

Motor Mill Foundation  
Minutes  
July 16, 2013

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held at the Osborne Conservation Center on Tuesday, July 16, 2013. Chairman John Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Other board members present were Lee Lenth, Tom Gifford, Ellen Collins, Chuck Morine, and Larry Stone. Clayton County Conservation Board director Tim Engelhardt and naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended. Betty Buchholz arrived about 8 p.m.

**MINUTES**

Hearing no additions or corrections, Nikolai accepted the minutes of the June 18 meeting as printed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Chuck Morine submitted the following report:

*Motor Mill Foundation*

June 18, 2013 - beginning balance \$6,306.90

Receipts

June 21	photo sales	\$80
June 24	merchandise	\$31.50
	donations	\$98
July 1	donations	\$20
July 8	donations	\$197

Total receipts \$426.50

Expenses

July 1	Clayton Co Register, thank you	\$33.60
July 15	Allam Clayton Elec	\$36.66

Total expenses \$70.26

July 16, 2013 balance \$6,663.14

*CONSERVATION RESERVE FUND*

June 18, 2013 (negative) balance	(\$70,166.66)
Deposits	
lowa Room – hoodie, t-shirt	\$43.50
lowa Room – t-shirts	\$30
lowa Room – cap	\$12
Expenses – Heritage Printing, brochures	\$334.94
July 18, 2013 (negative) balance	(\$70,416.10)

*CAPITAL FUND*

July 16, 2013 balance carried forward	\$8,048.30
Deposits	
Jeff & Sue Meyer – IMO Gina Meyer	\$10
Neil Meyer – IMO Gina Meyer	\$90
Total deposits	\$100
July 16, 2013 balance forward	\$8,148.30

Morine reported that he has filed the state gambling license report required for the permit for the First Across the Bridge raffle

**MOTOR MILL BRIDGE**

Engelhardt and deNeui have discussed a 3-year plan for the foundation to repay the County Conservation Board for the bridge construction. Engelhardt said the next step is to prepare a list of projects and a tentative budget.

**MOTOR MILL TRAIL**

Nothing new to report.

**STORIES IN STONE CAPITAL FUND CAMPAIGN**

Funds still continue to come in slowly. We still need approximately \$70,000. Gifford noted that fund raising for the Elkader whitewater course required meeting one-on-one with donors to ask for money.

**PROMOTING MOTOR MILL**

Nikolai said there have been no recent requests for programs, probably due to the summer season.

The display at Citizens State Bank in Strawberry Point will continue through July.

## **BOARD MEMBERS & TOUR GUIDES**

Nikolai urged board members to continue to look for more volunteers.

## **BUSINESS PLAN**

Engelhardt is preparing a critique of the business plan drafted by Nikolai.

Nikolai suggested that the foundation will need to get substantial funding from agricultural corporations, such as Cargill, Pillsbury, and others.

Collins pointed out the need to improve our inside interpretive programs, in addition to the current focus on the physical facilities.

Nikolai proposed including the interpretive plan on the agenda for the August 20 board meeting. He will invite Dave Metz, from the Pine Creek Mill, to come to participate in the discussion.

## **MOTOR MILL MEMORIES**

Joleen Jansen made three copies of the video from the Motor Mill Memories session on June 11. The DVDs will be circulated for board members to review.

## **ART/HISTORY ON WEBSITE**

Stone reported that Joleen Jansen will place photos on the website when the board decides how they should be displayed. Nikolai moved on behalf of deNeui to use Facebook, press releases, and the website to solicit photos to tell "stories in stone" on the website. Lenth seconded. Carried

## **SUMMER PARADES AND CLAYTON COUNTY FAIR**

The foundation will have the usual float in the Elkader Sweet Corn Days parade on Saturday, July 20.

We will have a booth at the Clayton County Fair July 31-August 4. We will continue the "Stories in Stone" theme. In addition to our brochures, the booth will include the banner with the Travel Guide photo, and copies of the Travel Guide and Turkey River Water Trail maps.

## **DAVE METZ**

Nikolai will invite Dave Metz from the Pine Creek Mill to come in August to pick up a grinder that we salvaged from Potter's Mill at Bellevue. We hope the trip could involve a session with Dave on interpretation plans at Motor.

## **MERCHANDISE**

After a mouse damaged two caps, a t-shirt, and a hoodie in the display case at Motor, Morine has made repairs to plug the holes in the case. Board members bought the damaged items at discount prices.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Collins reported on her trip to Pickwick Mill in southeastern Minnesota. She noted that the mill machinery will be operating September 14-15. The board discussed a field trip to the site, and to Dell's Mill, near Augusta, Wis., on that weekend.

Lenth reported that Menno Borntreger, who built windows for the Mill and Cooperage, lost his home and other buildings in a recent fire. The board members signed a sympathy card to send to him.

## **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **TURKEY RIVER RECREATIONAL CORRIDOR**

Engelhardt reported that the "Paddle-Pedal-Putt" biking, canoeing, golfing triathlon was postponed because of high water. It has been rescheduled for August 4.

There is a golf tournament at the Elkader and Valley courses on Sept. 28-29.

TRRC will receive the Volunteer of the Year award from the Clayton County Development Group.

The "Safari" program to promote sites in the Turkey River Corridor has been going very well. It will continue through Labor Day. Information packets are still available at libraries.

### **GROUND**

The Motor Mill sign designed and donated by Mark Collins should be installed at Hazel and Galaxy Roads on July 18.

Morine suggested a reminder to county officials about the need for a "No Semis" sign on Galaxy Road at Communia.

### **EDUCATION**

Buchholz has made copies of a number of documents from the Garnavillo Museum that are related to Motor Mill.

Betty (Klink) Johnson has donated a number of items to the foundation, including the original, framed certificate from the National Register of Historic Places.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, August 20, at Osborne.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Nikolai adjourned the meeting about 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry A. Stone, secretary