

**RIVERSIDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2011
Called for 6:00 p.m.
At the Riverside Public Library**

Chamber Board	David Moravecek	President
	Keith Wright	1 st Vice President, Membership
	Carol Franzo	2 nd Vice President, Events Coordinator
	Chuck Soumar	3 rd Vice President, Publicity & Public Relations
		-Absent
	Dorothy Sikora	Secretary
	Janice Fisher	Treasurer
Board of Directors	Brian Brennan	
	Joe Dvorak	
	Rick Rovella	
	Eric Sundstrom	

Called to order by President, Dave Moravecek at 6:01 p.m.

Attendance

30 members and guests were present, including Village Manager, Peter Scalera; Village Trustee, Ben Sells; Parks and Rec Commissioner, Susan Casey; and EDC member Kristine Herbst.

Dave welcomed new Chamber members Dr. Gilbert LaFemina, Dr. Margaret Pechota of Agape Psychology; and long-time member Jean DiMonte, who was new to our recent meetings.

Secretary's Report

The Minutes of the Meeting of July 12, 2011 were reviewed, and with a motion from Alex Gallegos, seconded by Joe Dvorak, unanimously approved, will stand as recorded, and is posted on the Chamber's website.

Treasurer's Report

Janice Fisher presented the Financial Report showing a current balance of \$12,861.51, as of September 8, 2011, and a report on profits from the bags and car show expenses, to date. Alex Gallegos moved, and Eric Sundstrom seconded to accept the Financial Report, unanimously approved.

Vote on Parking Lot Financial Support

Dave explained the reason for the change in meeting date; so membership could vote on supporting the Green Infrastructure Plan for 61-63 Burlington before the Village meeting on Monday, August 15 (6:30pm). And, if agreed upon, Chamber would advise of financial support for this project. Prior to this meeting, Dave had received over 30 emails of support from Chamber members in response to his email memo concerning this project. The grant that the Village applied for was awarded to Riverside if their Board agrees to accept it. The Village's out-of-pocket costs would be \$35,000. This sustainable parking lot would have educational value to residents to see how it works and looks, as well as a tool for the Village to relieve flooding. It has been used in many

large lots and locations. EDC approved support for this project at their meeting last week. A vibrant business district allows for a vibrant community. Much discussion ensued, including a historical background of previous Burlington properties and needed parking. This is a significant grant opportunity and should not be refused. A letter from the Chamber to the Village asking for parking was presented B date: May 31, 1946! Sixty-five years later - this could finally become reality.

A motion was made by Alex Gallegos, that upon Village Board approval on August 15, 2011 for 61-63 Burlington lots, Chamber to give \$10,000 over two years to show support in hard times and help the Village complete this project, seconded by Jack Wiaduck. The membership unanimously approved this vote of financial support.

Members and citizens were asked to voice their support either by attending the Village meeting on Monday, 8/15/11 at 6:30pm, or by emailing the Village President and trustees asking them to vote to approve this much needed, long overdue parking lot in the CBD. Emails are as follows: mgorman@riverside.il.us; jballerine@riverside.il.us; jreynalds@riverside.il.us; bsells@riverside.il.us; lsacchi@riverside.il.us; mdshevitz@riverside.il.us; jsussman@riverside.il.us .

Events Coordinator

Upcoming events include the Car Show on Thursday, August 11. The Person of the Year Golf and Dinner on Tuesday, August 23 - tickets for the dinner (\$38) golf (\$85) may be purchased at Arcade Jewelers, Riverside Bank, and Olga Sylvester.

The July 25th Golf Outing and dinner, (postponed due to flooding) has been changed to Monday, September 19. Tickets are still available for both via Chew Chew or Landmark Kitchens.

Susan Casey, Chair of Riverside Parks and Recreation addressed the meeting concerning their plans for a 1st Annual Halloween event, possibly on Friday, October 21 - early evening, and were looking for business support to remain open for Trick-or-Treating in the CBD prior to having the children and their parents participate in activities in Centennial Park. Ideas were discussed, including a costume parade, entertainment and refreshments. Once dates and times are firm - more information will be provided.

Village Updates

Peter Scalera advised that

- the train stations (both North & South sides) will get a much needed uplift, including tuck pointing and glass removal and reinstall, due to receipt of a grant for this project. Lighting in this area will also be addressed.
- They are moving forward on signage at 1st and Forest. Sample signage will soon be available for consideration.
- Swan Pond and Hoffman Dam projects are moving forward
- The Back-to-School Bash in the Big Ball Park has been rescheduled for August 14
- Water fountain project continues, awaiting approval from the Olmsted Society of New York.

Membership

Keith Wright advised that membership is at 103, with newest member Riverside Wine Bar hosting a ribbon-cutting ceremony and reception at 7pm, following this meeting.

Janice Fisher, Library Director, presented Keith with a book (*The Greatest Music Stories Never Told: 100 Tales from Music History to Astonish, Bewilder, and Stupefy* by Rick Beyer) In Recognition of Outstanding Performance as Vice President - Membership for the Riverside Chamber of Commerce 100+Members! The Friends of the Library awards special recognitions throughout Riverside.

Publicity & PR

Chuck Soumar thanked the Village, Chamber and especially Alex Gallegos for the trees and planters and garbage receptacle now installed on Harlem Avenue.

Banner/signage with removable dates has been very successful in Guthrie Park and an additional one suggesting shopping locally will be hung during lulls in events.

Alex Gallegos moved, and Joan Wiaduck seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m., and members went to the ribbon-cutting reception.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Sikora, Recording Secretary