

**RIVERSIDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MINUTES OF MEETING OF
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 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 & PR -Absent
	Dorothy Sikora	Secretary
	Janice Fisher	Treasurer
Board of Directors	Brian Brennan	Absent
	Joe Dvorak	
	Rick Rovella	Absent
	Eric Sundstrom	

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

Attendance

Eighteen members and guests met including Ben Sells, Village Board/Chamber liaison, Kevin Skinkis, D208/RBHS Superintendent; and Derrick Mancini, potential new business owner.

Dave welcomed Heather Overbeck of Principle Dance Studio, first time meeting attendee.

Greg Gorski had already loaded the photos from the previous day's Golf Outing and the slide show was running in the background, as Dave reported briefly on the success of the day which included picture perfect weather, 72 golfers, 150 diners, great food (especially the mashed potato bar!), delightful music from R-Gang, fabulous raffle and game prizes – *a very successful event!* The totals are not in yet, but it is hoped that a profit of around \$4000 will be realized. More information will be reported at next month's meeting, but appreciation and kudos to the Chairs of the event were expounded. Thank you, Scott, Joe and Frank. Check out the Chamber website to view the fun times.

Secretary's Report

The Minutes of the Meeting of August 9, 2011 were reviewed, and with a motion from Joe Dvorak, seconded by Alex Gallegos, 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 \$12,333.01, as of September 19, 2011. Alex Gallegos moved, and Joe Dvorak seconded, to accept the Financial Report, unanimously approved. This does not reflect expenses and income from the Gold Outing.

Additionally, Dave advised that at a recent Executive Board meeting, a decision was made to open a separate checking account and transfer \$5000 to a general fund for the parking lot funding and other long range plans as they come along.

Membership

Keith Wright advised that membership is at 109, with six new members this month. A holiday party/membership 2012 drive is being planned for the December meeting. All members will be invited to bring a potential new member. There will be a \$10/person charge to cover expenses but any member paying for 2012 that evening will be given a \$10 discount. The tentative date for this event is Wednesday, December 14th at Soul Amici/Train Station. More information will follow.

Events Coordinator

Carol Franzo advised that after checking with the Parks & Rec Department, they plan to hold a Halloween event on Friday, October 21 (10 days before Halloween). Additional investigation brought to light that the schools are planning their costume and parades for Friday, October 28, and there will be a health fare on Saturday, October 29 in Riverside Foods parking lot. In light of all the options for a CDB trick or treating event and that Halloween is on a Monday, members agreed that traditional trick or treating on Halloween day, October 31st, seems to make the most sense.

REEF (Riverside Education Fund) is hosting a children's author event at Soul Amici on September 29th. More information can be found on the Chamber website or through the schools.

Christmas Trees in Centennial Park will again be chaired by Joan Wiaduck. A change to one large tree with sponsored ornaments is a possibility...more information will follow once Joan gets approvals from the Village and a lead on someone who might want to "donate" their tree ala Chicago and Brookfield Zoo. If you have any suggestions, let her know. More information will be provided by the next meeting.

Car Show on Sunday

Everyone is reminded that Sunday, September 25 is the big Car Show from 9am – 5pm. Volunteers are needed to help set up. Help is also needed at the Chamber booth. All members are encouraged to drop off coupons, giveaways, promotional materials, etc., at the booth.

Guests

Mr. Derrick Mancini of Lawton Road addressed the membership concerning his possible new business on Quincy. He was heading to a 7pm meeting with the Plan Commission and came in to describe his business plan and ask for Chamber support. He would like to open a distillery, with an onsite tasting room and retail shop. He is fairly far along in his planning and described his products including gin, vodka, a mead beverage and a bourbon. A motion was made by Alex Gallegos, seconded by Joe Dvorak, and passed unanimously to offer support in his efforts with Village licensing and approvals. Alex Gallegos left the meeting early to join Mr. Mancini and express the Chamber's support for this new destination business in Riverside.

Kevin Skinkis, Ed.D., Superintendent of RBHS introduced himself to the membership. He is the new superintendent and asked to be placed on the Chamber mailing list so he is aware of events in Riverside.

Anne Huston of the Riverside Library addressed the membership with an idea for a Chamber Wintertime event of an Amazing Race. She gave an overview of ideas and offered the Library as the registration and kickoff place. This would be for families and adults with at least one person over 21 years of age in each group. Three potential Saturday dates were suggested: February 25, March 3 or March 10. Any interested member to participate and especially to help chair this event is asked to contact Janice Fisher or Dorothy Sikora at the library (442-6366).

Village Updates

Ben Sells advised that

- The new bike racks have all been installed.
- A first reading on the new live music ordinance is underway.
- The Hoffman Dam project is moving forward

He asked if members felt that a Village of Riverside How-to manual for new businesses would be useful. This had come up with EDC in the past but never completed. Members expressed their concern and frustration at the application process and especially the length of time and multiple meetings with separate commissions for approvals to open a store front in town. Members suggested that in addition to a how-to / welcome packet, a concerted effort to alleviate months of separate meetings, by setting up a joint meeting with all necessary commissions be implemented to ease the time and frustration of getting everyone's approvals.

He also thanked Chamber for our support of the parking lot project.

Bylaws Review

Joe Dvorak will Chair a committee to review our current Bylaws. Keith Wright and Carol Franzo will serve on this committee. Once it is complete, it will be presented to the membership for approval.

Solicitations

Riverside Junior Woman's Charity had asked for a donation for the 100th anniversary celebration. A motion was made by Robin Mooney, seconded by Greg Gorski, and passed unanimously, to give \$100 to an organization that promotes Riverside and the Chamber.

RBEA will be contacting members for donations to their annual telethon.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Sikora, Recording Secretary