

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

(DRAFT)

June 15, 2021

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, June 15, 2021, at the Osborne Conservation Center, with the option of a virtual ZOOM connection, which was deemed necessary because of concerns over spread of COVID-19. Chuck Morine was present online. Those at Osborne were: John Nikolai, Larry Stone, Lee Lenth, Kern Zichal, Chris Schoen, Mark Yackel-Juleen, and Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock. Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

**AGENDA**

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

**MINUTES**

Stone moved to approve the May 18, 2021, minutes, noting the correction that the treasurer's report should show a current balance of \$19,854.25. Lenth seconded. Carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Morine submitted the following treasurer's report:

May. 17	Beginning balance	19,854.25
	Receipts	
May 24	donation, Amazon	5.00
June 1	merchandise sales	119.00
	donations	217.00
June 5	donations	17.00
June 11	donation, Blackbaud	30.00

June 14	merchandise sales	87.00
	Stone print	40.00
	bird house	10.00
	donations	55.00
	Total Receipts	580.00
	Expenses	
May. 20	John Nikolai, Maryland trip expense	1,068.49
May. 24	cash for change	50.00
May. 27	Esser's Clothing, merchandise	200.09
Jun. 10	Allamakee Clayton Electric	46.13
	Total Expenses	1,364.32
June 15	Current Balance	19,069.54

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

## OLD BUSINESS

1 – CENTRAL STUDENT EARTH DAY VOLUNTEERS – About 28 Central School students and two teachers volunteered to help clean the Mill and to pick up brush from the south side prairie restoration on May 24. Stone sent an email thank-you. Nikolai will follow up with a thank you letter.

2 – ELECTRICIAN WORK – Stone met with Alan Wessels's crew on May 21, after discovering that several of the electrical outlets were not powered. The electricians checked and repaired the outlets, and installed a ground rod that was part of the original project. There was no charge for the updates.

3 – CONDUIT AND SHOP LIGHTS – The board discussed how much of the new conduit needs to be painted, and when to do that. The group also discussed how and where to mount the lights to provide the most illumination without being too conspicuous. Volunteers will experiment with placement at upcoming work days.

4 – SECURITY SYSTEM – Based on guidance from the board at previous meetings, Pollock has not pursued getting a security system installed.

5 – REPORT ON TURBINE PRESERVATION – Schoen reported that the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory is continuing the controlled drying of our two wooden turbines. They will begin dismantling the turbines next month. Conservation Board staff found another small piece of turbine wood at Motor. Schoen will ship it to Maryland.

6 – STABLE PROJECT – Stone will meet June 16 with Josh Everett, the concrete contractor, and Dale Kittleson, who will do the post and beam work. It is hoped their part of the project can be completed this summer.

7 – INN PROJECT – Pollock outlined plans for how we expect to pay for remodeling the Inn, which is estimated to cost about \$450,000. We have secured a \$125,000 Rural Heritage Revitalization, and Clayton County Conservation has pledged \$26,000. Pollock hopes for other grants from Upper Mississippi Gaming, SPOOM, the Foundation for Cornerstone Communities, and Clayton County Foundation for the Future. That still could leave about \$165,000 to be raised in a fund drive. Pollock proposed holding a community open house this summer to explain the plans to the public and kick off the fund drive.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1 – SEWAGE SYSTEM AND WELL FOR THE INN – Nikolai has been in touch with Bob Groth about what might be required to install a new leach fields for the Inn. He also has tried without success to get more history on the existing well. Pollock said it's possible that federal Covid relief money might be used for sewer and water.

2 – VOLUNTEER WORK DAYS – Nikolai suggested beginning regular work days at Motor from 8:30-noon on Tuesdays. He distributed a list of possible projects, including: paint conduit, install lights, install stoves, sort lumber, move dam beam, build gate for arches, divert water from roof away from basement, repair Mill joists, bins for second floor, replace roadside basement posts, window washing system, electronic interpretive displays, build furniture for millstone. (Lenth asked if anyone has access to wainscoting that could be used for the furniture.)

3 – ELECTRONIC INTERPRETATION – Pollock has been in touch with Silos and Smokestacks about a grant to help pay for interpretive displays. She's also contacted NE Iowa RC&D about helping design those displays. The board emphasized the need for using audio/video interpretation. Lenth moved that the Foundation implement more electronic interpretation. Zichal seconded. Carried.

## **REPORTS**

1 – TRRC – Stone attended the June 1 TRRC meeting, but neglected to give a report. One item of interest is the installation of electronic counters on the new Motor Mill Trail near highway 13 and near Galaxy Road.

2 – VISIT OTHER MILLS? – The board discussed possible field trips to visit Schech's Mill and Pickwick Mill, in Minnesota. Zichal will investigate.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Zichal moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. Lenth seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

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