

**Minutes of the
QUAD CITY RIVERFRONT COUNCIL**

Tuesday, March 22, 2011, Noon
Quad City Botanical Center
2525 4th Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois 61201
Olmsted Room

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Tim Huey*	Ms. Becky Passman
Mr. William Nelson*	Ms. Patsy Ramacitti
Mr. Jeff Anderson	Mr. Vern Spring
Ms. A.J. Grunder	Mr. Joe Taylor
Mr. Charles Heston	Ms. Kathy Wine
Mr. Tim Kammler	

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Shea Doyle
Mr. Doug DeLille
Ms. Stacy Lentsch

*** Current QCRFC officers**

1. Call Meeting to Order – Mr. Huey called the meeting to order welcoming all those in attendance.
2. Approval of the January 25, 2011 Quad City Riverfront Council (QCRFC) meeting minutes – Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kammler. The minutes were approved as written.
3. Individual Riverfront Reports –

Rock Island – Mr. Nelson reported they are getting ready for the flood and that Rock Island is holding flood meetings the next three nights. Mr. Nelson stated the flood wall is designed to take more than 26 feet and that they are putting ribbons are telephone poles to show the citizens what 26 feet looks like. The city is preparing to host the Train Festival 2011. So far, about one-third of the available tickets have sold to people in 41 states and 9 countries.

LeClaire – Mr. Spring informed the River Front Council that around 250 antique collectors will be in LeClaire during the American Pickers weekend in June. This year is the 25th Annual Tug Fest. Mr. Spring mentioned that the Buffalo Bill Museum has changed quite a bit and that people need to come and revisit it.

National MRPC – Ms. Ramacitti stated that the National Parkway Committee has been pushing for the release of Scenic Byway funding. She informed the Task Force of a scheduled meeting with Mr. Ray LaHood, but it is looking like people who have not spent money will take a backseat to those who have and are awaiting reimbursement.

East Moline – Mr. Kammler echoed Mr. Nelson’s comments about the flood. Mr. Kammler stated that East Moline is protected by levees and they are checking the flood gates and pumps to ensure everything is working properly. Mr. Kammler announced that the Case-New Holland site has been sold and that developers want to put in a boardwalk along the levee. The Park Board is taking public comments. East Moline plans to put in water taxi docks.

Modern Woodman – Mr. Doyle stated that Modern Woodman has two pumps and they are renting more equipment. The system is designed to let some water in and then pump the water back out.

Moline – Mr. Anderson stated Moline will hold a flood meeting on Thursday at their Public Works building. Mr. Anderson noted that flooding in Moline is somewhat limited, downtown generally stays dry but you may see water through the manholes. The KONE site is blocked off for construction and Western Illinois work on their building continues with future phases looking promising. Mr. Anderson also noted that the Enterprise Lofts construction continues. Mr. Anderson stated that two grants that Moline received through the DOT and Federal Rail Association might be taken back.

QCCVB – Mr. Taylor informed the committee that Union Station will be closed until the flooding is over. He stated that Japan and Libya are dominating the headlines, so this possible record setting flooding may take a back seat. He also noted that the flooding could impact RAGBRAI planning because of public safety officials being pulled for flood duty. Mr. Taylor made note of the handout about the East-West River Fest to debut in September 2012. Mr. Taylor informed the Task Force that 10 of the 15 visitor centers closed last year will reopen; however, Rapids City will not be one of them.

Davenport – Mr. Heston stated that the Credit Island Bridge came in over bid at \$3.1 million dollars. The bid was rejected and they will prepare to rebid hoping to get closer to the budget of \$2.5 million. They are testing the German-made flood panels next Tuesday. Mr. Heston informed the Task Force that the Black Hawk Hotel reopened and that the River Bandits first game is April 7th. Mr. Heston noted the passing of Rick Voss.

Princeton – Ms. Grunder mentioned that Princeton is in minor panic mode due to the flood since they have no protection. She stated that Princeton is purchasing sandbags and giving them to citizens. She also noted that they are holding their first ever flood preparedness meeting. Princeton has a newly built lagoon to withstand a 100 year flood. Princeton is also preparing for Princeton Days.

Davenport Riverfront Taskforce – Ms. Passman stated that the Davenport Riverfront Taskforce is currently focusing on their organizational makeup. The FY2012 budget cut 20 positions, including 6 that were occupied. Davenport is the only Quad City community to have a riverfront taskforce. The Davenport Parks and Recreation Department will be losing approximately 122 years of experience this summer.

River Action – Ms. Wine announced several upcoming events including the summer education series, Ride-the River, and the Bix 7. Planning is underway on the 2011 Upper Mississippi River Conference. The conference planning committee is trying to get a speaker

on rain gardens and the slated luncheon speaker is the author of the *River Epic*. Other speakers for the conference include Terry Eastin with MRT, Inc., and Larry Larson. Community planning charettes, similar to last years, will be part of the conference.

4. Presentation – Riverfront Revival Project Poster – Ms. Wine talked about the Grand Excursion of 1854. She stated that River Action had created a revival poster approximately 9 years ago and now all 44 projects are complete. The QC Times have agreed to print the poster and put it on their website. The poster will have what the project is, the timeline, the impact, and the cost of the project. The poster will include large projects expected to be completed within 10 years.
5. Nominating and Election of Officers – Mr. Huey was nominated and confirmed as President; Mr. Nelson was nominated and confirmed as Vice President; Ms. Wine was nominated and confirmed as Secretary/Treasurer.
6. Next Meeting – Tuesday, May 24th, 2011 – The Council discussed possible topics for the next meeting. It was decided they would like to have something related to flood cleanup, possibly a FEMA speaker.
7. Other Business – Mr. Taylor motioned the three nominations for the 2010 Certificates of Appreciation be awarded. Ms. Wine seconded and the motion carried.
8. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm.