

Minutes
November 10, 2009
Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce
Public Meeting Room, Civic Center Plaza
12:00 Noon

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Scroggins at 12:15 p.m. Present: President Scroggins, Vice President Moss, Directors Banks, Flanagan, Ginsburg, Jones, and Pistoresi. Absent: Treasurer Fall, Directors Chavez and Harrell.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Section 2

Marty Piepenbrok thanked the Chamber Board for their support of the Halloween Treat Street. 29 businesses participated with around 1,000 people including approximately 490 children participated. The cost of the city Parks & Recreation Dept. was \$117, not counting staff time, and the department will work to build on this year's success for 2010. Director Pistoresi voiced his view having watched people walk up and down the street should have an idea now of what businesses are downtown.

Director Pistoresi asked if the City has a group of people who specifically work to bring more businesses to town since we are losing businesses, such as Blockbuster. Mr. Piepenbrok commented that not specifically through the city but the Madera County EDC with the city following up on inquiries. The Chamber is the biggest promoter for businesses. Discussion followed regarding ways to dress up windows so they do not look so vacant/empty.

CONSENT CALENDAR – Section 3

3.1 Action: Ratify Minutes and Attendance of the November 10, 2009 Board of Directors Meeting.
Motion made to accept the Consent Calendar by Director Flanagan, seconded by Director Banks. There being no discussion, motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE – Section 4

4.1 Darin M. Camarena Health Centers, Inc. letter soliciting donation for their Annual Trees For Charity fund-raiser.

REPORTS – Section 5

5.1 Administrative Reports

Treasurers Report –

Manager Flanagan presented the Treasurer's Report due to Treasurer Fall out on knee surgery. Manager Flanagan noted a refund in uncategorized income. The Customer Aging Report was noted as having 11 businesses having not renewed for 2009. Board had voted to extend the time to pay dues in March. Manager Flanagan requested Board's desire to send membership cancellation notices or not.

Motion made by Director Jones, seconded by Director Flanagan, to wait until January 1, 2010, to send termination of membership letter if 2009 dues are not paid. No discussion, motion passed.

Questions regarding the \$6.00 overdraft charge which was paid back to the Chamber and adjusted to show the in Expense were discussed and answered.

Audit Committee has still not met; recommendation was that 2008 and 2009 years at once. President Scroggins noted that she is **beyond the eyebrow raised stage.**

Manager Report –

Manager Flanagan reported that since the last meeting MainStreet Realty joined and had their ribbon cutting. Several ribbon cuttings scheduled for January and February, more to come about these ribbon cuttings. The Manager reported that she made a presentation to the Chowchilla Lions Club for the Christmas Refurbishing project and that the SBA Free Workshop will be held at the Civic Center on 11/12 re “Building a Better Business Plan”.

5.2 Committee Reports

Working:

Christmas Decorations –

Director Flanagan reported that repairs are to be made on Saturday, 11/14 at 1:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help. Dave Cattuzzo will be helping with the electrical. Arrangements have been made with Chief Harry Turner to open warehouse. President Scroggins, Directors Flanagan and Jones

Manager Flanagan reported that 12/5 as the day to place the decorations with Santa hired. Director Flanagan asked that Jim Shasky be contacted to use stake trailer.

Maps –

In the absence of Committee Chairperson Moss, manager Flanagan reported that the map project is moving towards being finalized. Plans are to have all the ads to the publisher by the end of November. Sales of ads have almost covered all the costs.

Nominating Committee –

Manager Flanagan advised the Board that ballots have been made and waiting for them to be returned. The Committee will be called to count the ballots so the new directors can be invited to the December Board Meeting for introductions.

Installation Committee –

Manager Flanagan noted the Installation Committee met and set January 16th as the date of the Awards and Installation Dinner. The theme is 2010, A Year of Excellence. The Little Theater is the site for the dinner and speakers are being solicited by Vice President Moss. Bids for the dinner will be sent out by the end of the week. Community Awards will be sent or placed in newspaper. Manager Flanagan reminded the Directors to begin thinking about who will be nominated to be President, Vice president, and Treasurer. These positions are to be voted on at the December Meeting.

Ad Hoc:

Welcome Center –

Directors Pistoresi & Flanagan were given the floor regarding the results of a meeting held in November with Interim City Administrator Jay Varney. Parks & Recreation Director Marty Piepenbrok asked to speak regarding Jay Varney is requesting a meeting with the City Council Ad Hoc committee and the Chamber Welcome Center Ad Hoc Committee. Mr. Piepenbrok said he was not aware of the topic of the meeting. Please call Joann at City Hall and give her options so she can coordinate with council ad hoc members.

Director Pistoresi discussed the comments of the meeting with Jay Varney regarding the \$75,000.00 status per a letter from the McCombs. Nothing has been in writing regarding the funds being given to the Chamber for the specific purpose of spending it on the Welcome Center, since it was a city building and now there is no building; these funds cannot be spend on a building. The funds never really belonged to the Chamber since they were to be spent on a building not owned by the Chamber. It now appears that the funds will be given to other community organizations if a proposal is not given to the McCombs within the year.



OLD BUSINESS – Section 6

6.1 Action: Cal Chamber Alert re Joining Alliance for a 21st Century Water System –
No action taken due to no Political Action Committee.

6.2 Action: Approval for the Christmas Committee to move forward with the purchase of new silhouette decorations with the Chukchansi \$25,000 Grant.

Motion made by Director Jones, seconded by Director Flanagan, to authorize the Christmas Decoration Committee to move forward to purchase new Christmas decorations once the grant funds from Chukchansi is received. No discussion, motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS – Section 7

7.1 Action: Policy & Procedures Review Committee appointment – Manager Flanagan

President Scroggins appointed Directors Harrell and Ginsburg to be the P&P Review Committee.

7.2 Action: Memorandum for 2010 Bank Card Signatures – Manager Flanagan

Action was deferred to December, 2009 meeting once 2010 Board officers are determined.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Section 8

8.1 Chowchilla Lioness Lions Club Fall Harvest Festival Dinner, 11/14, Eastman Hall, 6:00 pm

8.2 Madera County 2009 Economic Summit, November 18, 11:30-1:30pm Madera Mini Golf

8.3 Chowchilla Speedway Awards Dinner & Benefit for Chowchilla Boys & Girls Club, 11/20, Hatfeild Hall, Madera Fairgrounds, 6:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT – Section 9

Motion was made by Director Flanagan, seconded by Director Pistoresi, to adjourn the meeting at 1:12p.m.