

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

**DRAFT**

May 15, 2018

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, May 15, 2018, at Osborne Conservation Center. Chairman John Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Other members present were David Beck, Lee Lenth, Larry Stone, Chuck Morine, Jon deNeui, Ken Zichal, Jane Metcalf, Chris Schoen, and Bob Bente. Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock, naturalist Abbey Harkrader, and intern Kiley Johansen also attended.

**AGENDA**

Morine moved to approve the agenda, with the addition of items on Mill maintenance and the Grau Savanna. deNeui seconded. Carried.

**MINUTES**

Morine moved to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2018, meeting as printed. deNeui seconded. Carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Morine presented the following treasurer's report:

May 2018 Treasurer's Report

April 17 - beginning balance \$21,671.04

RECEIPTS

April 20 – donation, Citizens State Bank \$500.00

May 14 – donations \$41.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$541.00

EXPENSES

April 18 – Jansen Products \$248.00

May 11 - Allam. Clayton Elec. \$39.30

May 15 - Alpine Communications \$16.53

TOTAL EXPENSES \$303.83

CURRENT BALANCE (May 15, 2018) \$21,908.21

## CONSERVATION RESERVE

Balance Brought Forward (\$50,659.86)

### Receipts

Iowa Room – koosie, stationery \$26.00

Balance Carried Forward (\$50,633.86)

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### 1 - EARTH DAY STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

Nineteen students and two teachers from Central Community Schools spent more than an hour helping clean Motor Mill on April 23 in recognition of Earth Day.

### 2 - INTRODUCTORY VIDEO

The board reviewed a draft of the script being prepared for the proposed video to introduce visitors to the Motor Mill Historic Site. The committee of Zichal, Harkrader, Metcalf, Beck, and Stone will meet again May 22 to continue editing.

### 3 - INTERPRETIVE PANELS

Most of the new interpretive panels for the interior of Motor Mill have been installed. The Conservation Board staff should have the outside panels in place by May 26.

### 4 - NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PASSPORT

The materials for stamping NPS passports have arrived. It's required that we use an orange inkpad to stamp the passports. Passports will be available for sale to visitors.

### 5 - TOUR SCHEDULES POSTED

Schedules of the 2018 tour dates have been posted in most Clayton County communities. Board members are encouraged to post additional schedules where possible.

### 6 - AUREON GRANT

At the time of the meeting, no word had been received on our Aureon grant application for repair of the Cooperage chimney. On May 21, Pollock was notified that we have been awarded \$250 of the \$1,450 that was requested.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1 – SUMMER TOUR SEASON**

Kiley Johansen will work most weekends this season. Volunteer tour guides are asked to check the schedule and to trade with others if conflicts arise. Some more cleaning will be required before the tours begin on May 26.

Pollock suggested that the Conservation Board staff remove plywood stacked against the downstream inside wall of the Mill, as well as old floor joists stacked between the doors.

Roger Buchholz has made several benches from extra pieces of floor joists. He will offer them for sale at the Mill, with all proceeds going to the Motor Mill Foundation.

Morine reminded guides to record all merchandise sales at the Mill.

### **2 - MAY 18 TOUR REQUEST**

An RV group of about 40 people has requested a tour at 10 a.m. on Friday, May 18. Johansen and Harkrader asked for board members to assist.

### **3 – SHUTTERS**

Lee Lenth has repaired the shutters that were damaged in the 2016 break-in attempt. He was assisted by Ken Fishel, who lives near Motor.

### **4 - INN SIDEWALK**

Pollock will ask the Conservation Board staff to trim around the sidewalks by the Inn.

### **5 – MOVING TURBINE?**

The board discussed moving the turbine to allow placement of the bridge interpretive panel, repair of the underground passageway between the road and the Mill, and to facilitate drilling into the basement with phone and electrical service. No conclusion was reached.

### **6 – BASEMENT SILT**

Nikolai has met with Paul Keppler, who will give an estimate of the cost of making an access road to get a truck down from the county road to the upstream side of the Mill to facilitate silt removal. It is hoped that a skid loader can be used to move much of the silt from the basement. The county engineer has agreed to allow dumping of the silt along the west side of the county road north of the Stable.

deNeui is studying ways to close the upstream arches to prevent unauthorized access when workers are not at the Mill removing silt.

## 7 – INN RENOVATION

Nikolai and deNeui reported that the first floor walls of the Inn received only minimal damage from flooding in 1991 and 2008. They suggested replacing only the flooring and floor joists where necessary, or pouring a concrete floor that would not be damaged by floods and that could be easily cleaned. Some repairs will be needed on window sashes and the lower part of some walls. The tentative, long-term plan might involve installing restrooms and floor heat, with the main floor of the Inn used as a hospitality area.

## 8 – FLUORESCENT LIGHTS

Nikolai has taken apart all the unused light fixtures on the third floor, and is investigating the proper disposal of the components.

## 9 – ROOF LEAK

Morine noted that the Mill roof is leaking around the access hatch, leaving a pool of water on the loft floor. Lenth will consult with Amish carpenters to see if they have a good solution to make the hatch watertight.

## 10 – BATS

Morine reported many bat dropping in the loft, and suggested that visitors not be allowed to access that area.

## 11- ART SHOW

Although the Motor Mill Art Show was tentatively set for Sept. 29, several board members have conflicts on that date. Metcalf, Johansen, Stone, and Harkrader will meet May 24 to consider alternative dates.

## 12 – SILOS AND SMOKESTACKS SURVEYS

Visitors who agree to fill out a Silos and Smokestacks survey will be eligible for a drawing for a \$100 gift card.

## 13 – GRAU SAVANNA

Stone, Harkrader, and Johansen will hike the Grau Savanna to propose more interpretive signs for the area.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next board meeting will be June 19, 2018, at 7 p.m. at the Osborne Conservation Center.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Beck moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m. Schoen seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

Motor Mill Foundation