

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

Tuesday, May 23, 2017, 12:00 p.m.  
Union Station Visitor's Center  
102 S. Harrison Street  
Davenport, IA 52801

Council Members in Attendance:

Mr. Larry Burns	Mr. Tim Knanishu*
Ms. Molly Carlson	Mr. Olin Meador
Ms. Katie Enloe	Mr. Scott Tunncliff
Mr. Ralph H. Heninger	Ms. Kathy Wine

*\*Current QCRFC Officers*

Others in Attendance:

Mr. Adam Burke  
Mr. Bryan Schmid

1. **Call Meeting to Order.** Meeting was called to order by Mr. Knanishu at 12:05 p.m.
2. **Approval of the March 28, 2017 QCRFC Meeting Minutes.** A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Heninger with Mr. Tunncliff giving a second. The meeting minutes were approved as written.
3. **Presentation on Mississippi River Hydropower Workshop.**

Mr. Burke discussed one of the components of "Raising the Grade" of the Mississippi River: energy and the economy. The desire to further the study of feasibility of harnessing energy from hydroelectric dams on the Mississippi River was borne out of the 2016 Upper Mississippi River Conference, which brought together many stakeholders including federal representatives, Rock Island Arsenal officials, academics, and engineers among others. The action agenda from the conference was delivered to the Quad Cities congressional delegation in Washington.

As a result of the conference, River Action was tasked with organizing a workshop designed to delve deeper into the prospects of hydroelectric power generation on the river. The workshop is scheduled for July 18, 2017 at Western Illinois University in Moline. It was noted that the Arsenal is looking to upgrade the power dam on the Sylvan Slough to eight or nine megawatts to power the whole island. Among the difficulties in installing generators on the main stem of the river is the question of generating enough electricity year-round to be competitive and economically feasible. Issues with volume and flow rate of the pools above locks and dams 15 and 16 could also affect the decision whether or not to move forward at one or both of the facilities. It was noted that infrastructure investment is an area of bipartisan support at the federal level.

4. **Nomination of Secretary/Treasurer.**

Mr. Steve Grimes received a motion for nomination for Secretary/Treasurer from Mr. Knanishu, and Mr. Meador seconded. Mr. Grimes was not present for the meeting; therefore, Mr. Schmid indicated that he would contact Mr. Grimes to see if he would agree to serve.

5. **Individual Riverfront Reports.**

- *Buffalo* – New picnic tables have been installed on the City’s beaches made out of recycled materials. A grant helped pay for 18 tables and garbage cans. Asphalt is being laid for the trail on the west side of town. A ribbon cutting for sometime this summer is the goal.
- *East Moline* – Construction has begun on the hotel at the Bend on the Mighty Mississippi. A gazebo is being constructed in partnership with the Cornbelt Running Club.
- *Princeton* – The City of Princeton will host the Princeton Fives on July 15, a five-mile or five-kilometer race through town to raise funds for the construction of the Mississippi River Trail. The following weekend will be Summerfest. The Backwater Gamblers will perform at the festival.
- *QC Convention & Visitors Bureau* – The Quad Cities will host the 2017 Professional Disc Golfers tournament July 15-22. An estimated 2,500 spectators will be in town, but fewer than ten volunteers will be needed. The Get Out And Trail (GOAT) event over Mother’s Day Weekend went very well, as the weather during the event was beautiful. The CVB will be moving to the River Center later this summer, as Union Station will undergo a facelift to add two restaurants in the historic building.
- *River Action* – Ms. Wine noted that the summer education series will continue this year with Channel Cat Talks and Riverine Walks. Funds have been secured for custom trikes that will be built for children with disabilities during the Ride the River event over Father’s Day Weekend in June.
- *Rock Island County Forest Preserve* – The County broke ground on the new courthouse near the current building. The county parks are up and running, including new mountain bike trails in Dorrance Park near Port Byron.
- *National M.R.P.C.* – The ten state Mississippi River gathering will take place in Lansing, Iowa in September.

6. **Other Business.** The next meeting will be held at Union Station.

7. **Meeting Adjourned at 1:00p.m.** Next meeting will be Tuesday, July 25, 2017.