

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

Sept. 15, 2020

DRAFT

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, September 15, by way of a virtual ZOOM connection, which was deemed necessary because of concerns over spread of COVID-19 via an in-person meeting. President John Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Other members present via ZOOM were Chuck Morine, Lee Lenth, Mark Yackel-Juleen, Jane Metcalf, Larry Stone, and Ken Zichal. Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended.

AGENDA

Stone moved to approve the agenda, with the addition of a discussion item on a bridge lighting event. Zichal seconded. Carried

MINUTES

Zichal moved to approve the minutes of the August 18 meeting as distributed. Yackel-Juleen seconded. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Morine presented the following treasurer's report:

Aug. 18 Beginning balance 30,788.18

Receipts

| | | |
|---------|----------------------------|----------|
| Aug. 24 | bird house sale | 11.00 |
| | donations | 135.00 |
| Aug. 24 | C.C.C.B. concert donations | 1,880.00 |
| Aug. 31 | merchandise sales | 25.00 |
| | Birdhouse sales | 20.00 |
| | donations | 89.00 |
| Sep. 08 | donations | 45.00 |
| Sep. 14 | merchandise sales | 68.00 |
| | birdhouse sales | 37.00 |
| | donations | 81.00 |

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| Sep. 14 | C.C.C.B. concert donations [Eventbrite] | 103.26 |
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|-----------------------|--|----------|
| Total Receipts | | 2,494.26 |
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Expenses

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| Aug. 19 | reimburse CCCB, fans & tanks, Farm Fleet | 659.96 |
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| Aug. 28 | Grau Logs & Lumber, joists | 972.00 |
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| Sep. 09 | John Nikolai, T nails | 21.39 |
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| Sep. 14 | Allamakee Clayton Electric | 55.27 |
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|-----------------------|--|----------|
| Total Expenses | | 1,708.62 |
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|------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Current Balance | - Sept. 15, 2020 | 31,573.82 |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------|

Yackel-Juleen moved to accept the treasurer's report. Metcalf seconded. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1 – UPDATE ON ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION – Wessels Electric has finished their work at the Mill. Pollock said the Conservation Board has received an invoice for \$8423 for one-half of the project.

It is not possible to bring the phone line in the same conduit as the electrical wires. Nikolai has met with Alpine and arranged to have the phone line buried, then brought through the road-side window at the downstream side of the building.

Nikolai will attempt to schedule a meeting at the Mill with Alan Wessels at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 22, to explain the lighting set-up to as many board members who can attend as possible.

2 – LIGHTING ISSUES - The board discussed the pros and cons of the security lights that have been installed on the outside of the Mill. Do they detract from the historical appearance? Will they improve security? Would the cost of the electricity be worthwhile?

3 – SILT REMOVAL UPDATE – Chris Schoen is researching how to best preserve the turbines that were removed from the Mill.

Lenth and others are building a viewing platform to allow visitors access to the Mill basement. As was discussed in August, the board agreed that we should have an interpretive panel to explain how the turbines operated. There also needs to be a way to light the platform from above, without having wiring that is vulnerable to flooding.

4 – HOW TO KEEP SILT OUT OF BASEMENT - Mike Tucker, of Martin-Gardner Architecture, met at Motor with Nikolai, Stone, and Chris Schoen on August 17 to discuss ways to keep silt out of the basement. Tucker subsequently proposed meeting again with an engineer, who might propose specific recommendations, at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.

The board declined to meet again with Martin-Gardner, preferring instead to consider proposals by Jon deNeui and others.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – PLATFORM CONSTRUCTION – (See #2 old business.) The floor of the platform is nearly complete. Lenth is working on the steps.

2 – PHOTO CONTEST – Following inquiries from the public, Harkrader, Metcalf, and Stone met to discuss the idea of an online photo contest. They proposed starting it as soon as publicity can be distributed, and continuing it until a January 4 deadline. Photos must be recognizable as taken at the Motor Mill Historic Site. The entry fee would be \$5 per photo, with a maximum of 3 entries per person. The first prize would be an 8x10 canvas of the winning image. Runner-up would receive a 5x7 canvas. Participants would give permission for the Motor Mill Foundation and/or County Conservation Board to use the photos.

Yackel-Juleen moved to proceed with the contest. Zichal seconded. Carried.

UPDATES

The board discussed whether and how to hold a bridge lighting ceremony on November 21. The consensus was to plan to have an event, incorporating social distancing guidelines. Lenth will try to coordinate with the Littleport Fire Department annual fundraiser, which often has been held on the same day. Details will be worked out at future meetings.

Nikolai is still trying to get information from NOAA about historic Turkey River elevation.

ADJOURNMENT

Lenth moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. Yackel-Juleen seconded. Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

Motor Mill Foundation