

**Minutes of the
QUAD CITIES RIVERFRONT COUNCIL (QCRFC)**

Tuesday, November 18, 2014, 12:00 p.m.
Western Illinois University – Quad Cities Riverfront Campus
3300 River Drive
Moline, IL 61265

Council Members in Attendance:

Mr. Jeff Anderson
Ms. Molly Carlson
Mr. Steve Clark
Mr. Steve Grimes
Mr. Tim Knanishu*

Mr. John Myers
Mr. Bill Nelson*
Dr. Rod Simmer
Ms. Kathy Wine*

**Current QCRFC Officers*

Others in Attendance:

Ms. Meghan Overton

Dr. Roger Viadero Jr.

1. **Call Meeting to Order.** Meeting was called to order by Mr. Nelson at 12:20 p.m. Introductions were made.
2. **Approval of the September 23, 2014 QCRFC Meeting Minutes.** A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Grimes, and Mr. Knanishu seconded. The meeting minutes were approved as written.
3. **Presentation.** Dr. Roger Viadero Jr. gave a presentation about the Environmental Science PH.D. Program at Western Illinois University. Dr. Viadero explained the background of the program, which began in the fall. It currently has 2 graduate students with 6 more starting next year. To be admitted into the program, students need to have a master's degree in biology, chemistry, or geography. The program has an emphasis on large river ecosystems and is the only environmental science PH.D. program housed on the Mississippi River.
4. **Individual Riverfront Reports.**
 - *Bettendorf* – The city is revising comprehensive plan with a downtown focus, and RDG is the consultant. Bettendorf is revising the extension of the MRT from Riverdale to the county line to focus on the main corridor.
 - *Cordova* – The village submitted additional information for the BAAD grant to DNR in October and is waiting to hear back from the state if the grant was awarded.
 - *East Moline* – The Fountainhead site is moving forward, with construction scheduled to begin in January. The city is working on EPA compliance at the water treatment facilities.
 - *Moline* – There will be a new Channel Cat dock near WIU. Phase II for the downtown riverfront plan will focus on transportation to go with the multi-modal Amtrak station.

- *QCCVB* – The bureau received a grant from John Deere to produce an ag-tourism video focused on the Mississippi River. This video will be geared towards European visitors.
 - *River Action* – The Mississippi River conference was well attended by 155 people and 15 Mississippi river mayors. River Action is producing a video for the first railroad bridge to be used to raise funding, which will be done soon. It is beginning a maintenance program on the McKesson building green roof; and demonstration workshops will be held. River Action would like to start a kiosk maintenance program with the parks departments to keep them up to date. It is also reviving the lower pool water taxi committee.
 - *Rock Island* – Schwiebert Park had its busiest year. The city held a transient station ribbon cutting. The Mid-State steam foundation railroad museum is looking to move to the Quad Cities. It is looking at building locations with access to the rail lines.
 - *Rock Island County* – The county is expanding services at Illiniwek and Loud Thunder. Loud Thunder has a new office building and rental boats. The county is also looking at trail expansion.
5. **Future Meeting Topics and Locations.** The group discussed future meeting topics and came to a consensus of asking Curt Roseman to talk about the history of the bridges in the Quad Cities. Ms. Wine and Mr. Anderson agreed to set up the presentation. Ms. Carlson will reserve the Union Station Visitor’s Center for the meeting.
 6. **Other.** Information for Certificates of Appreciation will be sent out in January a few weeks before the meeting.
 7. **Meeting Adjourned.** Next meeting will be Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at Union Station Visitor’s Center in Davenport.