

**Minutes of the
QUAD CITY RIVERFRONT COUNCIL**

Tuesday, March 27, 2012 – Noon
Arsenal Island Golf Club
312 Gillespie Avenue
Rock Island, Illinois 61201

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Jeff Anderson	Mr. Gary Meden
Mr. Steve Clark	Mr. Bill Nelson*
Mr. Brent Herman	Ms. Patsy Ramacitti
Mr. Tim Huey*	Dr. Rodney Simmer
Mr. Tim Kammler	Mr. Vern Spring
Mr. Tim Knanishu	Mr. Joe Taylor
Mr. Olin Meador	

* Current QCRFC Officers

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Doug DeLille
Ms. AJ Grunder
Ms. Meghan Overton

1. Call Meeting to Order – Mr. Huey called the meeting to order welcoming all those in attendance and asked for introductions.
2. Approval of the January 24, 2012 Quad City Riverfront Council (QCRFC) meeting minutes – Ms. Ramacitti noted two corrections; the first under the National Mississippi River Parkway Commission that the Corridor Management Plan Update is for the Iowa Great River Road; the second was under item six, Ms. Ramacitti did not state the sale price, Mr. Huey made that statement. Mr. Anderson noted that under Moline it is the Kone parking structure not building, scheduled to be completed at the end of February. Corrections have been noted. Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kammler. The minutes were approved with the corrections made.
3. Discussion and Approval of Nominations for 2011 Certificates of Appreciation – Mr. DeLille stated that they have received two nominations since January for the Village of Port Byron Riverfront enhancements and for Mr. Charles Heston. Mr. DeLille asked the committee if they would like to approve the two received and if there were any others. Mr. Nelson nominated the City of Rock Island / QCCVB for the 2011 Train Fest. Mr. Huey nominated the City of Davenport for the enhancements made at Modern Woodman Park. Mr. Anderson nominated WIU for the completion of Phase I of the new Riverfront Campus. Ms. Ramacitti motioned for approval of nominees. Mr. Knanishu seconded. Mr. DeLille stated that they will email out all of the nominees for final review and award them in May. Ms. Ramacitti asked if the media could be invited. Mr. DeLille stated that a press release could be sent out. Mr. Huey added that they could also be awarded at council meetings or a meeting of the recipients' choice.

4. Individual Riverfront Reports –

- *Bettendorf* – Mr. Grimes was unable to attend the meeting but sent an email with Bettendorf's update which was read by Mr. Taylor: *"The new section of the Mississippi Riverfront Recreation Trail is nearly complete. A ribbon cutting date is being planned for 10AM on Friday, May 18th. That date coincides with "Bike to Work Week" and is also the week that the Mississippi Riverfront Trail (MRT) Inc. is meeting here in Bettendorf. Their Board members from throughout the upper Midwest region plan to participate in the Ribbon Cutting ceremonies, along with Bettendorf and Riverdale City officials. The ceremony will mark the opening of the new nearly 2 mile section of trail that extends the Riverfront trail from the I-74 area to Riverdale. That section is part of the Mississippi Riverfront Trail (MRT) that stretches from the headwaters of the Mississippi in Minnesota, to the Gulf of Mexico! Included along this section of trail will also be a scenic riverfront overlook site, built near the intersection of Elm and 35th Street. This multi-use trail expansion will truly help to improve the quality of life for local residents, and provide an even greater tourism attraction as a rapidly growing trail users destination here in the Quad Cities!"* For more details, contact the Parks and Recreation offices at 344-4113.
- *Buffalo* – Mr. Meador stated that they are working on a War Memorial and riverfront clean up. Also, they are moving forward with alignment study for a bike trail that would run from S. Concord Street to Wild Cat Den.
- *East Moline* – Mr. Kammler stated that the first 10 acres are planned for the former Case Property, working with Eagle River. The City has been contacted by John Deere Harvester Works for a potential trail connecting into the GRT.
- *LeClaire Chamber of Commerce* – Mr. Spring stated that the City is working on a new visitors center downtown on Cody Road, should be open in June. They will also be holding a fundraiser to purchase a sound system.
- *Moline* – Mr. Anderson stated that WIU Riverfront Campus is 50% complete on the design of Phase II, will be bid in June with construction starting August or September. The Kone parking deck is complete. Move in to the Kone building is scheduled for the 1st week of June followed by the 1st floor tenets later in the summer. The ice rink outside the Kone building is still planned. They will be using the same company that works on the Millennium Park rink in Chicago. The rink will be opened October - April. The contractor has been selected for the AMTRAK multi-modal center. They have also received proposals for renovations to the old Sears building. Sylvan Island under construction; John Deere commissioning a statue for 175th Anniversary to be placed at park.
- *National Mississippi River Parkway Commission* – Ms. Ramacitti stated that the Iowa MRPC has chosen Dahlquist and Associates to update the Iowa Great River Road Corridor Management Plan. The first stakeholder input meeting will be held on March 28th in Bettendorf. On March 31st the MRPC will hold a national strategic planning session in St. Louis.

- *Princeton* – Mr. Herman stated that they are in the first stages of planning for a river trail from LeClaire to Princeton. Ms. Grunder added that Princeton Days will be held at the end of August that includes a chili cook off fundraiser for the Community Center.
 - *Quad Cities Convention & Visitors Bureau* – Mr. Taylor stated that the MRT Board of Directors meeting is May 16th. Also suggested that everyone attend the City of Bettendorf's ribbon cutting ceremony for the MRT on May 18th at 10:00 a.m.
 - *Rock Island* – Mr. Nelson stated that the City is working on the water treatment plant and that sunset trail is closed. The marina at Schwiebert Park is almost complete. It will be named "The Landing at Schwiebert Park" and be a day dock only. A mussel survey needs to be completed before work can begin. Schwiebert Park is available for rental and concerts/events are planned. There is a new visitor's center in downtown Rock Island located at the Holiday Inn.
 - *Rock Island Arsenal* – Mr. Clark stated that they are looking for funding to build 27 new single family homes for officers that will be completed as a two phase project.
 - *Rock Island County* – Dr. Simmer stated that the parks will be open March 30th. An Earth Day clean up is planned at Loud Thunder. Illiniwek recycling fallen trees. Niabi Zoo is open.
 - *Scott County* – Mr. Huey stated that they are hoping to get the trail from Princeton to LeClaire. Opening a new visitor's center at the Iowa-80 truck stop.
 - *U.S. Army Corp of Engineers* – Mr. Meden stated that the Upper Mississippi River Conference will be held September 24-26 at the iWireless Center. They are continuing work on the Iowa American Water project with one set back involving a clogged government sewer line. They will amend contract to address additional work and investigation into the sewer. Starting Rock River Planning beginning in Moline. Also have \$250,000 for slough clean out and possible dredging. Ms. Grunder asked who is responsible for dredging. Mr. Meden stated that it is the City's responsibility and they need to have a permit from the C.O.E to do so.
5. Next Meeting – Mr. Huey asked the council if they approved of the Arsenal Golf Club for the meeting location. All agreed and all future meetings for 2012 will be held at the Arsenal Golf Club unless otherwise discussed. Mr. Huey added that the next meeting will be the presentations for the 2011 Certificate of Appreciation Nominees (unless requested to attend a council meeting).
6. Other Business – None
7. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.
8. Tour of Quarters One – Mr. Huey stated that the tour is for anyone who would like to go. Mr. Benny Wild of the Rock Island Arsenal will be the guide.