

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

Tuesday, July 27, 2021, 12:00 p.m.
Nahant Marsh Education Center
4220 Wapello Avenue
Davenport, IA 52802

Council Members in Attendance

Mr. Larry Burns*
Col. Jesse Curry
Ms. Barb Cray

Mr. Geoff Manis
Mr. James Peterson

* *Current QCRFC Officers*

** *QCRFC Representative to BSRC*

Others in Attendance:

Ms. Katelyn Miner
Ms. Katelyn Nelson

Mr. Brian Ritter
Ms. Elizabeth Schramm

1. **Call Meeting to Order.** Meeting was called to order by Mr. Burns at 12:05 p.m. Introductions were made by all those in attendance.
2. **Approval of the May 25, 2021 QCRFC Meeting Minutes.** Mr. Manis made a motion to approve the May 25, 2021 minutes. Mr. Peterson seconded, and the meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
3. **July Field Trip – Nahant Marsh.** Mr. Ritter recommended to finish the meeting before beginning the field trip and tour of Nahant Marsh. Everyone agreed, and the field trip portion of the meeting was conducted after adjournment of the meeting.
4. **Individual Riverfront Reports.**
 - *Moline* – The downtown riverfront has two brand new sculptures from the Quad Cities Arts. There is a new mural on the riverfront bike path that displays the history of the Arsenal Island. The \$2.2 billion I-74 realignment project will free up 14 acres adjacent to the river. The Urban Land Institute is partnering with Moline to analyze and evaluate the area to decide how to best utilize the space.
 - *Port Byron* – The Tug Fest is 3 weeks away and is a festival shared with Le Claire. Licensing and collaboration across the river between the two cities is occurring. They are also partnering with the USACE for this festival. A \$4 million road project along the main highway is underway to replace the sidewalk and water main, and also focus on keeping bicycles separate from cars. A new business is opening up soon on the riverfront, and new houses are being built downtown.
 - *New Boston/Mercer County* – The levee just north of Lock & Dam 17 that protects the floodplain is being replaced and is to be completed by August 1. The Annual Fish Fry is

coming up in New Boston. The campground in New Boston received funding to upgrade the area and facilities. One of the two ports in New Boston is having issues with barges getting stuck in the slip. A 2018 Sturgeon Bay project is being considered again to dredge the bay and create habitat restoration. A \$29.7 million habitat restoration at Port Eliza is to upgrade the spillway, have hardwood planting, and increase waterfowl populations.

- *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers* – On June 22, the Silver Jackets presented their results and findings on the impact of a 500-year flood in Davenport for Davenport’s Flood Study. USACE is working with Nahant Marsh to update their Master Plan, with an anticipated completion date of Summer 2022. Motor Vessel Mississippi is making its way up the Mississippi River and will be stopping in the Quad Cities on August 10. This Motor Vessel will be open to the public for tours from 1:00-5:00 p.m. that day. Lock & Dam 15 will be dewatered this coming December and will be open for a tour.
- *Rock Island County* – The Forest Preserve District parks are back to normal.

5. **Next Meeting.** The next meeting of the Quad Cities Riverfront Council will be September 28, 2021.

6. **Other Business.**

- Vice President Vacancy Discussion – Mr. Burns announced the Vice President vacancy to the group, since Ms. Otting-Carlson is no longer with Visit Quad Cities. He asked those in attendance to consider someone to nominate for this position at the next meeting.

7. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 12:36 p.m. by consensus. The Nahant Marsh tour and field trip followed the adjournment.