



Santa Clara Libertarian

Volume 34, Issue 7 July 2006

News of Local Libertarians' Efforts and Feats

All Politics is Local: City Council is a Good Start

by Lois Garcia
Activities Chair, LP of Santa Clara Co.

June 13. The audience for the evening session of San Jose's City Council meeting was an interesting cross-section of citizens, ranging in age roughly from three to 83. Some controversial items on the agenda had sparked groups to mobilize.

Mayor Ron Gonzalez formally convened the meeting at 7:05, acknowledging that the crowd was bigger than usual. He posited that the land-use items were the cause. The first was a mixed-use overlay on a heavy industrial area on Oakland Road. A mixed-use overlay would allow land use other than heavy industrial on a case-by-case basis without a rezoning of the area.

Mass Precision Sheet Metal threatened to leave San Jose if the overlay was approved, taking with them 400 jobs and the

internship program they sponsor at Foothill College. San Jose's Planning Commission defended the overlay, pointing out that the existence of jobs is dependent on market conditions. The Bible Way Christian Center needed the overlay to rent the building that

lay vacant for five years, right next to Mass Precision. Carl Guardino, speaking for the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, opposed the overlay. Councilman Chuck Reed (also a candidate for mayor) had issued a memo to the council before the meeting, supporting the overlay. The San Jose Chamber of Commerce stood neutral, pending answers to three questions, which Mayor Gonzalez found unacceptable and for which he denounced the Chamber of Commerce.

A total of 27 people addressed the council on this topic. Each presented a persuasive argument in his or her own way. No one questioned the base assumption that government should have the authority to regulate the property.

At 9:10, all discussion ended, and the council voted in favor of the mixed-use overlay.

At 9:10, all discussion ended, and the council voted in favor of the mixed-use overlay.

■ See **Council**, page 3

Skip reality TV—watch the real action at your City Council!

Santa Clara County's 15 cities hold council meetings that are open to the public & allow for comments from the public. Details for participation vary from city to city. In San Jose, for example, anyone can speak for up to two minutes on a specific agenda topic, or on any other topic during the open forum portion of the meeting.

Campbell	7:30 P.M.	1st & 3rd Tuesday
Cupertino	6:45 P.M.	1st & 3rd Tuesday
Gilroy	7:00 P.M.	1st & 3rd Monday
Los Altos	7:00 P.M.	2nd & 4th Tuesday
Los Altos Hills	6:00 P.M.	2nd & 4th Thursday
Los Gatos	7:00 P.M.	1st & 3rd Monday
Milpitas	7:00 P.M.	1st & 3rd Tuesday
Monte Sereno	7:30 P.M.	1st & 3rd Tuesday
Morgan Hill	7:00 P.M.	1st & 3rd Wednesday
Palo Alto	7:00 P.M.	1st & 3rd Monday
San Jose	7:00 P.M.	1st & 3rd Tuesday
Santa Clara	7:00 P.M.	Two Tuesdays per month
Saratoga	7:00 P.M.	1st & 3rd Wednesday
Sunnyvale	7:00 P.M.	1st & 3rd Tuesday

Campaign Communications Training

by Scott Lieberman
Campaigns Chair, LP of Santa Clara Co.

On Saturday, July 22, Brian Darby and I returned for another round of campaign training in a Mountain View hotel meeting room. This investment of half of a summer weekend was not as great a sacrifice as you might think, since outdoors, Silicon Valley was cooking in 105°F weather.

This course was called Campaign Communications School, and was put on by Project for California's Future. All of the lectures were delivered by California Republican Vice-Chair Ron Nehring. He is an elected member of a school board in San Diego County, so he is not just an armchair pontificator. He is an excellent teacher, and I would recommend any course given by him.

He taught us how a candidate must begin

with the issues, but that just talking about the issues is not enough. If you actually want to win an election, you need to get people to vote for you. To do that, you need to tie issues to benefits, and then you need to use those benefits to elicit a feeling in a voter; and that feeling needs to satisfy a value that the voter already has. He handed out a list of values, including respect, happiness, caring for others, longevity, and security.

As Nehring says, "Effective communication persuades through reason, but motivates through emotion." He said that Democrats are excellent at tying the act of voting into satisfying the inner needs of their voters, but that Republicans "suck" at it. From what I have seen, Libertarians are just as bad as Republicans at the

necessary task of using emotion and values to get people to vote for them. Nehring also introduced the "Leesburg Grid," a simple way of trying to get candidates to use words and phrases that are on message for their side, and to not use words and phrases that are on message for the enemy—I mean, the opposition.

I would strongly encourage Libertarians who want to win their next election to take any of the courses offered by Project for California's Future. I assume the next batch of their Mountain View campaign courses (including campaign management, communications, and fundraising & finance) will be held in 2007. You may learn more about Project for California's Future at their web site: www.CaliforniasFuture.org. ■





Santa Clara Libertarian
News of Local Libertarians'
Efforts and Feats

Volume 34 ■ Issue 7 ■ July 2006

Santa Clara Libertarian is the monthly newsletter of the Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County.

PUBLISHER

Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County
P.O. Box 60171 Sunnyvale 94088-0171
Web site: www.SC.CA.LP.org
Telephone: 1 (877) 872-3007

EDITOR

Elizabeth C. Brierly
E-Mail: BrierlyServices@Netgate.net

Brierly Services Company

P.O. Box 611021 San Jose, CA 95161-1021

COUNTY CHAIR

Kevin Takenaga
Telephone: (408) 243-2711
E-Mail: Chair@SC.CA.LP.org

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Mark Hinkle, Committee Chair
E-Mail: Mark@Garlic.com

CONTRIBUTORS

Lois Garcia Sharon Presley
Scott Lieberman Kevin Takenaga
Arden Pierce Bill White
Hiram Pierce

PAST ISSUES

Posted on the Web at:
SC.CA.LP.org/page_reference_scl.php

COPYRIGHT NOTICE

Articles, photographs, artwork, copyright 2006 by their author(s) and/or Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County, except where stated as a reprint. All rights reserved.

■ Message from the Chair

Rest Up for the Battle Ahead

As you may have read in the pages of this newsletter, the LPSCC had a productive first half of the year. We have marched towards our goals as much as we possibly could with the resources available to us, and we've achieved some spectacular results along the way.

This coming fall, the challenges will be no different, as we stand up for policies and candidates that make for a freer, prosperous Santa Clara County. We must not let failures of our past block us from achieving tomorrow's goals.

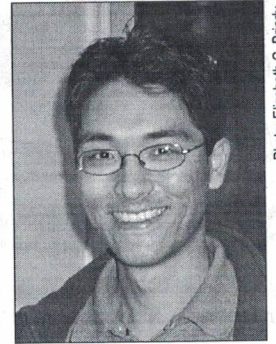
By the end of the summer, we'll need more of you to step forward with your time, your talent, and your cash to make "liberty in our lifetime" a statement of truth, rather than one

of fiction.

I encourage all members to attend the next Central Committee meeting on Aug. 24, where we will choose the Party's endorsements for the general election ballot in November.

In the meantime, rest up and enjoy the summer; it'll be "all hands on deck" starting next month.

—Kevin Takenaga, Chair
Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County



Kevin Takenaga

Photo: Elizabeth C. Brierly

Raising Children to Think for Themselves

by Sharon Presley
Psychologist and Writer

If the ingredients for a free and autonomous society able to govern itself are a sense of self-reliance, a desire for independence, and the ability to think for oneself, then we, as libertarians, need to address the issues of how to nurture, teach, and encourage these ideas in our children. If children don't learn these skills when young, how will they value them as adults?

It has been said that the personal is the political, but it is also true that the political is the personal. If we preach autonomy, independence, and thinking for oneself as a political ideal, then it would be hypocritical and psychologically inconsistent to say, for example, that authoritarianism in the family is a good idea. Psychologically, it doesn't work like that. Developmental research makes it clear that authoritarian families are more likely to produce authoritarian children. The children who grow up to be independent, morally responsible adults, who care about others and who value independence, have parents who encouraged these ideas in the family. The schools also play a role in fostering or hindering autonomy and critical thinking.

What can we do, then, to raise children who think for themselves? What can parents do to foster independent thinking? How do we educate our children? How can we encourage critical thinking? How can we make the whole family autonomous yet balanced? How can spouses or partners have a more equitable bal-

ance in their relationships? How can we avoid falling back on traditional stereotypical behavior that does not serve any member of the family well?

These are some of the issues we will address in the Conference on Authority and Autonomy in the Family, which I am co-hosting with Prof. Fred Foldvary of Santa Clara University's economics department. Topics will include

- Children who grow up to be
- morally responsible adults
- have parents who encouraged
- these ideas in the family.

home schooling, nonauthoritarian childrearing methods, encouraging critical thinking in young people, fostering self-esteem in young people, and establishing a more balanced, less gender-stereotypical marriage or partnership. We invite you to join us on August 19 at Santa Clara University.

For more information, see the conference web site, at www.AutonomyInTheFamily.org.

Dr. Sharon Presley is the Executive Director of Resources for Independent Thinking (on the web at www.RIT.org), and National Coordinator of the Association of Libertarian Feminists (www.ALF.org). She is a Lecturer at Calif. State University, East Bay, where she teaches psychology and critical thinking courses. She can be reached at Presley@RIT.org.

WANTED!

LPSCC needs
house party
locations
for fundraisers
for candidates
and the Party.

To find out how you can help, contact
Kevin Takenaga at
Chair@SC.CA.LP.org.

Invite your family, friends, and colleagues to join the **Libertarian Party!**



**The Libertarian Party
of Santa Clara County**

P.O. Box 60171, Sunnyvale, CA 94088-0171

Please print:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

The Libertarian Party is the party of principle. To assure and affirm that our party never strays from its principles, we *request* our members to sign the pledge below. (Non-signers cannot vote on Party business.)

I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature: _____

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW MEMBER **RENEWAL**

- \$25 Basic (new member only) \$ _____
- \$50 Basic (membership renewal)..... \$ _____
- \$100 Sustaining..... \$ _____
- \$250 Sponsor \$ _____
- \$500 Patron \$ _____
- \$1,000 Benefactor \$ _____
- \$2,000 Life Member \$ _____

MY ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO LPSCC:

- Monthly pledge (\$10 minimum)..... \$ _____
- One-time donation..... \$ _____

Payment method:

Check: Make payable to **Libertarian Party**

Credit card:

Visa MasterCard Discover (circle one)

Card no.: _____

Expiration date: _____

Cardholder name: _____

Signature: _____

Council

from Page 1

This one issue had provided enough educational and entertaining material for an entire screenplay.

The next item on the agenda was the proposed opening of a Beverages & More! store in Willow Glen. Michael Mulcahy, recent contender for the San Jose mayorship,

Mayor Gonzalez made the insightful observation that businesses provide jobs.

spoke in favor of the BevMo. One resident who opposed the store opening said he was embarrassed at the new nickname for his neighborhood: Wino Glen. BevMo has 4,400 registered customers in the 408 area code, which is about the same as the number of registered Libertarians in Santa Clara County. Only one person questioned the point of view that a vacant building might be better for the community than a business. Mayor Ron Gonzalez made the insightful observation that businesses provide jobs, and "that's something we can't do as a city." The BevMo resolution passed

unanimously. Willow Glen residents will soon be able to shop at a BevMo heavily customized for Lincoln Ave.

The arguments used most often throughout the long night were the safety of children, tax revenue for the city's general fund, and the free market. These are all hot topics for the LPSCC.

Another strong argument was the number of letters received from private citizens and local businesses for or against an issue. Mentioned were neighborhood meetings, which had been attended by key players and councilmembers.

Clearly, relatively small grassroots efforts wield a powerful influence on local politics. LPSCC members could represent the Libertarian view very persuasively. Our arguments would ring with common sense. If you usually watch a reality show on Tuesday nights, try a City Council meeting instead. It is in turns fascinating, ridiculous, boring, heated, and dramatic. ■

America once embodied the idea that you are a sovereign individual able to make your own decisions—such as how to raise your own children.

—Harry Browne
The Great Libertarian Offer

Upcoming Events

*Autonomy in the Family:
Children, Spouses, Partners*

Conference sponsored by **Resources for Independent Thinking, Civil Society Institute, & Assn. of Libertarian Feminists**

- When: Saturday, **August 19, 2006**
- Where: Santa Clara University
500 El Camino Real
Santa Clara, CA 95053-1500
California Mission Rm. (Benson Ctr.)
- Fee: \$32–\$109, depending on package
- For info: www.AutonomyInTheFamily.org
Or contact Sharon Presley, Ph.D.
E-mail: Presley@RIT.org
Tel.: (650) 814-3245

*Annual Tax Freedom Rally
Free Enterprise Society*

- When: **August 18–20, 2006**
- Where: Wyndham Hotel
1350 North First St., San Jose, 95112
- Fee: 2-day conference: \$50 nonmember
\$40 member
Free under 18
Saturday banquet: \$50
Constitution class: \$75 nonmember
\$65 member
- For info: www.FreeEnterpriseSociety.com
Or call (209) 966-7040



Santa Clara Libertarian

Libertarian Party of California State Central Committee
Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County
P.O. Box 60171
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-0171

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 4040

SAN JOSE, CA

LPSCC Member Appointed to Public Office

As an architect, **Linda Hinkle** has had years of dealings with the Architectural Review Board of her city, Morgan Hill. But as of this spring, this LPSCC member finds herself working “from the other side,” since she has been appointed to the board for a two-year term.

The Board serves as an advisory body to the City Council on matters related to architectural design and aesthetics, and on such

.....
: “My mission will be to allow :
: pretty much anything.” :
: :

other matters as may be requested by the Council. The Commission is a five-member body, with each commissioner serving a term of two years. Currently the terms of three members will expire in June of 2007 and two in 2008.

So, just how did Hinkle achieve this distinction?

“Apparently my name was suggested by a [colleague] in the Morgan Hill Building Department, and I was sent a letter asking me to

apply for the position. So I did. I had to be interviewed and approved by the City Council.”

As for her experience dealing with this board “from the other side,” as have all the architects and builders in the area, Hinkle said, “I have often thought that [the commissioners] were intrusive, nit-picky, very subjective. Which is why I thought they needed a good dose of common sense.”

“Once a plan has complied with the general plan and met all zoning requirements, the architectural review board assesses the project for general conformity, aesthetically appealing design, landscape requirements, etc. We can approve or reject projects that don’t meet the city criteria, which of course are very subjective,” explained Hinkle. “My mission will be to allow pretty much anything.”

We hope Hinkle will have more to share with SCL’s readers once she’s been on the board for a few months.

The Architectural Review Board meets twice per month, in the City Council Chambers, on the first and third Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M. You can learn more on the web at www.Morgan-Hill.ca.gov. ■

Don't miss
the LPSCC's
Central Committee Meeting
with endorsement of
issues & candidates!

The Libertarian Party of Santa Clara County invites you to participate in this important meeting, when we will be deciding whether to support or oppose candidates and ballot measures in the upcoming November 7th election.

Grab this chance to meet your fellow LP members and to influence the upcoming election!

When: Thurs., August 24, 2006, 7:00 P.M.
Where: Pasand Indian Cuisine
3701 El Camino Real
Santa Clara, CA 95051
For info: Lois Garcia, Activities Chair
E-mail: L.Party@Yahoo.com
Tel.: (408) 243-2711

Times and venues of LPSCC events are subject to change. Check our web site for confirmation: www.SC.CA.LP.org; click on "events."