

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

Tuesday, January 24, 2017, 12:00 p.m.
Union Station Visitor's Center
102 S. Harrison Street
Davenport, IA 52801

Council Members in Attendance:

Mr. Larry Burns
Ms. Molly Carlson
Mr. Stephen Clark*
Mr. Tim Huey
Mr. Tim Knanishu*

Mr. Olin Meador
Mr. Rod Simmer
Mr. Joe Taylor
Mr. Scott Tunncliff
Ms. Kathy Wine*

**Current QCRFC Officers*

Others in Attendance:

Mr. Ryan Anthony
Ms. Betsy Bainbridge
Mr. Bryan Schmid

1. **Call Meeting to Order.** Meeting was called to order by Ms. Wine at 12:05 p.m. Introductions were made.
2. **Approval of the November 29, 2016 QCRFC Meeting Minutes.** A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Simmer, and Mr. Clark seconded. The meeting minutes were approved as written.
3. **Presentation on Riverine Wildlife in the Quad Cities Area.**
Mr. Anthony detailed the state of the bald eagle population in the Midwest and the Quad Cities Area. The population of bald eagles has recovered dramatically in recent decades as a result of numerous initiatives, resulting in the upper Midwest supporting the highest density of eagles outside of Alaska. The effects of the increased diversity of wildlife in the area has resulted in benefits to tourism opportunities. The diversity in wildlife extends to the aquatic environment as well. The Quad Cities may have the largest concentration of freshwater mussel in the United States near the I-74 Bridge. Community involvement and outreach has increased in recent years and will continue with the construction of the new I-74 Bridge. A mobile virtual reality experience is planned to be housed at the Figge Art Museum this summer.
4. **Individual Riverfront Reports.**
 - *Buffalo* – Mr. Meador noted that picnic tables and garbage receptacles will be installed at Buffalo Shores Beach. The bike trail remains under construction.

- *QC Convention & Visitors Bureau* – A special events workshop will be held in Davenport on March 2. The Missouri Valley Conference women’s basketball tournament will return to the iWireless Center this spring. The Chamber’s Q2030 work group has identified the Mississippi River to be a “cool” cornerstone in their effort to market the Quad Cities as a cool location. National Tourism Week will be held again this year from May 7 through 13.
 - *REDEEM* – Mr. Knanishu shared that the Bend of the Quad Cities will begin construction tentatively in mid- to late-February. Preliminary foundation work has already begun. The site is protected by a levee.
 - *River Action* – The 2017 Henry Farnam Dinner will be held March 16. The theme of the event is baseball history. Two speakers are scheduled to present about the history of the game and minor league baseball in Davenport. River Action is preparing for an Earth Day event at Pigeon Creek Park in Bettendorf. Work will include trail maintenance and invasive species removal. A hydropower workshop is being planned for July at Western Illinois University – Quad Cities Campus.
 - *Rock Island Arsenal* – Mr. Clark reported that construction will soon begin on two new family housing projects on Arsenal Island. He mentioned that a future Riverfront Council meeting could be held at the Arsenal Club.
 - *Rock Island County Forest Preserve* – Mr. Simmer reported that there are 30 new campsites at Loud Thunder Forest Preserve. The County is working on levees to secure the Lake George Dam.
 - *Scott County* – Mr. Huey noted that Scott County has a new administrator and two new elected board members. The 2017 Iowa County Zoning Officials conference will be held in Davenport.
5. **Other Business.** There was no other business.
6. **Meeting Adjourned.** Next meeting will be Tuesday, March 28, 2017.