

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

Tuesday, January 23, 2018, 12:00 p.m.
Union Station Visitor's Center
102 S. Harrison Street
Davenport, IA 52801

Council Members in Attendance:

Mr. Larry Burns
Mr. Stephen Clark*
Mr. Tim Knanishu*
Mr. Joe Taylor

**Current QCRFC Officers*

Others in Attendance:

Ms. Betsy Brandsgard
Ms. Dee Bruemmer
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 November 21, 2017 QCRFC Meeting Minutes.** A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Taylor. Mr. Burns noted that there was a correction to be made. The campground of Loud Thunder Forest Preserve will be updated, not the parking lot. Mr. Burns seconded the motion to approve the November 21, 2017 meeting minutes with this correction. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
3. **Presentation on Q2030 Regional Action Plan.** Ms. Brandsgard and Ms. Bruemmer shared the goals set by the Q2030 work group to attract people, jobs and investment to the region. The central premise of the plan is to think about ourselves – the Quad Cities – as a Bi-State region. The plan will try to impact talent, economic opportunity, and community satisfaction in the region. Among the priorities of attracting talent, the age group 25-34 year olds represents the target group, a group that believes in “quality of place” amenities in their communities. A goal of the plan is to double the workforce with education beyond a high school diploma, which results in increased per capita income and would stop the upward trend of poverty.

There are numerous work groups dedicated to various goals, one of which is the Mississippi River Work Group. An activity that the group will sponsor will be a drone flyover of the river in the Quad City region and use 3D animation to show what existing plans call for to rise up from the ground. The visual representation of the goals of the plans should bolster a sense of community pride and ownership of the riverfront. Another avenue to attract people to the region and residents to the riverfront especially is through the work of the Figge Art

Museum. The museum is seeking to help cultivate a creative community through public art and activities on the riverfront.

4. **Certificates of Appreciation Discussion.** Mr. Schmid shared that annual certificates of appreciation will be accepted up to the March meeting of the Quad City Riverfront Council. Council members are asked to nominate organizations, businesses, and individuals for their significant contributions to riverfront development in the previous year.
5. **Officer Nomination Committee.** Mr. Schmid noted that officers for the Quad City Riverfront Council will need to be nominated at the March 2018 meeting. Mr. Knanishu volunteered to continue to serve as president for another year, and Mr. Steve Grimes, in absentia, volunteered to continue to serve as an officer. Mr. Clark shared that he will be retiring, and could not continue to serve in the upcoming year. Officer nominations will be accepted at the March meeting, with officers beginning their terms at the May meeting.
6. **Individual Riverfront Reports.**
 - *East Moline* – The exterior to the hotel located in the Bend will be up at the beginning of January. Plumbing and electrical work will follow.
 - *QC Convention & Visitors Bureau* – The QCCVB partnered with the Quad City Times to publish a new coffee book entitled, *The Great River*, about the 400-mile stretch of the Mississippi River the entire length of the state of Iowa. The book includes many photos and stories of the lives of people living in the Mississippi River Valley. The QCCVB has worked with the City of Davenport to apply to be the end city for the annual RAGBRAI ride across Iowa. The announcement will be made in January, and the event would take place July 28 if awarded. Discussions are beginning with American Trails to host the International Trail Symposium again in the Quad Cities in 2021. The request for proposals will be released in February.
 - *Rock Island Arsenal* – The development of 70 new residential units on the island will be completed this summer. Two new neighborhoods will be completed as part of the two-year-long project. Family housing is important to reenlistees as they continue to grow their families while enlisted. Most smaller houses on the island have been torn down along Rodman Avenue. The ribbon cutting for the new homes will be in March.
 - *Rock Island County* – The County is continuing to explore options for the future of the courthouse. Construction on the justice center is moving forward.
7. **Next Meeting.** The next meeting of the Quad City Riverfront Council will be March 27, 2018.
8. **Other Business.** Mr. Schmid noted a number of grants for the construction of bicycle and recreational trails in both Illinois and Iowa.
9. **Meeting Adjourned at 1:00p.m.**