

Motor Mill Foundation  
Minutes  
February 19, 2013

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held at the Osborne Conservation Center on Tuesday, February 19, 2013. Chairman John Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Other board members present were Jon deNeui, Ellen Collins, Chuck Morine, Lee Lenth, and Larry Stone. Clayton County Conservation Board director Tim Engelhardt and naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended.

**MINUTES**

Nikolai accepted the January 15 minutes as printed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Chuck Morine submitted the following report:

*Motor Mill Foundation*

Jan. 15, 2013 - beginning balance	\$6,837.43
Receipts	
Note cards	\$10
Moss print	\$225
Photos	\$65
TOTAL	300.00
Expenses	
Nikolai – name plates	\$17.63
Allamakee-Clayton Elec	\$33.25
TOTAL	50.88
February 19, 2013 balance	\$7,086.55
<b>CONSERVATION RESERVE FUND</b>	
Jan. 16, 2013 (negative) balance	(\$24,351.34)
Deposits – none	
Expenses	
Minnowa Construction	\$46,593.25
February 19, 2013 (negative) balance	(\$70,944.59)

### *CAPITAL FUND*

January 16, 2013 balance carried forward \$0.04

#### Deposits:

Gamble \$100

Stassen \$100

Boehm \$75

Patrick \$25

Becker \$200

Retz \$500

Miller \$120

TOTAL DEPOSITS \$1,120

February 19, 2013 balance forward \$1,120.04

### **MOTOR MILL BRIDGE**

The final payment was made to Minnowa in February. Engelhardt is working with FEMA and with REAP on the final paperwork. FEMA is requiring a bronze plaque on the bridge with the name of the contractor and other information. FEMA will pay about \$2,654 in administrative costs, but they need extensive documentation.

### **MOTOR MILL TRAIL**

No new report.

### **STORIES IN STONE CAPITAL FUND CAMPAIGN**

Donations continue to come in slowly. The campaign had raised \$31,795.04 as of February 19.

Nikolai expects additional payments from at least two donors who split their donation into two years.

### **MOTOR MILL BRIDGE GRAND OPENING AND CELEBRATION**

Engelhardt has applied to the Clayton County Foundation for the Future for a \$1,000 grant to help pay for promotional advertising and materials for the May 4 bridge dedication. A committee is planning a list of V.I.P.s to invite and activities to include. The committee will meet again Feb. 21 and March 14

### **PROMOTING MOTOR MILL**

Nikolai will speak before the Clayton County Genealogical Society on Feb. 26.

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Nikolai has contacted Betty Landis about volunteering as tour guide.

Collins said that Sue Johnson has agreed to help with tours.

Nikolai asked board members to continue to search for people who might serve on the foundation board and/or as volunteer workers.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **REVIEW LONG RANGE VISION PLAN**

The board discussed and revised a number of items on the Vision Plan. Some changes to the immediate needs included: installation of signs for the new bridge; continuing oral history interviews; clarify land ownership south of the river; and better security.

The water trail has been completed, so that was removed from intermediate needs.

Long-term needs should include more demonstrations and hands-on educational activities, the board agreed.

### **DEVELOP A BUSINESS PLAN**

Nikolai has begun work on a business plan. deNeui also has been working with Darla Kelchen to gather information for a business plan. They hope to have a plan completed before the May 4 bridge dedication.

### **IOWA TRAVEL GUIDE**

The board discussed ways to capitalize on the selection of Jessica Rilling's photo of Motor Mill as the cover of the Iowa Travel Guide. Stone agreed to contact Rilling to request permission to use the photo. (Note: Permission has been granted.)

Nikolai suggested imprinting the image on T-shirts to be used by tour guides at the Mill. Collins also will check on ways to get a large banner or poster of the Travel Guide image for use on a float in parades, at the Mill, or other displays.

### **GOLDEN SILOS AWARD LUNCHEON**

Foundation members have been invited to attend the Silos and Smokestacks award luncheon on April 3 in Waterloo. Nikolai, Collins, deNeui, Engelhardt, Harkrader, and Stone will plan to attend. Others also are welcome.

Visitors to the Silos and Smokestacks website can vote on the People's Choice award between March 18 and April 2. Members were urged to help spread the word to potential voters.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The board discussed ideas for a new promotion for parades and other public events. It was agreed that the Iowa Travel Guide image would be an ideal focal point.

## **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **TURKEY RIVER RECREATIONAL CORRIDOR**

Collins gave the following report:

Clermont – no report

Elgin – Main Street is finalizing a design, with bids to be let by April 15.

Elkader – Discussions continue with Iowa Great Places about the trail location in the city.

Clayton & Fayette County Supervisors – no report

Clayton County Conservation – The final payment has been made for the Motor Mill bridge. The bridge dedication/celebration is May 4.

Safari – Clayton and Fayette Counties each will again host a “Safari” for young people to visit 10 scenic/historic sites during the summer. Maps will be available in libraries. Clayton County sites are: Motor, Elkport, Elkader trail head, Ten-Mile Bridge, the Courthouse, Pony Hollow Trail, Osborne Pond, Founders Park butterfly garden, Table Rock, and the Garber canoe landing.

## **FACILITIES**

No new report.

## **GROUNDNS**

Engelhardt noted that Marlys Svendsen is updating the National Register of Historic Places information, which special emphasis on the school.

The board briefly discussed the need for repairs to the stone wall behind the Inn.

The Foundation has received the donation of a wooden millstone crane that supposedly came from Motor Mill. Little else is known about the item.

The IOWAN magazine is offering special advertising rates for a tourism issue. Collins agreed to look into the details.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Nikolai suggested that we redo and update the notebooks of photos and other reference materials we have on display at the Mill and public events.

## **EDUCATION**

Collins suggested we prepare a notebook of photos chronicling the bridge construction. Stone will select a set of his photos for possible use in the book.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19, at Osborne.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Nikolai adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry A. Stone, secretary