

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

DRAFT

May 21, 2019

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, May 21, 2019, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Chairman John Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Other members present were Larry Stone, Ken Zichal, Jane Metcalf, Lee Lenth, David Beck, and Chris Schoen. Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock, naturalist Abbey Harkrader, and intern Grace Rodman also attended.

AGENDA

Stone moved to approve the agenda as distributed. Schoen seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Stone moved to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2019 meeting. Zicahl seconded. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

April 16 - Beginning balance \$33,923.56

RECEIPTS

May 9 – donation \$5.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$5.00

EXPENSES

May 1 – Jansen Products, annual web hosting fee \$168.00

May 9 - Allam. Clayton Elec. \$39.06

May 13 – Clayton County Conservation; roof hatch \$1815.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$2022.06

CURRENT BALANCE (May 13) \$31,906.50

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

OLD BUSINESS

1 – Finalize summer event schedule

Zichal will be in touch with Grau Logs and Lumber and Schech's Mill to arrange late-summer programs.

Metcalf proposed baking bread with stone-ground whole-wheat flour to offer as samples on July 27.

Other programs include: Beck portraying James Crosby; Harkrader ethnobotany hike on May 24; Katherine McCarville, Upper Iowa University, on geology, June 1.

2 – Board member recruitment

The board discussed several potential volunteers, who will be contacted to gauge their interest.

3 – Publicity

Photos of Motor in *The Iowan* and *Our Iowa* may generate additional visitors.

The board discussed a possible partnership with the Clayton County Development Group to have TV spots through ICAN. Pollock noted that Motor already is featured in a Turkey River Recreational Corridor ad on Mediacom. The board decided to delay further electronic ads until next year.

4 – Martin Gardner Architecture proposal for Inn restoration

Nikolai's application to Upper Mississippi Gaming for a grant to pay for an architect's study of Inn restoration was not successful. He's also made inquiries to the DAR about possible grants.

Pollock has applied for two grants to aid making the Inn into a retreat center. Pollock and others also met with Mike Tucker from Martin Gardner Architecture about the project. Martin Gardner agreed to do a phase 1 assessment of what could be done with the Inn for \$6,900.

Zichal moved to accept the Martin Gardner proposal. Metcalf seconded. Carried.

5 – Work projects

Nikolai reported that a crane would be needed to install the roof hatch. He has contacted Dan Gingrich about the project. When the crane is at Motor, Nikolai suggested also using it to lift a new beam to the fourth floor to replace a beam that has rotted.

Nikolai is waiting to hear back from Mark Kuempel, of Kuempel Masonry, who has agreed to rebuild the Cooperage chimney.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – Savanna signs

The board reviewed rough drafts of 5 proposed interpretive signs for the Grau Savanna. The total cost will be \$6,749. The first payment of \$2,375 is due when the contract is signed. Another payment of \$3,375 is due when we receive the proofs to review. The final \$999 is due when the signs are delivered. Zichal moved to approve the contract with Pulse Design, Inc. Lenth seconded. Carried.

2 – Mill and Cooperage cleanup

The board discussed what to do with old and new lumber that is stored on several floors of the Mill and in the Cooperage, and whether donated power saws and other equipment are of use to the Motor Mill Foundation. A subcommittee will inventory the items and make recommendations. Subcommittee members are: Beck, Metcalf, Schoen, Zichal, and Nikolai.

3 – Turkey River Recreational Corridor (TRRC)

deNeui has asked to be replaced as Motor's TRRC representative. Stone agreed to serve, and Metcalf and Nikolai volunteered to be alternates.

4 – Historical research

Beck has many photos of Motor Mill documents belonging to the Garnavillo Historical Society. He and Metcalf proposed getting the Society's permission to publicize this "treasure trove" of information, perhaps through programs or discussion at Motor and/or on the website.

UPDATES

Stone has been in touch with Mary Klink and Harry Robbins about historical equipment they've offered to donate to the Foundation.

Pollock will be meeting with trail user groups to consider a capital campaign to help pay for the Motor Mill trail.

Metcalf said that Art Show plans are going well. She has announced a photo contest on the Facebook page. One activity at the show will be sand art in jars, using Turkey River sand.

Chris Schoen and Tom Chandler have agreed to help with an “artifacts road show” to help people identify historical objects they bring to the art show.

Lenth noted that Henry Meder built a sawmill and gristmill on the Volga River in 1867. He platted the town of Mederville in 1868.

ADJOURNMENT

Stone moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m. Schoen seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary