

Motor Mill Foundation
Minutes
November 20, 2012

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held at the Osborne Conservation Center on Tuesday, November 20, 2012. Chairman John Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Other board members present were Jon deNeui, Chuck Morine, Tom Gifford, Les Klink, and Larry Stone. Clayton County Conservation Board director Tim Engelhardt and naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended.

MINUTES

Hearing no additions or corrections, Nikolai accepted the minutes of the October 16 meeting as printed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Chuck Morine submitted the following report:

Motor Mill Foundation

October 16 - beginning balance	\$6,471.99
Receipts	
Donation	\$50
Bridge raffle	\$100
Total receipts	\$150
Expenses	
Allamakee-Clayton Elec.	\$32.88
Total expenses	\$32.88
November 20, 2012 balance	\$6,589.11

Conservation Reserve Fund

October 17, 2012 balance forward	\$350,370.13
Expenses	
Minnowa Construction	\$136,371.26
V.J. Engineering	\$4,750.00
November 20, 2012 balance	\$209,248.87

CAPITAL FUND

September 18, 2012 balance carried forward \$23,255.04

Deposits:

Bridge raffle \$150

Capital fund (Freeman) \$50

September 18, 2012 balance \$23,455.04

MOTOR MILL BRIDGE

Work started with construction of a cofferdam on Oct. 11. Crews also have been building forms and tying rebar for abutment caps. Engelhardt and masons from Vector will discuss whether the entire center pier may need to be tuck-pointed. That would require a change and additional cost beyond the plans. The scheduled completion date is still December 5.

MOTOR MILL TRAIL

Nothing new to report.

STORIES IN STONE CAPITAL FUND CAMPAIGN

As of November 1, \$23,355 has been raised for the bridge campaign, with \$86,540 more needed to complete the project.

MEDIA CAMPAIGN for BRIDGE

Engelhardt has been updating donation information on the Motor Mill and Clayton County Conservation Board websites every two weeks.

BRIDGE RAFFLE

Engelhardt noted that a grand opening for the bridge is planned for the spring of 2013, but the bridge will be open for traffic after the ribbon cutting at 11 a.m. on December 8. The ceremony will be at the north side near the Mill. Engelhardt will send invitations to Motor Mill Foundation members, County Conservation Board members, the Board of Supervisors, and the Turkey River Recreational Corridor. Stone agreed to contact newspapers to place stories and ads promoting the raffle and ribbon cutting.

GALAXY ROAD

Engelhardt and deNeui reported that the new bridge at Motor would have a 36-ton weight limit. The county secondary roads department has not yet determined if there will be a length limit. A traffic count is scheduled for the summer of 2013. That may help determine how much the road will be improved.

PROMOTING THE MOTOR MILL FOUNDATION

Nikolai urged board members to seek opportunities to give programs to promote Motor Mill and the Foundation.

BOARD MEMBERS

Nikolai reiterated the need for more board members and volunteers. He asked board members to go over the list of “friends,” and to make a commitment to contact individuals to ask them to serve as volunteers or board members.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

TURKEY RIVER RECREATIONAL CORRIDOR

In Collins’ absence, Nikolai gave the following report that he had received from her:

Clermont – The Visioning Committee raised over \$300, and is waiting to see if they will receive an Iowa Great Places grant. If not, they will apply to the Fayette County Foundation for the Future.

Elgin – Residents south of the Turkey River have raised money to bring a trail from that area to downtown.

Work continues on the band shell and on the sewer.

Sharon Harris has offered a site on the west side of town for trail parking. Two new restaurants will be opening in town as a direct result of the trail.

Elkader – The city received a \$75,000 REAP grant for the whitewater course. Engineers are working on a design. It is hoped that work can begin this winter.

Work continues on Founders Park and the playground.

13 benches have been sold – two for downtown and 11 in the park.

Two trees have been planted, with perennials to be planted next spring. Planning continues for a shelter and performance area.

Fayette County Supervisors – Vicki Rowland said the city of Fayette has received a grant for a trail to connect with Echo Valley State Park.

Fayette County Conservation – Rod Marlatt reported that the Iowa DOT is contemplating changes to the way money for Scenic Byways and Enhancement funds are distributed. (Engelhardt added that letters to Iowa DOT Commissioners are needed before December 10 to urge maintaining the status quo.)

Clayton County – Engelhardt shared slides and gave a report on the Motor Mill bridge project.

FACILITIES

deNeui said volunteer workers have quit for the season. He is planning projects for spring, and trying to work out details of installing electrical service.

Gifford moved to authorize the treasurer to reimburse deNeui \$100.25 for power saw blades and parts.

Menno Borntreger has begun building the Cooperage windows.

We need more 11-foot 2x10s to replace floor joists on the sixth floor.

Repairs on the main floor will require 12-foot 2x12s.

deNeui has talked with Alan Johnson about donating a thickness planer.

GROUNDS

Engelhardt has been very involved with the bridge construction. A concrete collar was added to stabilize the base of the center pier. The cost was about \$18,000. Additional tuck-pointing was done on the piers and abutments. Vector did additional power washing of the center pier prior to tuck-pointing.

Lora Friest will use the Motor Mill Foundation as an example when she gives a program on "friends" of county conservation at the Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards Winterfest in January.

Engelhardt cited a railroad museum in Sioux City as an example of the success of volunteer organizations.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, December 18, at Osborne.

ADJOURNMENT

Nikolai adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry A. Stone, secretary