

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

August 20, 2019

DRAFT

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, Aug. 20, 2019, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Chairman John Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Other members present were Ken Zichal, Lee Lenth, Larry Stone, Chuck Morine, and Jon deNeui. Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended.

AGENDA

Zichal asked to add an agenda item about holding a Clayton County Energy District light bulb swap at the Mill. Zichal moved to approve the agenda as amended. Lenth seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Lenth moved to approve the minutes of the July 30, 2019, meeting as distributed. Stone seconded. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Chuck Morine submitted the following financial report for July:

Date	Debit	Credit	Balance
July 30 – beginning balance			\$33,190.43
RECEIPTS			
Aug 4 – donations		40.00	
Aug 12 – merchandise sales		79.00	
Donations		55.00	
Aug 19 – merchandise sales		65.00	
Donations		108.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$347.00	

EXPENSES

Aug 9 – Decorah C of C, State Fair booth	250.00
Aug 12 – Dan Gingrich, crane service	495.00
Heritage Printing, 5000 brochures	863.33
Allam. Claytn. Elec.	43.15
Aug 17 - Alpine Communic.	16.92
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,668.40
Aug 20 - CURRENT BALANCE	\$31,869.03

Lenth moved to accept the financial report. Zichal seconded. Carried.

Zichal moved to reimburse Nikolai \$212.70 for a motel and \$17 for meals at the Iowa State Fair. Lenth seconded. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1 - State Fair booth – Nikolai reported that he, Gary Goyette, Bruce and Ellen Collins, Lee and Verna Lenth, and Larry and Margaret Stone staffed the joint Motor Mill Foundation and Clayton County Historical Society booth at the State Fair on Aug. 12. The volunteers spoke with hundreds of fair visitors and distributed literature. One person Nikolai met came to Motor the following weekend.

The board agreed that the contacts were worthwhile. It was suggested that visiting fairs in nearby counties might be even more useful, and less expensive.

2 – Martin Gardner Architecture Inn drawings – The board expressed disappointment that Martin Gardner has supplied only current status drawings, with no suggestions on how best to use the Inn.

The board's concurrence was that any proposed work should focus on making the first floor flood resistant and accessible to the public, while installing plumbing and electrical services that could be used in the future to refurbish the upper floors.

3 - Art Show – The board discussed volunteer duties for the Sept. 7 Art Show. Morine noted the need to schedule carefully to avoid conflicts with tours, showing of the video, and music by Mark Beck.

The board discussed parking and the need to have golf cart or UTV shuttles to transport people from the campground to the Mill. Lenth will contact Ken Leonard to see if he would carry people by mule-drawn wagon.

Zichal reported that the owner of Schech's Mill cannot come Sept 7, but that he will try to arrange for him to come Oct. 12 for Heritage Days.

The Conservation Board staff will arrange to have a portable toilet, with the Motor Mill Foundation paying the cost.

4 – Paul Keppler will be working on the boat ramp at Motor. Nikolai suggested getting an estimate from Keppler for building an access road to remove basement silt while he is at the site. Zichal moved to contact Keppler for an estimate on the project. Lenth seconded.

Stone voiced reservations about the safety of the project, given the unstable river bank. deNeui noted the need to preserve the abutment and any other remaining parts of the old dam upstream from the Mill.

The board approved asking Keppler for an access road proposal and quote. Stone abstained.

5 – Disposal of machinery in the Mill – Nikolai has contacted several schools to see if there is interest in the woodworking machinery in the Mill, but he so far has not had a positive response. He proposed selling unwanted items at auction. Lenth will contact Amish friends to see if they have an interest.

6 – Roof repair and hatch painting – deNeui has learned that the person who has done roof repairs in the past is no longer in business. He will attempt to locate other high-roof contractors. Lenth will ask Amish workers.

7 – Fourth floor beam – Nikolai has asked Alyswoth House Movers for a quote on when they can replace the old beam.

8 – Cooperage chimney repair – Nikolai is waiting for a commitment from Mark Keppler on when he can finish chimney repairs.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Motor Mill Trail Campaign – Pollock said the estimated cost of the Motor to Elkader trail has increased. It therefore will be necessary to have a capital campaign to raise another \$250,000 for the project. She requested, and received, the Foundation's support.
2. Zichal said the Clayton County Energy District is searching for venues where people can trade in old light bulbs for energy efficient LED bulbs at no cost. Lenth moved to set up a site at Motor Mill. Stone seconded. Carried.

UPDATES

Nikolai has been contacted by a UNI professor who has a student who could volunteer at Motor for 15 hours.

Pollock is applying to the Dubuque Racing Association for a \$250,000 grant for the Motor Mill trail.

ADJOURNMENT

Lenth moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. Lenth seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

Motor Mill Foundation