

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

Tuesday, May 22, 2018, 12:00 p.m.
Union Station Visitor's Center
102 S. Harrison Street
Davenport, IA 52801

Council Members in Attendance:

Mr. Jeff Anderson

Mr. Larry Burns*

Ms. Katie Enloe

Mr. Joel Himsl

Mr. Tim Knanishu*

Ms. Molly Otting Carlson*

Mr. Jeff Reiter

Mr. Rod Simmer

Mr. Joe Taylor

**Current QCRFC Officers*

Others in Attendance:

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 27, 2018 QCRFC Meeting Minutes.** A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Burns. Ms. Otting Carlson seconded the motion to approve the March 27, 2018 meeting minutes. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
3. **Certificates of Appreciation Awards Presentation.** Mr. Knanishu explained that the Quad City Riverfront Council awards Certificates of Appreciation annually for projects that contribute to the development of the Quad Cities riverfront. The first award was given to the City of Bettendorf for completing the U.S. 67 Riverfront Trail. The trail now extends to the eastern city limits of Bettendorf, where it connects with widened shoulders that run east to LeClaire. The Riverfront Trail on the Iowa side of the Quad Cities now extends as a separated trail from Credit Island in west Davenport to the new terminus in Bettendorf at 62nd Street Court.

The second award was presented to the City of Moline and the Friends of Off Road Cycling (FORC) for their partnership to restore access to Sylvan Island. The City of Moline reestablished pedestrian access to the island via a new bridge over Sylvan Slough. Ahead of the ribbon cutting, FORC prepared the trails on the island for public use when the island was reopened on December 21, 2017.

The third award was presented to the Rock Island Arsenal for their work to construct 73 new homes on the island as part of a two-year project. The homes are a mix of single family and duplex homes. The housing options are more diverse than they used to be, reflecting the changing priorities of army personnel.

The final award was presented to Joe Taylor, outgoing President and CEO of the Quad Cities Convention and Visitors Bureau. Mr. Taylor has been involved in riverfront development in the Quad Cities for 28 years, serving on many committees and task forces. Among his many accomplishments were bringing the National Trails Symposium and RAGBRAI to the Quad Cities.

4. **July Field Trip Discussion.** Numerous candidate destinations for July’s field trip were offered, including Exelon, the new Sylvan Island Bridge, the new homes on Arsenal Island, and Black Hawk State Historic Site among others. An email will be sent out following the meeting to ask for preferences and tentative meeting availability.
5. **Individual Riverfront Reports.**
 - *Bettendorf* – Ascentra will host a ribbon cutting May 31 at their new downtown headquarters.
 - *East Moline* – The Bend is on schedule and on budget. Site preparation is complete and the apartments are waiting on tax financing. It is anticipated that residents will begin to move in in December.
 - *Moline* – The city received a \$2 million ITEP grant award for the River to River trail corridor from downtown to Avenue of the Cities. MetroLINK received another \$2 million award to update Channel Cat facilities including the docks at the Tax Slayer Center. Proposals are being received for the Spiegel Building to convert the former warehouse into loft apartments. The Moline Center summer concert series begins next week and will continue on Thursday evenings through the summer.
 - *Princeton* – The city has three events coming up: the Garden Walk on July 7, the Princeton Fives run on July 14, and Summerfest on July 20 and 21.
 - *QC Convention & Visitors Bureau* – Davenport will host the 2018 RAGBRAI dip site at Marquette Street. The weekend before, an opening event will take place at St. Ambrose with food trucks and maps of the ride.
 - *River Action* – Ride the River will have an “island adventure” theme this year, alluding to Campbell’s, Arsenal, Credit, and Sylvan Islands. Survivor games will be held at LeClaire Park. The summer education series commences June 1. The I-74 bridge event filled up in one day. Ruhl and Ruhl Realtors will join Floatzilla in an attempt to break the record of 3,150 people. The Taming of the Slough will return to Sylvan Island in Moline this year. The Upper Mississippi River Conference will have the theme of floodplains this year. Numerous workshops and field trips are planned for the conference.
 - *Rock Island Arsenal* – A parade of tractors will ride through the island from the Moline gate to the Rock Island gate in coming weeks.
 - *Rock Island County* – A ribbon cutting was held at Loud Thunder. The new bathrooms are now ADA accessible. The county board will decide on the Rock Island County Courthouse at the July meeting.
6. **Next Meeting.** The next meeting of the Quad City Riverfront Council will be July 24, 2018.
7. **Other Business.** There was no other business.
8. **Meeting Adjourned at 12:55 p.m.**