

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

DRAFT

August 21, 2018

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, Aug. 21, 2018, at Osborne Conservation Center. Chairman John Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Other members present were Bob Bente, Jane Metcalf, Ken Zichal, Lee Lenth, Larry Stone, Chuck Morine, and Chris Schoen. Conservation Board naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended.

MINUTES

Stone moved to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2018, meeting as distributed. Morine seconded. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jul. 17 Beginning Balance 17,610.06

Receipts

Jul. 16 – donations	* 49.00
Jul. 23 - donations	\$164.00
merchandise sales	35.00
benches & bird houses	130.00
Jul. 30 donations	44.00
merchandise sales	2.00
benches & bird houses	310.00
Aug. 2 donation, Our Iowa, Larry Stone	200.00
Aug. 7 donations	84.00
merchandise sales	43.00
benches & bird houses	150.00

Aug. 13	donations	134.00
	merchandise sales	74.00
Aug. 13	donation; Darrell Schaper	100.00
	donation; Burnell R. Smith	2,000.00
Aug. 20	donations	159.00
	merchandise sales	17.00
	benches & bird houses	150.00
	donation, Our Iowa, David Beck	125.00

Total Receipts 3,970.00

Expenses

Jun. 21	Jansen Products, security up-date	* 90.00
Jul. 18	Rivals Inc. Merchandise	205.69
Jul. 23	CCC Board, cooperage chimney	1,450.00
Jul. 31	Central Bank, checks	19.95
Aug. 14	Alla. Clayton Electric	43.16
Aug. 15	Alpine Communications	16.49
	Total Expenses	1,825.29

Current Balance 19,754.77

* should have been on July report

OLD BUSINESS

1 – CLAYTON COUNTY FAIR UPDATE

Nikolai noted that the Foundation has had a booth at the Clayton County Fair for about 10 years. Given the difficulty of getting volunteers for eight hours a day for four days, he questioned whether it's worth the time and effort.

Zichal pointed out that many people at the fair are Clayton County residents, who should already be aware of Motor. Perhaps our time would be better spent at Heritage Days, for example, where we'd reach more people from outside the area.

Nikolai posed the idea of partnering with Silos and Smokestacks to exhibit at the Iowa State Fair. Metcalf suggested having a booth to sell Motor Mill artwork at the annual Art in the Park event in Elkader. Other possible venues might be the Delaware County Fair or the Marquette/McGregor Art Fair.

Zichal moved that the MMF consider not exhibiting at the fair in 2019, but to explore the opportunity to exhibit at Art in the Park and/or the Iowa State Fair. Lenth seconded, Carried.

2 – MOTOR MILL VIDEO

The board discussed where and how to show the new introductory video. The consensus was to screen off an area in the downstream portion of the first floor, where the video could be shown on a TV screen.

Zichal urged the group to make copies of the video available for sale. He moved that the Foundation make 25 copies. Lenth seconded. Carried. Stone offered to donate DVDs for the copies.

3 – MOTOR MILL ART SHOW

Metcalf reported that we have received a \$250 Thrivent grant for the Art show. The money will be used to buy easels for artwork, and for a two-week, two-column ad in the Clayton County Register. Thrivent also has donated T-shirts for MMF members to wear at the show.

Bootleggers, of Millville, will bring appetizers and cold drinks. The Cedar Wagon may sell ice cream. Schoen suggested asking Kwik Trip for donations of cookies and water.

Art vendors will be asked to display in the area between the Inn and the Ice House. Margaret Stone will do a basket-making demonstration. Iowa State University Extension also may have an activity. There will be music by Darwin Baldrige and Mark Beck. The board discussed whether to show the new video, or to have a slide show of artwork that is not available to display in person.

Alpine Communications has agreed to donate WiFi access at the Mill for the day.

Board members will begin setting up displays on Sept. 14. Volunteers will be needed at 10 a.m. on Sept. 15.

4 – SILT REMOVAL FROM MILL BASEMENT

Nikolai has received two bids for building an access from the county road to the Mill arches to allow removal of silt from the basement: Paul Keppler, \$2,500; Nick's Excavating, \$4,500. Zichal and Stone shared concerns about protecting the walnut tree, the stone flume abutment, and remnants of the old dam. Schoen has agreed to monitor the work to avoid damaging historical structures or artifacts.

Morine recalled driving his pickup down the riverbank to the Mill when restoration work first began, about 2004. Nikolai noted that Kendall Knospe used heavy equipment along the riverbank as part of the 2008 flood clean-up

Zichal moved to accept the Keppler bid for the access, with work not to begin until after the Sept. 15 Art Show. Schoen seconded. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – UPDATES FROM INTERN

Kiley Johansen's last day was Aug. 16. Some of her projects included: newsletter, Facebook, History's Mysteries trunk, contact with Neal Kuehl for newsletter article, write text for Grau Savanna trail, STEM event at Motor, weekend tour guide.

2 – IOWA FARMER TODAY

Nikolai urged trying to arrange a story in Iowa Farmer Today, given the publication's recent article on Silos and Smokestacks. Zichal suggested sending the text of the new video to IFT or other publications.

UPDATES

Lenth and Nikolai will attempt to get carpenters to look at the Mill's roof hatch and estimate what is needed to prevent the water leakage.

Lenth said the steps to the floor beneath the loft need repairs.

Lenth said the current river level is low enough that we may be able to find the openings under the river-side Mill wall where water discharged from the turbines.

ADJOURNMENT

Stone moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m. Zichal seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary