

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

(DRAFT)

December 16, 2021

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, December 21, 2021, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: John Nikolai, Larry Stone, Dan Slagel, Chuck Morine, Chris Schoen, and Ken Zichal. Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended. Jared Nielsen of Northeast Iowa RC&D was a guest. Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Stone moved to approve the agenda as printed. Morine seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Morine moved to approve the minutes of the November 16 meeting as distributed. Schoen seconded. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Nov. 16	Beginning Balance	30,372.92
	Receipts	
Nov. 16	merchandise sales	25.00
Nov. 22	merchandise sales	126.00
	bird house sales	20.00
	donations	232.00
	return of change	65.00
Dec. 15	donation: Dr. Ken Zichal	5,000.00
	Scot & Jane Christiansen	2,500.00
	Caryl Rammelsberg	500.00
	Blackbaud 20 & 30	50.00

Dec. 20 donations: Darrell Schaper	100.00
Hutha Sayre	500.00
Melanie Menken in honor of Don Menken	150.00
Dennis Lautner	60.00
Blackbaud	20.00
CCCB: PayPal	193,73
 Total Receipts	 9,541.73

Expenses

Nov. 18 Rivals; 12 mugs	173.72
Nov. 19 cash for change	65.00
Dec. 10 Alla. Clayton Electric	48.18
Dec, 12 Alpine	17.22
 Total Expenses	 304.12

Current balance 39,610.53

Zichal moved to accept the treasurer's report. Slagel seconded. Carried.

CLAIMS

Morine received a bill from Jansen Products for \$204 for web hosting for the year. Stone moved to approve paying the bill. Schoen seconded. Carried

OLD BUSINESS

1 – ARCHITECT’S PLANS FOR THE INN – Pollock reported that Gardner Architecture has been delayed in completing the plans because the plumbing/heating engineer has cancelled his contract. But Mike Tucker, of Gardner, still hopes to finish the plans in January. Then the plans will go the National Park Service and the State Historic Preservation Office for review, which may take 60 days. Pollock hopes to seek bids for the Inn project in April.

2 – BASEMENT POST REPLACEMENT – Nikolai has ordered four 8’ by 12” by 12” posts from Grau Logs and Lumber. He also has ordered four reinforced concrete pads as bases from Swales.

Nikolai and Lee Lenth met with Ron Aylsworth, who confirmed that the post replacement is feasible. The project will proceed when Grau has the posts and Aylsworth has the time.

3 – TURBINE PRESERVATION – Schoen had now new report on preservation of the wooden turbines.

4 – OTHER WOODEN TURBINES? – A friend of Nikolai’s reported seeing wooden turbines in the Finger Lakes region of New York. Nikolai is seeking more information.

5 – DONATION AMOUNT FOR WENDELL MOHR PRINTS – Stone raised the question of whether the \$2,500 minimum to be eligible for a donor to receive a Wendell Mohr print is too high. After some discussion, Morine moved to leave the figure at \$2,500 for a one-time donation, as was approved at the November 16 meeting. Zichal seconded. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – TRRC REPRESENTATIVE – Nikolai appointed Schoen and Slagel as TRRC representatives. They will determine who is regular and who is alternate.

2 – MASTER INTERPRETIVE PLAN – Pollock explained that we have received a \$10,000 grant from Silos and Smokestacks to work on a Master Interpretive Plan. We need to match it with \$25,000 in cash and \$15,000 in-kind contributions. The cash portion will go to Northeast Iowa RC&D for preparing the plan. The timeline requires one meeting this year, with continuing meetings and drafts until a report is submitted to S&S in November 2022.

Jared Nielsen of NEIRCD said he would use some existing master plans for the River Bluffs Scenic Byway as well as earlier plans prepared by the Foundation and the Conservation Board as an outline.

One focus of the plan will be to provide interpretation when the Mill is not open for tours. That could lead to a script for an audio tour and a lesson plan for educational programs.

Although earlier interpretive efforts have emphasized the Mill, this version should include other buildings and the entire Motor Mill Historic Site.

Pollock said she would schedule a subcommittee meeting before the January MMF meeting. Members of the subcommittee are: David Beck, Schoen, Mark Yackel-Juleen, Stone, and Zichal.

REPORTS

1 - TRRC – Stone attended a Turkey River Recreational Corridor meeting on November 16. Items of discussion included:

- A statement endorsing the portion of the Elkader to Elgin trail going from Gilbertson Park to Big Spring hatchery on the north side of the Turkey River;
- A report documenting \$8.2 million in improvements in TRRC since 2020;
- A suggestion that as many people as possible attend the Clayton County Board of Supervisors meeting on Jan. 11 to support the Supervisors appointing a representative to TRRC

2 – SEAL COAT GALAXY ROAD? – Pollock will meet with County Engineer Rafe Koopman to discuss the possibility of seal-coating Galaxy Road from the Motor Mill Bridge to Communia.

3 – TRAFFIC COUNT - From April 25 to November 2, 19,592 vehicles crossed the Motor Mill bridge. For comparison, in 2020 the count was 19,827 from May 15 to Nov. 5

ADJOURNMENT

Zichal moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. Stone seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

Motor Mill Foundation