

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

Tuesday, January 28, 2020, 12:00 p.m.  
Eastern Iowa Community College – Urban Campus  
First Floor - Room W 116/117  
101 West Third Street  
Davenport, Iowa 52801

Council Members in Attendance:

Mr. Jeff Anderson

Mr. Larry Burns\*

Ms. Molly Otting Carlson\*

Mr. Tim Huey

Mr. Tim Knanishu\*

*\* Current QCRFC Officers*

Others in Attendance:

Mr. Ben Ferrell

Mr. Mike Fisher

Ms. Rachel Hansen

Ms. Judy Joyce

Mr. Brian Ritter

Ms. Erika Williams

1. **Call Meeting to Order.** Meeting was called to order by Mr. Knanishu at 12:05 p.m.
2. **Approval of the November 26, 2019 QCRFC Meeting Minutes.** A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Burns. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion to approve the November 26, 2019 meeting minutes. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
3. **Certificates of Appreciation Discussion.** Mr. Knanishu gave a brief overview of the Quad Cities Riverfront Council and explained that the Council awards Certificates of Appreciation annually for projects that contribute to the development of the Quad Cities riverfront.

After discussion, the following individuals, organizations, and businesses were suggested for 2019 Certificates of Appreciation and will be selected from after further discussion at the next meeting:

- Larry Anderson, The Rust Belt and East Moline Glass
  - American Queen Group, river cruise development
  - Illinois and Iowa Departments of Transportation, I-74 bridge project
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, flood management and coordination
4. **Presentation on Brownfield Redevelopment in the Quad Cities Area.** Mr. Ritter, Executive Director of Nahant Marsh, presented on the brownfield redevelopment work that has been done since the area was designated an EPA superfund site in 1998, and gave a brief history of the organization. Since its founding in 2000, Nahant Marsh has grown from 88 acres to 303 acres of flood-prone land. The area features a diverse array of wildlife, including over 184 species of birds and over 400 plants. Mr. Ritter noted that during the history flooding of 2019, Nahant took on an estimated 1 trillion gallons of Mississippi River water. He explained that Nahant Marsh has utilized the Natural Resource Conservation Service's (NRCS) wetland mitigation bank program.

Ms. Joyce, professional wetland scientist with Impact7G, presented a detailed overview of the wetland mitigation banking program, which utilizes wetland mitigation as a funding source for various other projects. Ms. Joyce explained that developers can purchase credits from a mitigation bank of created wetlands, streamlining the mitigation process and therefore speeding up development. The US Army Corps of Engineers holds all credits, and a wetland bank can sell credits anywhere in their specific service area. To date, over 1,900 banks have been created nationwide, and the Department of Transportation is the largest buyer of credits.

5. **Officer Nomination Committee.** Mr. Burns was nominated to chair the committee, with Mr. Huey and Mr. Kammler (absent) also serving on the committee. The committee will meet separately at a later date to be determined.
6. **Individual Riverfront Reports.**
  - *Scott County* – The county has begun preparing for flooding and will meet with emergency management and the Corps of Engineers on February 29.
  - *Visit Quad Cities* – Stops have been added at the Isle of Capri for riverboat cruises this summer. The Gathering of the Green will take place March 18-21 at the River Center in Davenport, with an estimated attendance of 3,000 people and approximately 600 room nights. Hoops in the Heartland, a women’s basketball tournament, will be at the TaxSlayer Center from March 12-15. A new Experience Guide, featuring restaurants, attractions, and other information, (formerly the Activities Guide) is available at the Visit Quad Cities office.
  - *USACE* – There has been no change to access of Arsenal Island. Visitors should still enter through the Moline gate.
  - *Moline* – Public works is already engaged in flood preparation for spring. The city will have new riverfront projects to announce in the coming months.
  - *East Moline* – The Quad Cities Stormwater conference is at Jumer’s Casino on February 11 and will feature discussions of best management practice for construction and other stormwater management topics. The cost of the conference is \$35. The federal government funded \$3.9 million in levee repairs.
  - *Rock Island County* – The county passed a resolution to allow refugee resettlement. The Loud Thunder archery program ended in January. Hunters have harvested 55 deer to date.
7. **Next Meeting.** The next meeting of the Quad City Riverfront Council will be March 24, 2020.
8. **Other Business.** There was no other business.
9. **Meeting Adjourned at 1:10 p.m.**