

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

Tuesday, November 26, 2019, 12:00 p.m.  
The Rust Belt – VIP Room  
331 West Third Street  
Davenport, Iowa 52801

Council Members in Attendance:

Mr. Jeff Anderson

Mr. Larry Burns\*

Mr. Tim Huey

Mr. Tim Knanishu\*

Ms. Molly Otting Carlson\*

Mr. Rod Simmer

Ms. Kathy Wine

*\* Current QCRFC Officers*

Others in Attendance:

Mr. Dan Breidenstein

Mr. Jeff Craver

Ms. Tara Cullison

Mayor Reggie Freeman

Mr. Doug Maxeiner

Ms. Crystal Milburn

Mr. Ben Mills

Mr. Mike Petersen

Mr. Mike VanDeHeede

1. **Call Meeting to Order.** Meeting was called to order by Mr. Knanishu at 12:25 p.m.
2. **Approval of the September 24, 2019 QCRFC Meeting Minutes.** A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Huey. Mr. Simmer seconded the motion to approve the September 24, 2019 meeting minutes. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
3. **Certificates of Appreciation Presentation.** Mr. Knanishu explained that the Quad Cities 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 Rock Island County Forest Preserve and River Action for their work to restore natural habitat to the region, and partnership with each other on completing invasive species removal and restoration of prairie and native savanna at Illiniwek Forest Preserve.

The second award was presented to the City of East Moline and Great River Properties for the transformation and ongoing work at The Bend, which brings mixed-use development and new amenities to the region while reconnecting the public with a piece of riverfront that has been inaccessible for years.

The final award was presented to Living Lands & Waters for its 22 years of environmental stewardship and work to clean-up, restore native vegetation and educate the public, within and along the nation's waterways. Chad Pregracke, his team, and numerous volunteers have removed over 10 million pounds of trash and have been an instrumental resource for local clean-up events in the Quad Cities Region.

4. **Consider Updates to QCRFC Logo.** Ms. Cullison passed around a draft of the new Quad Cities Riverfront Council logo that incorporates the new I-74 Bridge and the updated name of the Council. Mr. Huey made a motion to approve the design of the new Quad Cities Riverfront Council logo as presented and to replace with the old logo on QCRFC related communication materials. Mr. Burns seconded the motion, and it carried.
5. **Individual Riverfront Reports.**
  - *East Moline* – The Rust Belt complex has seen a lot of new businesses opening up recently. These include Midwest Ale Works, Jennie’s Boxcar Mexican restaurant, Streamline Architects & Artisans, Revival Main – A Hair Culture, and Iron + Grain Coffee House to open soon.
  - *Moline* – Renew Moline is bringing the Urban Land Institute to make a recommendation on I-74 realignment zone. The Public Art Master Plan has kicked off and is possible through a grant from the Moline Foundation. IH Mississippi Valley Credit Union had their grand opening for the new headquarters building. The Axis Hotel has officially opened at the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 17<sup>th</sup> Street. The city has hit the pause button on the Spiegel building project to better understand what that area will look like.
  - *QC Chamber of Commerce* – Economic development leaders met at Ascentra to view a downtown plan for the City of Bettendorf. The plan was viewed in virtual reality, completed by Shive-Hattery.
  - *River Action* – River Heritage Park is in need of biking infrastructure and completion of the railroad bridge. The QC Flood Resilience Alliance will be hosting a Certified Floodplain Managers training at Western Illinois University in January. The training will be four days, January 28-31, with an opportunity to test for national certification on the last day. The training is free, and River Action is trying to get all 26 communities along the river involved with the Community Rating System. This training is part of that initiative.
  - *Rock Island County* – The dam reconstruction at Loud Thunder is completed. There will be an expansion of camping sites complete by next summer. BHC assistant professor, Isaac Stewart, and his team are completing an inventory of bees at Illiniwek, where they found a large population of the almost extinct Rusty Patched Bumble Bee. The County Board passed a resolution supporting the creation of the statistical boundaries of the Mississippi River Port of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois in November. At the same meeting, an ordinance was approved to regulate commercial film production in Rock Island County.
  - *Scott County* – Scott County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution supporting the creation of the statistical boundaries of the Mississippi River Port of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois at the November meeting. The county is in the process of adopting new FEMA floodplain maps, which will add 17,000 acres of land to the floodplain determination. These maps will be replacing maps from 2011. The county is still working one out in the northern portion of the county as a result of 2016 flooding.

- *Visit Quad Cities* – Viking Cruises are officially coming to the QC. There will be a minimum of 8 ships to stop in the QC during the summer months, with a potential of up to 30 ships visiting. The Christkindlmarkt took place December 6-8 and had over 50 vendors participate. The festival partnered with BeckyFest and the Christmas Walk in the Village by providing transportation back and forth to the three simultaneous events. This year, the Holiday Train was able to make an appearance at 9 pm on December 7, during the Christkindlmarkt, outside the Freight House.
6. **Next Meeting.** The next meeting of the Quad Cities Riverfront Council will be January 28, 2020.
  7. **Other Business.** There was no other business.
  8. **Meeting Adjourned at 1:30 p.m.**