

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

Tuesday, November 24, 2020, 12:00 p.m.
WEBINAR MEETING

Council Members in Attendance

Mr. Larry Burns*

Mr. Tim Kammler

Mr. Tim Knanishu

Ms. Molly Otting Carlson*

Mr. Jeff Reiter

Mr. James Peterson

COL Steve Sattinger

* *Current QCRFC Officers*

** *QCRFC Representative to BSRC*

Others in Attendance:

Ms. Danielle Alvarez

Ms. Becky Marruffo

Ms. Katelyn Miner

Mr. David Von Kaenel

1. **Call Meeting to Order.** Meeting was called to order by Mr. Burns at 12:03 p.m.
2. **Approval of the September 22, 2020 QCRFC Meeting Minutes.** A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Knanishu. Mr. Kammler seconded the motion to approve the September 22, 2020 meeting minutes. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
3. **Certificates of Appreciation Awards Presentation.** Mr. Burns started the awards ceremony with announcing the certificates of appreciation. The first award was given to the American Steamboat Company for their work in enhancing riverfront tourism in the Quad Cities Region by developing a stop for the Mississippi River cruises in Bettendorf. Bob Buesing was not present to accept the award at the time.

The second award was given to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Rock Island District for their tremendous effort and coordination during the 2019 floods to help protect communities throughout the Quad Cities Region. Col. Steven Sattinger was present to accept the award and was gratefully honored to be receiving this award on behalf of the USACE.

The third award was presented to the Illinois Department of Transportation – District 2 for their work and coordination efforts to progress the I-74 bridge project during the challenges of 2019. Mr. David Von Kaenel was present to accept the award and was also honored to be receiving this award on behalf of many who were part of this project.

The fourth award was presented to the Iowa Department of Transportation – District 6 for their work on the I-74 Bridge as well. Ms. Daniella Alvarez was present to accept this award and reiterated what Mr. Von Kaenel had said and thanked many others who were part of this project.

The final award was given to Mr. Larry Anderson for his work and contribution to the Rust Belt development and overall success in furthering development in The Bend area. Mr. Anderson was not present to accept the award at the time; however, Mr. Knanishu stepped in to accept it on his behalf.

4. **Individual Riverfront Reports.**

- *Bettendorf* – Bettendorf is continuing work with IA and IL DOTs on construction, detouring, and rerouting throughout their community. The City Council approved and is working on downtown development along the riverfront. There is also a project approved and in progress west of the bridge front. Bettendorf has also completed two new parking lots for continued entertainment services in their downtown area. More people seem to be coming to the riverfront corridor to live, visit, and work.
- *Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce (IL Rep)* – The COC is grateful for continued communication, specifically with the recent Davenport Flood Survey public input information. They look forward to continued communications addressing other public inputs.
- *East Moline* – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are working on the levee in East Moline at no cost to the community. With the levee near completion, the bike trail will open back up soon. There is push to visit The Belt with the new Expo Center, a very appealing attraction that will hopefully be utilized more after the pandemic. The Grand Illinois Bike Trail plans have been completed and are looking for a letting in January 2021.
- *Rock Island County* – Hope Creek Care Center has been transferred out of RICO responsibility. Due to COVID-19, The Rock Island County Offices is closed until further notice.
- *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers* – The Mr. Pee Wee port statistical area came in 81st place in total tonnage in the nation in 2019. The 2020 numbers are anticipated to be bigger. The locks on the river dams will close for the season on December 15, 2020. Lock & Dam 14 will get dewatered soon and work will be done to it, causing it to be closed until next November. The QCRFC will be receiving an invite to see the floor of Lock 14 in Februar 2021. Lock and Dam 15 is anticipated to be completed and reopened in March 2021. The USACE is working on the Nahant Marsh Master Plan, which is seeking public input in December.
- *Visit Quad Cities* – Even through the pandemic, there are still visitors in the area. Visit Quad Cities is still alive and well. The main questions that have been received recently are about relocation. Visit Quad Cities offers a relocation packet that includes a lot of information about the Quad Cities and how to make new-comers feel welcome. The 2021 River Center events have been rescheduled through March. There are plans to reopen Union Station that are still in the works. New experiences through River Cruise traffic are being explored, and Bob Buesing is actually leaving the Steamboat Company, but would be a great speaker to the QCRFC. Due to COVID-19, the December 4-6 Christkindlmarkt has been cancelled, but will be offered online instead.

5. **Next Meeting.** The next meeting of the Quad Cities Riverfront Council will be January 26, 2021.

6. **Other Business.** Mr. Knanishu brought to the Council's attention of Mr. Jeff Anderson's retirement. Mr. Burns spoke of needing to fill the Secretary/Treasurer position due to this recent retirement.

7. **Meeting Adjourned at 12:37 p.m.**