

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

**DRAFT**

April 16, 2019

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, April 16, 2019, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Chairman John Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Other members present were Larry Stone, Ken Zichal, Jane Metcalf, and Chuck Morine. Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended.

**AGENDA**

Stone moved to approve the revised agenda as distributed. Zichal seconded. Carried.

**MINUTES**

Morine moved to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2019 meeting. Zicahl seconded. Carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

March 19 - Beginning balance \$33,955.33

RECEIPTS

April 12 – donation: James Thompson via PayPal \$23.97

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$23.97

EXPENSES

April 12 – Allam. Clayton Elec. \$39.19

April 15 – Alpine Communications \$16.55

TOTAL EXPENSES \$55.74

Feb. 19 - CURRENT BALANCE \$33,923.56

Stone moved to accept the financial report as presented. Zichal seconded. Carried

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### 1 – Finalize summer event schedule

The following speakers have tentatively agreed to present summer programs:

Dave Beck portraying James Crosby; Jane Metcalf demonstrating bread making; Metcalf and Beck on Crosby history; Chris Grau on woodland ecology; person from Schech's Mill, Minn.; Harkrader wildflower hike; Kata McCarville, Upper Iowa University, on geology.

### 2 – Consider State Fair booth

Nikolai has arranged through the Decorah Chamber of Commerce to share a booth at the Iowa State Fair on Monday, Aug. 12. The cost is \$250. The Clayton County Historic Preservation Commission also may be involved. Nikolai will check to learn whether Wi-Fi will be available.

### 3 – Consider participating in neighboring county fairs

After some discussion, the board agreed not to have a booth at other county fairs. It was noted that Motor Mill is part of the Turkey River Recreational Corridor, which will be at the Fayette County Fair.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### 1 – Zichal report on Alpine Communications marketing seminar

Zichal said Alpine is offering cable TV marketing through the ICAN network. For \$450 per month, we would get two 30-second ads per day on two channels of our choice.

After some discussion on possible partnerships with the Clayton County Development Group, the board took no action.

Nikolai will invite a representative of the Turkey River Mall to discuss their experience at the May 21 meeting. Zichal also will meet with Darla Kelchen of the Clayton County Development Group to get more information.

## **UPDATES**

The Motor Mill Foundation received a \$1,000 grant for savanna interpretive signs from the Clayton County Foundation for the Future.

Nikolai reported that the basement windows have been reinstalled after they were removed in anticipation of potential flooding.

Nikolai said spring flooding had eroded more of the riverbank above the Mill, which probably will make it more difficult to remove silt from the basement. He will seek a new estimate of the proposal to build an access trail down from the county road.

Zichal suggested that we reconsider whether it is practical to try to remove the silt.

Students from Central Community Schools are scheduled help with a Mill cleanup from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on May 1.

Metcalf urged the board to try to remove piles of lumber from the Mill to make the space more inviting to visitors.

Nikolai noted the need to install rain gutters on the hill side of the Cooperage.

Pollock said the Clayton County Conservation Board had agreed that the Motor Mill Foundation could proceed with a Martin-Gardner Architecture contract on Inn restoration, with the understanding the MMF would pay for the plans.

A new roof hatch for the Mill has been ordered. Nikolai is working with roofer James Wilson on the installation.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Stone moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Metcalf seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary