

Motor Mill Foundation  
Minutes  
February 21, 2012

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held at the Osborne Conservation Center on Tuesday, February 21, 2012. Chairman John Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Other board members present were Jon deNeui, Chuck Morine, Ellen Collins, Lee Lenth, Betty Buchholz, Gary Goyette, Tom Gifford, and Larry Stone. Clayton County Conservation Board director Tim Engelhardt also attended. Fred Stroschein was a guest.

**MINUTES**

Nikolai accepted the minutes of the January 17 meeting as printed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Chuck Morine submitted the following report:

*Motor Mill Foundation*

Jan. 17 - beginning balance	\$4,767.75
Receipts	
Feb. 16 – John & Mary Fran Nikolai, Cooperage window	\$200
Feb. 16 – Harold & Deanna Krambeer, Cooperage window	\$200
Total receipts	\$400
Expenses	
Jan. 17 – West Bend Ins.	251.00
Feb. 1 – Dietz, Donald & Co., tax prep	160.00
Feb. 9 - Allamakee-Clayton Elec.	\$26.75
Total expenses	\$437.75
Feb. 21, 2012 balance	\$4,730.00

*Conservation Reserve Fund*

Jan. 18, 2012 balance forward (\$38,805.67)

Deposits:

TRRC, bridge \$20,000  
REAP, bridge \$416,592.77

Expenses

VJ Engineering \$3,837.50

Feb. 21, 2012 balance \$393,939.60

*CAPITAL FUND*

Jan. 18, 2012 balance carried forward \$9,219.29

Deposits:

Darlene Wille \$500  
Barn on the Bluff (Dengler) \$250  
Bruce & Betty Landis \$100  
John & Susan Gnagy \$2,500  
Nick & Linda Klepinger \$50

Feb. 21, 2012 balance \$12,619.29

**BASEMENT PROJECT**

Engelhardt has submitted a letter to FEMA requesting an improved project, which includes an archeologist, excavating with a skid loader and conveyor, and a report. Cost estimate for silt removal and masonry work is \$85,710.50.

Engelhardt plans to apply for a REAP HRDP grant to pay for this and for roofs on the Ice House, Cooperage, and Stable.

**MOTOR MILL BRIDGE**

Final plans from V. J. Engineering arrived on February 21. They need to be reviewed by Rafe Koopman. Then Engelhardt hopes to send out bid specifications by March 6, with bids due back by April 6. Ideally, he will hold a pre-bid meeting to answer questions from potential bidders. The goal would be to start construction by early summer.

**MOTOR MILL TRAIL**

Engelhardt suggested waiting until people can see progress on the bridge construction before trying to meet again with landowners.

## **STORIES IN STONE CAPITAL FUND CAMPAIGN**

Nikolai has made a number of contacts, and has received several donations. He would welcome help from other board members.

Harold Krambeer has offered to donate a walnut coffee table that he built. The board discussed holding a raffle for the table, which could be displayed throughout the summer at Motor Mill, then awarded to the raffle winner at Heritage Days. No action was taken, however.

Gordy Callison contacted Stone and Engelhardt with the suggestion that we use his Bird's-Eye-View Historical Recreations to promote the Motor Mill capital fund drive. After considerable discussion, Collins moved to give a pair of Gordy's signed and numbered drawings to donors who contribute \$500 or more. Stone seconded. Carried.

## **LEGISLATIVE FLOAT ON TURKEY RIVER**

The float is still in the planning stages, with no further information at this time.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT – Lenth agreed to contact Shane Christen to discuss whether his group plans to hold an encampment at Motor this year, and, if so, whether there would be a conflict with a cavalry group that has contacted Stone about holding an event.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Nikolai said the MMF will participate with the bridge float in the Elkader St. Patrick's Day parade.

deNeui has received a very useful 2012 AutoCAD program through good.360.org.

Stone presented a proposal from the Clayton County Development group to buy 20 TV ads on KCRG 9.2 as part of a CCGD package. The cost would be \$100. After considerable discussion about our audience and the audience for KCRG 9.2, the board took no action.

## **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **TURKEY RIVER RECREATIONAL CORRIDOR**

Collins submitted the following report:

Clermont – Has applied for a FCCF grant for the trail; award in April.

Elgin – There is potential for a café to open. Has applied for a FCCF grant for landscaping. Bandstand plans continue.

Elkader – \$2,985 raised so far for riverfront development. Girl Scouts will apply for Keep Iowa Beautiful grant for butterfly garden. Sue Gnagy is applying for a McElroy grant for the park project. Possible other grants.

Fayette County – Work is underway on the bridge near Valley School.

Clayton County Conservation - \$416,582.77 REAP grant received for Motor Mill bridge. \$20,000 Upper Mississippi Gaming grant received for bridge engineering.

Brian Leaders of National Park Service discussed UNI study that found \$365 million annual benefits from Iowa bike rails. He recommended that TRRC apply for Bikes Belong research grant.

#### **FACILITIES**

deNeui has prepared a list of Motor Mill projects that will need attention in 2012 and later. One priority is to get electrical service in the Mill. Some others include: roof repairs on Cooperage, Stable, and Icehouse; basement excavation; sixth floor of Mill; cover basement arches; Cooperage second floor access and floor repair; alternate stairways in Mill; Inn retaining wall; security systems.

#### **GROUNDS**

Engelhardt received an invitation to the Silos and Smokestacks Golden Silo Award banquet on April 4.

The Foundation and several members have received certificates for participating in Project AWARE in 2011.

The Clayton County Development Group is reprinting a River Bluffs Scenic Byway information card. deNeui moved to donate \$50 for the project. Lenth seconded. Carried.

#### **EDUCATION, COMMUNICATIONS**

No reports

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 20, at Osborne.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Nikolai adjourned the meeting about 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry A. Stone, secretary