

MOTOR MILL FOUNDATION

Minutes

August 18, 2015

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held at the Osborne Conservation Center on Tuesday, August 18, 2015. Chairman John Nikolai called the meeting to order about 7:10 p.m. Other board members present were Chuck Morine, Les Klink, Larry Stone, Jon deNeui, and Lee Lenth. Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended. Ivan Hardt, Mark Collins, and Fred Stroschein were guests.

AGENDA

deNeui moved to approve the agenda as printed. Stone seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Morine moved to approve the minutes of the July 21 meeting as printed. Lenth seconded. Carried

TREASURER'S REPORT

Morine submitted the following monthly report:

July 21 beginning balance	\$8,261.98
Receipts	
July 27 – Denny Lautner – donation	\$250.00
July 27 – donations from Mill	\$144.00
August 17 – donations from fair	\$19.00
Total receipts	\$413.00
Expenses	
July 21 – Clayton Co. Conservation, Silos intern match	\$356.89
July 21 – Ia. Museum Assoc. membership	\$40.00
July 21 – Central State Bake, checks	\$19.00
Aug. 10 – Heritage Printing, “Milling Around” for fair	\$187.79
Aug. 17 – Allam-Clayton Elec.	\$34.30
Aug. 17 – Heritage Printing – print & mail “Milling Around”	\$313.54

Total expenses	\$951.52
August 18, 2015 balance	\$7,723.46

CONSERVATION RESERVE

July 21, 2015 balance brought forward (negative)	(\$47,680.72)
Deposit – Iowa Room, photo	\$100.00
July 21, 2015 balance carried forward	(\$47,580.72)

Morine moved to approve the report. Lenth seconded. Carried.

deNeui moved to approve payment of \$50 to SPOOM (The Society for the Preservation of Old Mills) to renew our membership. Lenth seconded. Carried.

deNeui moved to approve payment of \$1,800 to Siebert Construction for repair of the Mill roof, which was damaged by the wind in January 2014. Hardt seconded. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

CLAYTON COUNTY FAIR REVIEW

Nikolai has compiled a list of 143 email addresses provided by visitors to our display at the Clayton County Fair. He gave them to Harry Luster to include in the Milling Around electronic mailing list.

Julie Dahling of Elkader was the winner of the two framed prints of Gordy Callison’s “Bird’s-eye-view Historical Re-creation” of Motor. The board thanked Ivan Hardt for donating the frames.

About 250 people entered the drawing for the prints.

GRANTS

Intern from UNI

Nikolai is looking into the possibility of getting a grant from the University of Northern Iowa for a student to do 15 hours of historical research.

Bridge debt reduction

The board discussed ways to repay the remaining debt (about \$40,000) owed to the County Conservation Board for the bridge construction. Most available grants do not apply to projects already completed.

The board debated whether to establish separate funds to receive donations specifically for the bridge debt, or for Mill restoration. Hardt moved to create two funds, and deNeui seconded, but the motion was withdrawn after board discussion.

On behalf of Hardt Pioneer Farms, Inc., Hardt pledged \$1,000 toward the Motor Mill capital campaign.

CLG grant application

Pollock is submitting an application, with a letter of support from the Board of Supervisors, to receive a Certified Local Governments grant to use ground-penetrating radar to explore the basement of the Mill.

Recruitment

Nikolai has been in contact with John Kregel and Chris Gregerson about volunteering for the foundation.

Hardt said he would talk with Peter Kann, who has expressed interest in Motor.

NEW BUSINESS

FRED STROSCHEIN AWARD

The board presented Fred Stroschein an award for his years of service. The plaque read: "In recognition of your help with our work at the Motor Mill, 2005 to 2014, Fred Stroschein."

GREAT RIVER ROAD INTERPRETIVE CENTER NOMINATION

Pollock is preparing an application for Motor Mill to be named a Great River Road Interpretive Center. The designation would be by the Mississippi River Parkway Commission. Lenth moved to support the application. Morine seconded. Carried.

UPDATES

Restoration - deNeui said volunteers have continued to work on replacing floor joists and flooring on the first floor of the mill. Access to the stairway to upper floors will be kept open during the construction.

Some work also has been done of cleaning out and repairing the ventilation passage on the road side of the Mill, but that project is dependent on the availability of equipment from volunteer contractors and workers.

TRRC – Pollock, deNeui, Stone, and Conservation Board naturalist Kenny Slocum attended the Turkey River Recreational Corridor meeting in Clermont on August 4. The group decided to change the "Tri-P" event to include running instead of golfing.

Other discussion centered on the Clayton County engineer's commitment to do pre-engineering on a trail between Elkader and Elgin.

There will be a fall trail count on Friday, Sept. 18, and Saturday, Sept. 26. Volunteers will be needed.

Other upcoming events are a Golf Challenge on Sept. 27 and a Turkey Trot on Oct. 17.

Grounds – Pollock said that naturalist Kenny Slocum plans to hold a 5K run event at Motor sometime this fall.

Education - Lenth visited Watkins Mill, near Bethany, Mo., and distributed information about the site. He also has found photos in the SPOOM magazine of a millwright using a mill bill, and of a "hopper boy" in operation.

Communication – Nikolai has written a thank-you to Dennis Lautner for his \$250 donation. Nikolai also distributed copies of the 2014 "Summary of Activities," which he compiled.

Nikolai hopes to give a Motor Mill presentation at the Driftless Area Wetlands Centre in the near future.

NEXT MEETING - The next meeting will be Sept. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Osborne Conservation Center.

ADJOURNMENT – deNeui moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. Lenth seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary