

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

(DRAFT)

October 19, 2021

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, October 19, 2021, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: John Nikolai, Larry Stone, Dan Slagel, Lee Lenth, Chris Schoen, David Beck, Jane Metcalf, Mark Yackel-Juleen, and Ken Zichal. Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended. Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Stone moved to add items on what to do with wooden pulleys donated by Gary Willie, and how to use Wendell Mohr art prints donated by Paula Mohr. Yackel-Juleen seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Stone moved to approve the September 21, 2021, minutes as distributed. Zichal seconded. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Morine sent the following treasurer's report:

Sept. 21	Beginning balance	23,624.20
	Receipts	
Sept. 29	merchandise sales	43.00
	donations	157.00
	Estate of Milton Johnson	600.00
	Balackbaud	20.00
	Kherin Chinn	25.00

Oct. 12	mail order cap	25.00
	donation: sports car group	115.00
	merchandise sales	470.00
	donations	170.00
	Vance Knutson	50.00
	return of change	50.00

Total Receipts		1,725.00
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Expenses

Sept. 21	Larry Stone; light fixtures	459.21
Sept. 27	Esser's; merchandise	111.28
Oct. 11	Allamakee Clayton Electric	48.07
Oct. 16	Alpine Communications	17.22

Total Expenses		635.78
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Oct. 18 - Current balance		24,713.42
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Claims

John Nikolai: thank you letters postage \$12.68

thinNK Custom Apparel: banner modification \$35

Chris Schoen moved to approve the treasurer's report and Lee Lenth seconded. The vote carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1 – HERITAGE DAYS – Heritage Days weekend was a success. There were about 96 visitors to the Mill Saturday and 50 on Sunday. Merchandise sales were \$470 and donations were \$170.

Pollock said 2021 was the 46th annual Heritage Days. She'd like to plan a big event for the 50th in 2025, and would welcome any MMF members who'd like to serve on a committee.

2 – STABLE PROGRESS – Stone reported that Josh Everitt hopes to pour the concrete floor the week of Oct. 25. Dale Kittleson will finish installing posts and beams after the concrete work is completed.

Pollock said it's uncertain whether the Amish crew who bid on the roof work will be able to do that work before winter.

3 - VOLUNTEER PROJECTS – Volunteers have completed conduit painting, light installation, and stove installation. Work continues to dispose of unneeded lumber. Lenth is considering how to build grain and flour bins on the second floor.

Nikolai will talk to Jon deNeui's son about the fate of deNeui's drill press, table saw, tool chest, and other equipment in the Mill.

Nikolai will inquire to determine if the George Meier Rural Heritage Museum would be interested in displaying the wooden pulleys.

The board also discussed how to preserve and use the old beam from the dam.

Metcalf agreed to contact Tom Healey, who may know someone who could repurpose old posts and beams from the Mill and Stable.

4 - TURBINES - Chris Schoen had nothing new to report on the turbine restoration.

5 – DATE NIGHT – Date night at the Inn on Sept. 30 was a big hit with the public – 29 people attended– but not necessarily a big money raiser, given the cost of staff time and food. The next date night, Wood Fired and Flannels, is at 5 p.m. on November 4. The cost is \$100 per couple. Pollock said it would be made clear that this is a fundraiser, with proceeds going to renovate the Inn.

6 – DONATIONS AND GRANTS – We have received a \$1000 grant from Clayton County Foundation for the Future for work on the Stable, and a \$125,000 grant from Upper Mississippi Gaming toward restoration of the Inn.

Several members will be attending a UMGC awards ceremony on October 25.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – ELECTION OF OFFICERS – Zichal moved and Slagel seconded that Lenth, Stone, and Morine be reelected to the MMF board for three-year terms. Carried.

Lenth moved that Zichal be elected vice-president, given Metcalf's many family commitments. Carried.

Schoen moved and Zichal seconded that the other officers – Nikolai, president, Stone, secretary, and Morine, treasurer – remain the same. Carried.

REPORTS

1 - TRRC – Stone attended a Turkey River Recreational Corridor meeting on October 5. He reported that the TRRC board welcomed Gear Elkader as a potential new partner – but took no action on the GEAR proposal asking for \$100 per month to help sponsor a riverfront webcam in Elkader.

The TRRC board also expressed frustration with the lack of direction provided by MSA, which was supposed to propose the best alignment for a trail between Elgin and Elkader.

UPDATES

WENDELL MOHR ART – The board discussed how to use artist's proof prints of a Motor Mill silkscreen image created by the late Wendell Mohr. His daughter, Paula Mohr, has donated 16 proofs to the Motor Mill Foundation. The board proposed offering a print as an incentive to donors who give at least a minimum amount – perhaps \$1000 or \$1500?

After considerable debate, the board agreed to delay a decision until members can see the prints first-hand.

BRIDGE LIGHTING – The annual holiday lights on the bridge will be turned on at 5 p.m. on Saturday, November 20. Plans are being discussed to offer cookies and warm drinks to participants.

Volunteers will install the lights on Tuesday, November 16, unless weather conditions suggest an earlier time is better.

ART DONATIONS - Lenth met family members of artist Helen Kleinhoff, who has painted several pictures of Motor. The family may donate some of the paintings.

ADJOURNMENT

Slagel moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Metcalf seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

Motor Mill Foundation