

**RIVERSIDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2008
Called for 6:00 p.m.
At the Riverside Public Library**

<i>Chamber Board</i>	David Moravecek	President
	Rick Rovella	1 st Vice President
	Chris Canavera	2 nd Vice President - Absent
	Brian Brennan	3 rd Vice President
	Dorothy Sikora	Secretary
	Eric Sundstrom	Treasurer
	Alex Gallegos	Director
	Jerry Cervak	Immediate Past President - Absent

Called to order by President, Dave Moravecek at 6:11 p.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

11 members were present.

Secretary's Report

A copy of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 12, 2008 was passed out to all present, reviewed, and with a motion from Carole Franzo, seconded by Alex Gallegos, unanimously approved, will stand as recorded, and will be posted on the Chamber's website.

Holiday Stroll Report

Brian Brennan reported of the success of the Holiday Stroll, despite the bitterly cold temperatures. He noted appreciation to Minuteman Press for the FREE printing of flyers for the Stroll and Santa visit. Next year, they hope to have 2 horses and sleigh for the event. The auction connected to the retired Chicago Bear, Steve McMichael visit and autograph signing was very successful (\$600-\$700). In all, the event may cost Chamber only about \$500.

Discussion about the visit with Santa set for the 20th of December ensued. The idea of taking digital photos for those who do not bring their own camera and emailing them the shot was discussed. Brian will try to contact RBHS for a student photographer.

A suggestion to have the tree top sponsor's signs not dated and reused in future years met with positive approval. Not only will it be more cost effective, it will be environmentally good as well!

Treasurer's Report

Eric Sundstrom verbally presented the Treasurer's Report. Current checking account balance is \$12,064.00.

Nominations & Board Elections

Library Director, Janice Fisher, who volunteered to serve as the Nominating Committee

presented the proposed Slate of Officers for 2009, as follows:

Dave Moravecek	President
Rick Rovella	Vice President, Events Coordinator
Keith Wright	Vice President, Membership
Dave Vesecky	Vice President, Publicity & Public Relations
Treasurer	Eric Sundstrom
Secretary	Dorothy Sikora

As well as,

Holiday Stroll Chair	Brian Brennan
Car Show Chair	Rick Rovella
Steak Fry Chair	Eric Sundstrom

Alex Gallegos moved, and Carole Franzo seconded the motion to approve the Slate of Officers as proposed. There being no further nominations, a vote was taken and approved by all present.

A special thank you and words of appreciation to expressed to Brian Brennan, Chris Canavera, and Jerry Cervak for all the years of serving the Chamber as Board members. After reviewing the Chamber's By-Laws, Dave Moravecek realized that Alex Gallegos' position of Director does not meet the directives of the by-laws, and this position was eliminated.

Future Events

The Riverside Arts Faire is set for May 16 & 17, 2009. In 2008, Chamber contributed \$2500 as a sponsor. This will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Rick Rovella addressed the meeting with the idea of a new event; Founder's Day Fest; which can be interpreted as a celebration of each member's business history, as well as the history of the building they are housed in; organizations; schools; Village government and departments, etc. After presenting an outline for a day-long event; enough interest was generated to form a committee. Please contact secretary, Dorothy Sikora, if you are interested in joining. More information to follow.

Chamber Old, New and For Good of Discussion

With concerns for the financial future of the Village; small businesses, obstacles faced to open new businesses in town, commissions' involvements, renewed interest in the riverwalk; it was suggested that plans be prepared and ready, to request possible available new federal funding in the near future, as our country's leaders may begin providing to help small town America

Additionally

Alex Gallegos announced his intentions to run for a Village Trustee position. He presented his concerns for cooperation between the Village and businesses as a top priority in his platform and also addressed the need for foot traffic and the idea of concerts in Guthrie Park to generate outside interest in our unique village.

The meeting concluded at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Sikora, Recording Secretary