

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

**DRAFT**

September 18, 2018

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2018, at Osborne Conservation Center. Vice-chairman Jon deNeui called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Other members present were Bob Bente, Jane Metcalf, Ken Zichal, Larry Stone, Chuck Morine, and Chris Schoen. Lee Lenth arrived about 7:30 p.m. Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended.

**AGENDA**

Morine asked to add an item about resolving electrical service issues at the Mill, and the upcoming Mississippi River Parkway Commission meeting. Stone moved to approve the agenda with the additions. Schoen seconded. Carried.

**MINUTES**

Stone moved to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2018, meeting as distributed. Zichal seconded. Carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Aug. 21 Beginning Balance \$19,754.77

***Receipts***

Aug. 27– donations 176.00  
merchandise sales 41.00

Sept. 4 – donations 61.00  
merchandise sales 34.00  
bird house 10.00  
passport 10.00

Sept. 10 – CCCB donations 48.25  
donations 50.00

Sept. 17 – donations, Art Show 166.00  
merchandise sales 96.00  
bird house 10.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$702.25

**Expenses**

Aug. 23 – SPOOM membership	50.00
Aug. 24 - Esser's merchandise	235.94
Aug. 31 – Rivals, Inc., key chains	31.97
Sept. 10 - Allam. Clayton Elec.	41.86
Sept. 12 – Esser's merchandise	59.92
Sept. 14 – Alpine, telephone	16.49
Sept. 17 – Jansen Products, video	1010.00
Sept. 17 – Heritage Printing, newsletter	293.95
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,740.13
<b>Current Balance</b>	18,716.89

**OLD BUSINESS**

## 1 – ARTICLE FOR IOWA FARMER TODAY

Stone said he would consider the project when/if time allows.

## 2 – ART SHOW UPDATE

About 100 people attended the Sept. 15 event. The vendors reported mixed sales results. Harkrader, Metcalf, and Stone will give a more complete report at the October meeting.

## 3 – SILT REMOVAL

deNeui said the project would be delayed until the Turkey River stabilizes.

He said the proposed access road should be between the county road and the flume abutment to avoid disturbing artifacts between the abutment and the river. Schoen will

be on site to monitor the work. The city of Elkader has offered the use of a one-ton dump truck. deNeui is looking for a larger truck.

Zichal voiced concern about carbon monoxide levels in the Mill from the skid loader. deNeui said there is adequate ventilation, and additional fans can be made available.

Metcalf asked how the silt would be kept out of the basement after the project is completed. deNeui said covering the upstream arches would help. It also may help to reopen the water outlets at the base of the river side Mill wall, which apparently were covered several years ago.

Pollock noted that permits may be required if there is construction work in the floodplain.

#### 4 – VISIONING DISCUSSION FOR THE INN

deNeui said we will not try to keep floodwaters out of the Inn, but should instead repair the first floor with a material that can be easily cleaned. (The deteriorating wooden flooring and floor joists have been removed.) He suggested using concrete pavers, which could be installed by volunteers, and which could be removed to allow future plumbing or electrical work. That would be better than a permanent poured concrete floor.

deNeui has received preliminary cost estimates of about \$2,700 for pavers, and about \$2,000 for filling and packing the base for the pavers.

Lenth questioned whether we have a clear vision of what our long-term plans for the Inn should be. Zichal suggested that bathroom facilities should be a high priority. Morine said his main concern is to give people safe access to be able to see the inside of the building. He questioned whether a visioning exercise would be useful.

Zichal moved that the board authorize deNeui to move ahead with getting more detail cost estimates to install pavers in the first floor of the Inn. Morine seconded. Carried. Metcalf voted no. Stone did not vote.

### ***NEW BUSINESS***

#### 1 – PROPOSALS FOR FLOOR REPAIR IN THE INN

See above.

#### 2 – MILLING AROUND

The newsletter has been mailed, emailed, and posted on the website.

#### 3 – REPAIR OF ROOF HATCH

Nikolai has met with a contractor who suggested installing a new roof hatch. He will be getting a cost estimate soon.

#### 4 – THEATER FOR VIDEO

The board agreed that placing the TV set (which was furnished by Zichal) between first floor stairway and the adjoining downstream wall worked well during the art show. We will consider the option of adding a partition or curtain behind the TV toward the river to make the space even more viewer-friendly.

#### 5 – MARKETING THE MOTOR MILL VIDEO

The board agreed to sell the videos for \$10, and to have it available both at the Mill and in the Iowa Room at Osborne.

#### UPDATES

Morine said he solved the electrical problem at the Mill by resetting the ground default breaker on the outlet at the power pole.

Morine received a notice that the Mississippi River Parkway Commission is meeting Oct, 23-25 in Little Rock, Ark.

Lenth noted that the barn on Ivan Hardt's Hardt Pioneer Farm north of Garnavillo will be on the Iowa Barn Foundation tour Sept. 22-23.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Zichal moved to adjourn the meeting about 9:00 p.m. Morine seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary