

## MOTOR MILL FOUNDATION

### Minutes

January 20, 2015

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held at the Osborne Conservation Center on Tuesday, January 20. Chairman John Nikolai called the meeting to order about 7:15 p.m. Other board members present were Chuck Morine, Larry Stone, Lee Lenth, and Steve Mayne. Clayton County Conservation Board naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended.

### MINUTES

Morine moved to approve the minutes of the December 16 meeting as printed and distributed. Lenth seconded. Carried.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Morine submitted the following monthly report:

Dec. 16 beginning balance	\$9,587.21
Receipts – donations, credit from uncashed check	\$21.97
Dec. 31 closing balance	\$9,609.18
Expenses – Allam-Clayton Elec	\$40.60
January 20 balance	\$9,569.12

### CONSERVATION RESERVE

Dec. 16, 2014 balance brought forward (negative)	(\$47,912.52)
Deposits - Menken in honor of Don Menken, \$100; Iowa Room, \$34.99; Hunt, \$50	\$184.99
Dec. 31, 2014 balance carried forward (negative)	(\$47,727.53)
Jan. 1, 2015 balance brought forward	(\$47,727.53)
Receipts – Stone, \$472; Iowa Room, \$100	\$572
Expenses – print brochure	\$334.94
Jan. 20, 2015 balance carried forward	(\$47,490.47)

Morine also suggested that he be listed as the “agent” on the Foundation’s nonprofit registry with the Iowa Secretary of State, replacing Tim Engelhardt. Lenth moved to authorize that change. Stone seconded. Carried.

The board also concurred with Nikolai’s recommendation that the new director of the Clayton County Conservation Board, when he/she is hired, be authorized to sign checks on the MMF account, replacing Engelhardt.

#### MOTOR MILL TRAIL

Stone reported that the Conservation Board has not yet received a response from the Iowa Department of Transportation regarding the proposal to route the trail along Grandview, the Reimer property, and the south unit of Motor Mill.

#### STORIES IN STONE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Nikolai suggested contacting Century Farm owners in Clayton County to ask if they would contribute to a Clayton County Foundation for the Future endowment for the Motor Mill Foundation. None of these people responded to our request for donations to the capital campaign, but Nikolai said they might be more willing to contribute to an endowment.

After some discussion, the board did not pursue the idea. Members agreed that the first priority needs to be repaying the County Conservation Board for the bridge, rather than building an endowment.

Mayne said the Dubuque Racing and Gaming Commission would be a potential source for future grants.

#### PROMOTE MOTOR MILL – PRESENTATIONS

Nikolai is waiting to schedule a program at the Driftless Area Wetlands Centre until Stone has prepared a summary of 2014 foundation activities.

#### BOARD MEMBERS

We still need more members and volunteers.

#### ROOF REPAIR

The roof repair has not yet started. It may not happen until spring.

#### VISIONING REVIEW & UPDATE

The board agreed to postpone the visioning discussion until the February meeting.

## OLD BUSINESS

Roger Buchholz has completed work on the bookcase, and it is now on the third floor of the visitor center.

There has been no more action on putting artwork or photos on the website.

The Conservation Board staff has periodically made postings on the Motor Mill Facebook site.

## NEW BUSINESS

Silos and Smokestacks grant – Silos and Smokestacks is again offering a grant for summer interns. The intern could be paid up to \$3,000, with a 30% match, up to \$900, from the recipient. The board questioned whether we would be eligible, since we received a grant in 2014. (Harkrader later communicated with Silos staff, who encouraged the Foundation to apply. Stone and Harkrader agreed to explore ideas and possibly prepare a grant application.) The board discussed how we might raise the \$900 match, but took no further action.

STEM grant - Mayne noted that there is a new State of Iowa work-study grant for science, technology, engineering, and math. He agreed to investigate and report back to the board.

Architectural students – Nikolai has been in touch with Paula Mohr, architectural historian with the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office, who is trying to arrange for students from the University of Wisconsin-Madison to visit Motor Mill. It is hoped that this could lead to more use of Motor by architectural students.

Wedding policy – Lenth reported that Bernie Kuhse has planned his wedding to be held at Motor on Sept. 26, 2015. The board noted the significance of such events bringing more people to Motor – but agreed that there probably should be some policy guidelines through the Clayton County Conservation Board.

## SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no subcommittee reports.

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is February 17 at 7 p.m. at the Osborne Conservation Center.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned about 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary