

Riverfront Improvement Commission
Minutes
April 27, 2021

Present (Physical): Bill Ashton, Dee Bruemmer, Bill Churchill, Kelli Grubbs, Tom Guy, Gwendolyn Lee, Julie Tonn, and Pat Walton

Present (Virtual):

Others Present: Tegan Trees, Parks Advisory Board; Zach Peterson, Public Works; Bill Handel, Citizen; and Steve Ahrens, Riverfront Improvement Commission

Vice Chairman Grubbs called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Ahrens announced that a quorum for the meeting had been met, and instructions were provided regarding tonight's meeting protocol.

Ashton moved to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2021 meeting. Walton seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

Finance

Ahrens presented and provided updates regarding the month's disbursements, aged receivables report and the FY2021 Lease Report. Walton moved to approve the disbursements. Lee seconded the motion and it carried. Ahrens also reported that tenant, Bare Bones BBQ, will re-open during the week of May 10.

Projects

Following up from last month's meeting, Ahrens provided the Commission with an update and draft addendum to an existing access agreement between the City of Davenport and the Nahant Marsh Education Center. The Commission will consider recommending to the City Council the approval of the addendum at an upcoming Commission meeting.

Zach Peterson with Public Works provided the Commission with an update regarding River Heritage Park and the CIP project highlights, which include: Seawall repair, Riverwalk and extension to the upstream, Great Lawn development, and the establishment of connections to the entrance and to the upstream (for future development). The construction work will not hinder the portage of American Cruise Lines vessels this year, and the entire project will be completed by early summer of 2022 when Viking Cruises also begins to port at River Heritage Park.

Ahrens presented an update regarding Riverfront Refresh 2021. Enhancements include both operations and maintenance as well as programmatic. Working with various interested community stakeholders, there will be a number of special events and activities taking place throughout the riverfront in 2021. The City Council and Riverfront Improvement Commission co-hosted Riverfront

Refresh Day on April 17 was a huge success and plans already are underway for 2022. In addition, an exciting new special festival, QC MacDown, now will take place in September. Lastly, Ahrens reported that he submitted two grants for Riverfront Refresh programmatic funding and await award decisions.

Staff Report

Ahrens invited Commissioners to attend the City Council Worksession regarding the Flood Study on Tuesday, May 11 at 3:45 p.m. in City Hall.

Chair Bruemmer provided a report for the Commission, including her recent attendance at a Flood Study stakeholder group meeting as she represented the Commission. Commissioner Churchill also attended, as a representative of Friends of Veterans Memorial Park. They both encouraged others to complete the online survey.

Trees provided the Parks and Recreation Report, which included requesting that Commissioners consider completing the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Survey, which was forwarded online via Trees and Ahrens.

Other Business

Bill Handel, citizen, provided comments regarding the riverfront and West River Drive, specifically the leased semi-trailer parking lot and desired improvements. With no additional public with business to present to the Commission, and with no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.


Dee Bruemmer, Chair