

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

July 21, 2020

DRAFT

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, July 21, by way of a virtual ZOOM connection. The electronic meeting 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 7:00 p.m. Other members present online or by phone were Ken Zichal, Chris Schoen, Chuck Morine, Mark Yackel-Juleen, Jane Metcalf, and Larry Stone. Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and naturalist Abbey Harkrader and also attended via ZOOM.

AGENDA

Stone moved to approve the agenda as posted. Zichal seconded. Carried

MINUTES

Zichal moved to approve the minutes of the June 16 meeting as distributed. Schoen seconded. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Morine sent the following treasurer's report to board members prior to the meeting:

Date

Balance

Jun. 16 Beginning Balance 32,044.60

Receipts

Jul. 09	donation: Kent & Nancy Streeper	100.00
Jul. 13	Merchandise sales	11.00
	bird house sales	20.00
	donations	49.00
Jul. 18	donations	22.00

Total Receipts 202.00

Expenses

Jun. 18	Raymond Nesely, roof repair	250.00
Jul. 02	John Nikolai, advertising	30.40
Jul. 07	cash for change	50.00
Jul. 14	Alla. Clayton Electric	43.19
Jul. 14	Alpine Communications	17.05
Jul. 16	C.C.C. : reimburse architect fees	1,200.00
Jul. 17	Esser's Clothing: merchandise	256.25
	Total Expenses	1,846.89

Current Balance - July 21, 2020

30,399.71

CLAIMS

John Nikolai bought two ventilation fans for the mill silt removal project and charged them to the Clayton County Conservation Board at Norby's.

Stone moved to pay the \$50 renewal fee for the Society for the Preservation of Old Mills (SPOOM.) Zichal seconded. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1 –ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION -- Nikolai received three bids for installing electrical power in the Mill: Gregorson Electric, \$20,869; Wessel Electric, \$16,846; and Electri-Tek, \$33,920. Nikolai, Stone, and Lenth met with Alan Wessel, and recommended that he be awarded the contract. Stone moved to accept the Wessel Electric bid. Zichal seconded. Carried. Nikolai said Wessel plans to start work soon.

2 – SILT REMOVAL – Nikolai reported that Moyna employees Andy Koehn and Bryan Willson have been working since July 14. Schoen praised the skill and patience of the crew, and the generosity of John Moyna to donate the men's time, 3 pieces of equipment, and several loads of rock and rip-rap.

Schoen estimated that the project is more than half done. (Note: Koehn anticipates finishing the work and clean-up on July 27.) Schoen said two wooden turbines have been found and removed. (Note: workers subsequently located two more turbines. One was left in place, while only the shaft of the seconded could be salvaged.) Schoen is researching ways to preserve the turbines, which may deteriorate rapidly after being removed from protecting water and mud.

Schoen said the project has been moving at a deliberate pace to allow him to do soil profiles and document and artifacts that are uncovered. This type of due diligence is required by the State Historic Preservation Office. (SHPO)

The board praised John Moyna for his contribution and ability to make the project possible. Board members agreed that there should be publicity about the work, but that it needs to wait until the building and site can be secured again.

3- MOVING MOTOR MILL SCALE – Nikolai said volunteers hope to move the original Motor Mill scale from the George Maier Museum to the Mill on July 28.

4 – DRILLING FOR ELECTRICAL ACCESS – Iowa Wall Sawing of Independence is scheduled to come July 22 to drill through the Mill's second floor wall to allow installation of electrical power.

5- OTHER PROJECTS – Nikolai said the Carter House Museum will take iron jail cell bars that are now stored in the stable.

The board also discussed what to do with two bobsleds in the stable, but reached no conclusion.

Pollock reminded the group of a "barn dance" scheduled for outside the stable on August 22. The band is "Feed the Dog."

Pollock said a consulting engineering report from Hooting Coyote LLC recommended major repairs to the roof framing and roof of the stable, among other things. She will be looking for grants to help with that project. Swales has proposed grinding down parts of the floor and filling in other parts to make it flat.

6 – SUMMER TOURS AND EVENTS – Harkrader said the Mill would be open for tours from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturdays only from July 11 through Sept. 5. There also will be tours on Sept. 26 and Oct. 10.

A Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) camp for 6- to 12-year-olds is scheduled for July 30 at Motor.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – NICK FRIEDMANN, INTERN – Harkrader reported that Nick Friedmann has been a good worker. Schoen noted that he's been quite helpful with the silt project.

UPDATES

Nikolai sent a get-well card/letter to Joleen Jansen on behalf of the board. He also has written to NOAA seeking a source for historic river level information.

ADJOURNMENT

Zichal moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Schoen seconded. Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

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