

**RIVERSIDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2010
Called for 6:00 p.m.
At the Riverside Public Library**

<i>Chamber Board</i>	David Moravecek	President
	Rick Rovella	Vice President, Events Coordinator
	Keith Wright	Vice President, Membership
	Brian Brennan	Vice President, Publicity & Public Relations
	Dorothy Sikora	Secretary
	Carol Franzo	Treasurer
	Holiday Stroll Chair	Brian Brennan
	Car Show Chair	Rick Rovella
	Steak Fry Chair	Eric Sundstrom

Called to order by President, Dave Moravecek at 6:10 p.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

29 members were present, including Village Manager, Peter Scalera, and Village Trustees; Jean Sussman and Mark Shevitz.

Secretary's Report

A copy of the Minutes of the Meeting of December 11, 2009 was passed out to all present, reviewed, and with a motion from Alex Gallegos, seconded by Carol Franzo, unanimously approved, will stand as recorded, and will be posted on the Chamber's website. A reminder to all that the current month's minutes are now being sent as an attachment to the email reminder of the monthly meeting for all to peruse before the meeting and are also posted on the Chamber website.

Treasurer's Report

Carol Franzo presented a preliminary proposed Budget for 2010. Discussion ensued as to the goals and plans for Chamber projects as well as costs and expenditures. The Treasurer's Report for the past year shows a deficit of \$4811.00 but she will review it to be sure all income and expenses are correct. Current checking account balance is \$15,664.47.

Executive Board Meeting of January 11, 2010 Updates

Dave Moravecek advised that the Executive Board met recently to review items including the need to review the Bylaws, set Project Goals, Budget review and planning, membership benefits and the need for more involvement by all members. Volunteers will be sought for each event and it is hoped every member will volunteer for at least one event.

Village Updates

Jean Sussman announced that the 10-year US Census will be mailed out in early March and the importance of getting a complete count. Anyone needing more information or wanting a presentation for a local group or organization should contact her.

Mark Shevitz advised that there may be possible bulk email opportunity for Chamber or its members as an adjunct to the Village's e-flash program. More information will be provided if this is approved by the Village.

Members asked if parking is being enforced, as well as concerns for the much needed parking signage and the status of the Masonic Lodge parking lot. He advised that Lot#10 along the north side of the train tracks has about 80-90 permit holders and businesses need to let them know if parking is needed. Signage has been delayed due to the in-house printing of signs no longer being available.

Due to a Village Board Meeting, Trustees Shevitz and Sussman and Village Manager Scalera left at 7:20 p.m.

Randy Brockway, Riverside resident and local vegetable grower who is involved with the Farmer's Market was introduced and addressed the group with a presentation about the Farmers' Market and a recent request from the Village to evaluate additional sites for the Market. The Farmers' Market runs from mid-July until the end of October on Wednesday afternoons. The current site is on Burlington just west of Riverside Bank. Other possible considerations are the Post Office parking lot and the site east of the Post Office; 61&63 Burlington (which is not really plausible given it is not paved and this is a rain or shine event); Centennial Park; First American Bank parking lot on Quincy. Discussion ensued over the concerns about location and advantages and disadvantages to local merchants. Scott Zimmer voiced his support of Stephanie Boutsikakis of Riverside Foods and suggested it may be to their advantage to host the Market in their lot. A letter will be sent to the EDC voicing concerns and suggestions once the ideas have been evaluated.

Discussion then included Chamber's Goals for 2010, as well as designating a portion of funds for planned approved projects, and limiting donations, including not voting on a request until after the presenter of the request has left the meeting. Additionally, ideas for new events were discussed and a committee will be formed to work on a possible Ladies' Night event. Concern for the appearance of the Business District and the problems with the planters was also a hot topic. The suggestion of making the number one priority of Chamber to beautify the Business District; including cleaning the beds, landscaping, banners on light posts, annuals, was well received by all. Individuals will be meeting to get more information and planning for this focus. A suggestion was also made to have regular representation of the Chamber at every Village Board meeting and reading a statement of Chamber issues.

The meeting concluded at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Sikora, Recording Secretary