

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

Rock Island Arsenal Museum  
3500 North Avenue  
Rock Island, IL 61201  
Tuesday, May 28, 2024, 12:00 p.m.

Council Members in Attendance

Ms. Heather Bishop  
Mr. Rob Danielson  
Maj. Matthew Fletcher  
Mr. Tim Knanishu  
Mr. Greg Ludwig  
Mr. Chris Mathias

Mr. James Peterson\*  
Mr. Jon Ramsdell  
Mr. Greg Schaapveld\*  
Dr. Rodney Simmer  
Ms. Brittany Wells

*\* Current QCRFC Officers*

Others in Attendance:

Mr. Patrick Allie  
Mr. Ricky Newcomb  
Col. Aaron Williams

1. **Call Meeting to Order** The meeting was called to order by Mr. Peterson at 12:10 p.m.
2. **Presentation.** Mr. Allie welcomed the members to the Rock Island Arsenal Museum, introduced himself as the Museum's Director, and provided an introduction to the Museum. The Rock Island Arsenal Museum is the U.S. Army's second oldest with a mission to interpret the history of the island, the people who have lived and worked on the island, and the items produced by the Arsenal. The Museum has recently undergone an extensive \$300 million renovation. Mr. Ramsdell then proceeded to present on the Rock Island Arsenal. The Arsenal is the only full-service Army installation in Illinois, Iowa, and Minnesota. It is one of the largest employers in the Quad Cities region, with an economic impact of \$1.2 billion. There are many opportunities, such as recreation and access to services, on the Arsenal available to the general public, which the Arsenal wants more people to be aware of and encouraged to utilize. The golf course is expected to reopen in summer.
3. **Approval of the March 26, 2024 QCRFC Meeting Minutes.** Dr. Simmer made a motion to approve the March 26, 2024 minutes. Mr. Schaapveld seconded, and the meeting minutes were approved.
4. **Individual Riverfront Reports.**
  - *LeClaire* – Mr. Danielson reported that the 190<sup>th</sup> Birthday event was coming up on June 29. Grants are being sought for developing the second phase of sidewalk improvements. Mr. Danielson added that grants have been received for the 35<sup>th</sup> Street trail and Mississippi River trail. The city has given official support for a trail on a new I-80 Bridge. Phase two of the Cody Road project is coming along as is the Eagle Road trail project.

- *US Army Corps of Engineers* – Col. Williams, the new commander of the Rock Island District, introduced himself to the group. Maj. Fletcher gave a review of the progress for several projects. Sunset Marina dredging should award a contract in June. Construction of three mooring cells is expected to be awarded in September. The Starved Rock ecological restoration project just finished. River flows are continuing to be closely monitored. There has been high water around DeWitt.
  - *Visit Quad Cities* – Ms. Wells said that the Destination Center in Davenport was opened with summer hours, and free bike rentals are available.
  - *East Moline* – Mr. Kammler reported that the RAISE grant implementation process was ongoing, and that grant funding was being sought for a new Channel Cat dock.
  - *Rock Island County* – Dr. Simmer reported that Niabi Zoo continues to repair damage from heavy snowfall, but is open. Restrooms at Illiniwek Forest Preserve are being renovated for ADA accessibility.
  - *Moline* – Mr. Mathias noted the survey for the ongoing Riverfront planning and encouraged members to share the survey. He also noted trail connection work near the Mississippi.
  - *Scott County* – Mr. Schaapveld informed the group that the beach and pool at West Lake Park were opened. ADA path work is ongoing.
  - *Mercer County/New Boston* – Mr. Peterson gave a series of updates regarding activities in Mercer County. Campgrounds are now open in Keithsburg and New Boston. Across the river, work on the Port Louisa and Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuges continues.
5. **Next Meeting.** Mr. Peterson reminded the members that the next meeting is scheduled for July 23. Mr. Knanishu mentioned that the Living Lands and Water barge may be a possible field trip idea if it has not moved by that time.
6. **Other Business.** None.
7. **Adjournment.** Mr. Mathias moved to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Ludwig seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.