

**RIVERSIDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 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
	Brian Brennan	3 rd Vice President
	Dorothy Sikora	Secretary
	Eric Sundstrom	Treasurer
	Alex Gallegos	Director - Absent
	Jerry Cervak	Immediate Past President

Called to order by President, Dave Moravecek at 6:00 p.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

29 members were present; including Fire Chief, Kevin Mulligan, Village Representatives; Joe Pilewski, EDC; and representatives from *The Landmark* and *Liberty Suburban Life* Newspapers.

Secretary's Report

A copy of the Minutes of the Meeting of October 22, 2008 was passed out to all present, reviewed, and with a motion from Joe Dvorak, seconded by Carole Franzo, unanimously approved, will stand as recorded, and will be posted on the Chamber's website.

Treasurer's Report

Eric Sundstrom presented the Treasurer's Report. Current checking account balance is \$10,739.65. A motion to accept the Report was made by Carole Franzo, seconded by Dorothy Sikora, and unanimously approved.

Chamber Old, New and For Good of Discussion

The idea of sponsoring a Founder's Day Fest, where business owners and organizations could promote the histories of their organization; was again brought up as an idea for next year. The Historical Commission has shown interest in this event.

Dave Moravecek advised that he has been approached with a request for member's presentations at meetings. Discussion ensued regarding the concern of one business promoting itself over another. A suggestion was made to have a one-paragraph description of each member's business listed on the website as a more equitable solution. Also, new members often introduce themselves at their first meeting and describe their business. A suggestion to talk to other Chambers to see how their agenda is structured was also made. Janice Fisher, the Library Director, reiterated that every Chamber Member is invited to provide a handout for insertion in the Library's New Patron Packet.

Joe Pilewski of the Village's Economic Development Commission addressed the group with a request to assist their plight to protect the Arcade Building from the elements,

since the building's future is on hold; by supporting their effort to apply for financial support from the Illinois Preservation Agency. Dan Deleonardis moved, and Eric Sundstrom seconded, a motion of support and concern, and that a letter of support is drafted and sent to help these efforts. The motion was unanimously approved. Mr. Pilewski will provide the Chamber with the information needed to send the letter of support.

Nominations for new officers will be entertained at the December meeting.

Mr. Moravec left the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Sheila Gentile, Holiday Trim-a-Tree Chair, advised that the trees will be set up on Sunday, November 23rd beginning at 10 a.m. and tree decorating by sponsors will be on Saturday, November 29th. Volunteers are needed for both events and a signup sheet was passed around. Forty trees were ordered for this year's event and there are only a few left to be bought.

The Chamber will host the Trim-a-Tree party with cocoa and cookies, on the 29th from 1 – 2:30 p.m. for groups decorating their trees. A complimentary ad will appear in the November 25/26 edition of the *Liberty Suburban Life* papers highlighting the Trim-A-Tree event.

Brian Brennan, Holiday Stroll Chair, announced all the current plans for this year's December 5th Holiday Stroll. He requested that all activity/sponsor forms be returned to him in the next few days. Currently he has \$1200 in sponsorships which will include face painting, pony rides in 1st American Bank's parking lot, a magic show and the possibility of a retired Chicago Bear player who would sign autographs and pose for photos. Sponsors are still being sought.

Greg Gorski will again design the posters for publicity and information of all events. These flyers and posters should be available on Monday, November 24th. The banner will be hung in Guthrie Park 12 days before the Stroll. The Fire Department will block the streets off in front of Centennial Park between 5:15 and 5:45 p.m. for the arrival of Santa and the lighting of the trees.

Brian also talked about the Chamber's hosting of Santa in the center of town on 2 Saturdays in December, as discussed last month. He advised that the Rec Department building would be available but at a cost of \$100 for 4 hours. After much discussion of other locations and ideas, Joe Dvorak moved, and Sheila Gentile seconded, a motion to host one Saturday; December 20, 2008, for four hours in the Rec Building at the Water Tower. The motion was unanimously approved. Brian reminded businesses they may want to offer discounts, coupons or raffles at the event.

Char Pankros distributed drawing tickets to members for an opportunity to win a giant nutcracker, since members are always working at their own locations the night of the Stroll.

The representatives from the local newspapers: Missy Laurel with the *Landmark*, and Rick with the *Suburban Life* gave presentations on their papers' offerings for special ads

for the Stroll issues.

Additionally

Dorothy Sikora advised that in running into Riverside's 2008 Person-of-the-Year, Joanne Kosey, she asked to state that in light of the recent failure of the Village's passing a Referendum for additional funds; and the threats of cancellation of all events in town; Ms. Kosey is willing to lead an Independence Day Parade with scouts and kazoos! Discussion ensued regarding the options and ideas for continuing with the 3rd & 4th of July events on different scales and the possibility of charging admission for the concert.

The meeting concluded at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Sikora, Recording Secretary