

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

Tuesday, May 25, 2021, 12:00 p.m.
WEBINAR MEETING

Council Members in Attendance

Mr. Larry Burns*
Lt. Col. John Fernas
Mr. Tim Kammler
Mr. Tim Knanishu
Mr. Chris Mathias

Ms. Molly Otting Carlson*
Mr. James Peterson
Mr. Jeff Reiter

* *Current QCRFC Officers*
** *QCRFC Representative to BSRC*

Others in Attendance:

Ms. Katelyn Miner
Ms. Natalie Linville-Mass

Mr. Brian Schadt

1. **Call Meeting to Order.** Meeting was called to order by Mr. Burns at 12:02 p.m. Introductions were made by all those in attendance.
2. **Approval of the March 23, 2021 QCRFC Meeting Minutes.** Mr. Kammler made a motion to approve the March 23, 2021 minutes. Ms. Otting-Carlson seconded, and the meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
3. **Presentation on Davenport's Flood Protection Planning & Recent Updates.** Mr. Schadt presented on Davenport's current and ongoing flood study to encourage mitigation for future flooding. Mr. Schadt outlined the timeline of this flood study and where they are in the process currently. The flood study is currently at the Wave 3 of the engagement process, which will occur in July/August. Mr. Schadt also briefly discussed the survey results from Wave 2 and the suggestions that were made. They analyzed the feedback on their strategies, which included underground infrastructure, landforms, road raises, or a flood wall. They are focusing on incremental improvements. Wave 3 mostly consists of refinement and potential projects. Future items for this flood study and planning are council feedback, a follow-up work session, a consensus on direction, and refining and confirming plans.
4. **Certificates of Appreciation Final Vote.** The Council discussed and narrowed down the nomination list to four candidates for the Certificates of Appreciation. Ms. Miner outlined the details of each nomination and the reasoning behind their nominations. Mr. Reiter motioned to approve the final list of candidates. Mr. Kammler seconded, and the nominations were approved.
5. **Individual Riverfront Reports.**
 - *Scott County* – A 30 day notice of review of the flood maps was recently received, and the maps will be updated soon.
 - *East Moline* – The levee issues were fixed with the help of the USACE. The Grand Illinois Trail project to connect to the Great Mississippi Trail is currently under

construction. There are plans in place to complete a trail from the Rust Belt to The Bend, streetscaping downtown, and a bike trail from the downtown area to the Mississippi River.

- *Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce (IL Rep.)* – There are plans to have one or more trails from the riverfront hotel(s) in East Moline through the Rust Belt to downtown.
- *Visit Quad Cities* – The NAIA Golf Tournament at TPC was a success. There were 30 teams and full participation throughout a 10-day period. Davenport will begin using the new Main Street Landing and Food Truck Court for food trucks and events. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for this on June 12. The park in Bettendorf will be used soon for steamboat events. Union Station in Davenport will be opening back up by July 1. All QC downtowns and committees are holding meetings again to discuss summer events.
- *New Boston/Mercer County* – Towns in Mercer County are picking up traffic again as summer rolls around. The campgrounds are now open. A \$27 million habitat restoration project is underway with Phase 1 complete and currently in Phase 2.
- *Bettendorf* – The cranes on the I-74 Bridge are being removed. They are in the process of finalizing the design work for the urban park that will be placed under the I-74 Bridge on the Iowa side. A new Japanese Steakhouse is coming to downtown. Café Verde is now open downtown. The old credit union building downtown is being converted into a two-story restaurant.
- *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers* – They are currently supporting stakeholders and partners with riverfront improvements. The motor vessel Mississippi will be coming through the QC on August 10 and will be available for viewing to the public. It will sit near where the new crane is currently located. Colonel Sattinger is handing over control of the Rock Island District to Colonel Curry on July 23. The Mississippi River Commission will be coming to the QC the week of August 16.
- *Rock Island County* – The Niabi Zoo is hosting an event on June 13 at 8 a.m. for the public to run/walk through the zoo to celebrate 40 years of Snow Leopard Conservation.

6. **Next Meeting.** The next meeting of the Quad Cities Riverfront Council will be July 27, 2021.

7. **Other Business.**

- Ms. Linville-Mass briefly presented on her latest project, QC PastPort. QC PastPort is launching Thursday, May 27 with Channel Cat to provide and protect the history and culture of the QC. There will be signage throughout all four communities in the Quad Cities, along with a tab on the Channel Cat app that provides a historical audio tour as you travel from port to port.
- Field trip ideas were discussed among the group for the next meeting on July 27. Ms. Otting-Carlson suggested that we take advantage of the QC PastPort and use it as a guided tour for our field trip. Other trip ideas included Nahant Marsh and incorporating QC PastPort into visiting Nahant Marsh.

8. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m. by consensus.