

**Minutes of the
QUAD CITY RIVERFRONT COUNCIL**

Tuesday, March 26, 2013, Noon
Union Station Visitors Center
102 S. Harrison Street
Davenport, IA 52801

COUNCIL MEMEBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Jeff Anderson
Mr. Steve Clark
Mr. Steve Grimes
Mr. Tim Huey*
Mr. Tim Kammler
Ms. Margo McInnis

Mr. Olin Meador
Ms. Patsy Ramacitti
LTC Todd Reed
Mr. Vern Spring
Mr. Joe Taylor
Ms. Kathy Wine*

*Current QCRFC Officers

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms. Meghan Overton

1. Call Meeting to Order. Mr. Huey called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of the QCRFC January 22, 2013 Meeting Minutes. Mr. Kammler made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Mr. Meador. The minutes were approved as written.
3. Presentation "Year of Cycling 2013". Mr. Taylor presented on the MRT Year of Cycling. Its purpose is to engage communities to get on the trails while promoting the river. The riverfront trails in the QC are part of the MRT and anyone who is interested can promote their events on the MRT's website. Year events began in 2012 with the "Year of Paddling" and will continue in 2014 with "Year of Fishing". More information can be found at www.mississippirivertrail.org/YOC2013. Ms. Wine asked if the MRT could hold their meeting at the Upper Mississippi River Conference this year. Ms. Ramacitti asked who the MRT Iowa point of contact is (Andrea Chase). Mr. Grimes mentioned a few events that could be promoted on the MRT website; working on coordinating a loop ride with Davenport. Other events that were mentioned was the "Tour of the Mississippi River Valley June 8-9", and that it is the 75th anniversary of the GRR.
4. 2012 Nominations for Certificates of Appreciation Vote. Mr. Huey asked for a motion to approve all of the nominees submitted. Ms. Ramacitti made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kammler. All nominees were approved. It was then discussed how to announce the nominees and where/when to present the certificates. It was decided that a press release announcing the winners will be sent out ASAP. All nominees will then be contacted and given the choice of a presentation at a council meeting or meeting of their choice.
5. QCRFC Officers Vote. The QCRFC officers are on a two year cycle and typically after the two years move up a rank. This year Mr. Nelson will move up to President and Ms. Wine will move up to Vice President. A new Secretary-Treasurer needs to be nominated. It was unanimously nominated and approved for Mr. Knanishu to be the new Secretary-Treasurer. New officers will take over beginning May 1, 2013.

6. Individual Riverfront Reports.

Bettendorf - The City is hosting the Iowa Park & Recreation Conference in September. The riverfront trail alignment study to be complete from Riverdale to Bettendorf as part of the county trail system that will link to Duck Creek trail. Goal is to link with Riverdale to avoid a Hwy 67 crossing. Ms. Wine asked if Pigeon Creek will connect. Mr. Grimes replied that not completely, but it can be accessed since there are no right-of-ways and it is an eagle roosting area. Bids have gone out for the Duck Creek stabilization. Ms. Ramacitti asked if Bettendorf has trail user counts. Mr. Grimes replied that not yet, but planned on using Bi-State's trail counters. Ms. Wine asked about the "Loop" bus service being dropped to 2 days. Mr. Grimes replied that once the grant funding runs out it will be a seasonal route on Friday/Saturday when ridership is the highest.

Buffalo - The City is still waiting on the approval of the MRT grant award.

East Moline - The City is still working on the former Case site. It will be known as "Fountain Head", developer has submitted the conceptual 1st phase with possibility of a hotel.

Moline - WIU phase 2 is underway, with the planning for phase 3 beginning. The River Tech site will now be known as "Riverbend Commons", City is working with a group out of Chicago to develop into mixed use/retail/etc. The WQPT/Moline Foundation River Vision 2020 visioning sessions were held to help with the planning for the development of the riverfront; RFP went out for development.

National MRPC - Iowa will be hosting the semi-annual meeting (April 25-27) at the Mississippi River Museum (Dubuque). The MRPC is participating in the Great Race, which is an annual antique car event that usually runs E-W but will go N-S for the 75th anniversary of the GRR. They will be stopping in Davenport on June 25th.

QCCVB - The QC is hosting "One State Together in the Arts", an art fest on June 25th. The East-West Riverfest will be September 6-22nd. The festival will be three weekends this year. Steve Butchel's (Trails for Illinois) economic impact study of trails will be released this week. Ms. McInnis added that they are helping with the Great Race weekend. There are 20 planned Queen (American Queen and Queen of the Mississippi) visits at Onieda Landing during the summer. Segway tours are back in the QC, currently taking reservations weather needs to be about 45 degrees. (www.quadcitysegway.com).

River Action - Will hold the annual Fish & Fire on April 19th. Ride the River is June 16th. The Summer education sessions will run memorial day through labor day. Taming of the Slough is September 14th. The QC is hosting the 31st Urban Waterfront Conference which will be held in conjunction with the Upper Mississippi Riverfront Conference at the River Center (end of September).

Rock Island Arsenal - Working on the remediation of an old landfill near Sylvan slough. The Davenport historical house is applying for funding to finish renovations on the inside of the house.

Scott County - The City of Davenport hosted the "Living with floods" community forum on March 21st, which included presentations from the City and the Iowa Flood Center.

USACE - The Davenport government sewer manhole funding should be approved soon, manholes are for sewer inspections. They would like to flush the sewer, probably at the end of April. The bike trail construction near the water plant resumed and should be complete in the next few months. The Mill Creek slough project is being impacted by an eagle nest, working with DNR on solution. Mr. Kammler asked about the functionality of the recreation locks (14&15), if they will be working this year. LTC Reed will check into this.

7. Other Business. Ms. Ramacitti discussed changes to the Statewide Transportation Alternative Program. Explaining that funds now go directly to the states. Iowa has set aside \$1million for statewide projects. A city or county needs to be the applicant; schools and natural resource agencies can also apply with a city or county. The City of Bettendorf is planning to apply for funding. This is a cost reimbursement program and applications are due April 15th.

8. Meeting Adjourned. Next meeting May 21, 2013.