art and Wine Festival Submissions

By Cathy Tyson

Those artists wanting a bit more exposure of their work should think about entering the Chamber of Commerce art-work contest for the Art and Wine Festival. Acceptance of artwork to be used on promotional materials – posters around town and possibly a You Tube video has been extended until June 30, 2008. In past years over 50,000 people attended the two-day Festival in September.

Parameters for submissions are fairly generous; basically any-

thing goes from drawing to photography to sculpture. Art should in some way reflect the look, taste, sound and feel of the Festival. There are no restrictions on size; pieces from youthful amateurs to senior professionals will be gratefully accepted for consideration.

Artwork may be dropped off until 5:00 p.m. June 30 at the Chamber offices. For more information call the Chamber at (925) 284-7404.

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City seeks volunteer for vacancy on the Design Review Commission

The Lafayette City Council is soliciting applicants to fill one vacancy on the Design Review Commission.

The five-member body is responsible for matters relating to aesthetics and the physical appearance of the city. The commission advises the staff, planning commission, and city council and acts on applications for design review including residential and commercial development projects. Members of the design review commission are selected on the basis of education, training and experience in the fields of architecture, landscape architecture, design, city planning or a related field.

Individuals interested in this volunteer position may obtain an application from

The City's website at www.ci.lafayette.ca.us or City of Lafayette Offices
3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 210 or
Call the City's Clerks Office at (925) 284-1968 and an application will be mailed



Completed applications must be received by 5:00 pm on Friday, June 27, 2008.



Auto burglary, 6/01/08 Someone broke into a car while it was parked in the driveway of a Fiora Place residence during the night. An audible alarm sounded and was heard by a neighbor. The only thing taken was an iPod.

Bad driving, 5/30/08 A suspect was driving aggressively and passed two separate vehicles on Highway 24 near Fish Ranch Road. In doing so, he forced both of the unsuspecting drivers onto the hard shoulder of the freeway. Unamused, the drivers that were passed followed the reckless driver to Acalanes and Mt. Diablo Blvd. where they placed him under citizen's arrest.

An officer arrived on the scene shortly afterward.

Weapon at school, 5/30/08 A 13-year-old white male was cited for having a knife at Stanley Intermediate School. He will be participating in the Juvenile Diversion Program.

Rock vs. Window, 5/29/08 The window lost. An unidentified suspect threw a rock through the sleeping victim's Leland Drive window at just after 4:00 in the morning. The middle aged woman didn't see anyone in the area or know who would do such a thing. The homeowner recently had the window replace for an unrelated reason. Estimated damage, \$500.

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