

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

February 15, 2022

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, February 15, 2022, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: John Nikolai, Larry Stone, Dan Slagel, Chuck Morine, Ken Zichal, Don Venteicher, and Chris Schoen. Lee Lenth joined via Zoom. Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended. Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7 p. m.

AGENDA

Nikolai asked to add items to the agenda on the Motor Mill Endowment and the potential of student volunteers from UNI. Stone moved to approve the agenda as amended. Schoen seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Morine moved to approve the minutes of the January 18 meeting as distributed. Zichal seconded. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jan. 18	Beginning balance	41,411.28
	Receipts	
Jan. 24	donation; James Osterhaus	100.00
Jan. 31	donation; Blackbaud	20.00
	Via PayPal CCCB – PayPal	96.92
Feb. 11	donation via PayPal CCCB	23.79
	Donation via INHF – Larry & Margaret Stone	508.40
	Total Receipts	749.11
	Expenses	
Jan. 19	Alpine Communications	16.97
Jan. 19	Allamakee Clayton Electric	52.70
Feb. 14	West Bend Mutual Insurance Co.	400.00
	Total Expenses	469.67

Feb. 18 Current balance 41,690.72

Schoen moved to approve the treasurer's report. Zichal seconded. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1 – UPDATE ON OLD TURBINE RESTORATION – Schoen shared an email from the conservator in Maryland who's working on the turbines. She's finished treating the intact turbine, but is unable to deconstruct it. The board discussed leaving that turbine intact, but asking her to attempt to deconstruct the other damaged turbine. Schoen will discuss the options further with the conservator.

2 – BASEMENT POST REPLACEMENT – Alysworth house movers began work in the basement on February 14. They probably will not need our help, except to cut the new oak posts to the correct length.

3 – INN RESTORATION – Martin-Gardner Architecture has completed plans and submitted them to the State Historic Preservation Office and the National Park Service for review. That could take 60 to 90 days. Pollock said some required changes included: closing off the door between the first and second floors and making a public entrance from a ramp on the second floor on the back side of the building; putting a second entrance with porch on the back side of the building; removing the added-on entrance on the south side; enlarging the third floor bathroom to allow room for a washer and drier.

Pollock remains hopeful that we may be able to have a bid letting at the end of March.

4 – INN FUNDING – Pollock reported that we have about \$300,000 in grants and donations toward the project estimated to cost \$450,000. She plans to apply for an Iowa Great Places grant through the Turkey River Recreational Corridor. It's also possible there could be money available from Clayton County's share of the American Rescue Plan.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – STABLE ROOF – Pollock hopes to get bids soon on replacing the roof of the Stable. The board discussed metal roofing, and whether to use two different colors of metal on the different slopes of the hip roof. Pollock will check with the State Historic Preservation Office.

2 – MUSEUM TRAIL – The Clayton County Historical Preservation Commission is planning a map with a trail to link the museums of Clayton County. Motor certainly would be included.

3 – UNI STUDENTS – Nikolai has been in touch with UNI students who would be willing to do volunteer project at Motor between late February and mid-April.

4 – MOTOR MILL ENDOWMENT – Our balance as of December 31 was \$16,600, with \$400 of that available to use, if desired.

5 – UMGC GRANT – Pollock requested permission to apply on the foundation's behalf with the ask to implement elements of the master interpretive plan that should be completed in August. Schoen mentioned the need to have a plan in place for the turbine return to the mill. Schoen moved to approve the UMGC pre-application, Slagel seconded. Carried.

REPORTS and UPDATES

1 - TRRC – The February TRRC meeting was canceled.

2 – CLAYTON COUNTY FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE – Pollock plans to apply for a CCFF grant for \$1,000, probably to help pay for the interpretive plan.

3 – PUBLIC COMMENTS - There will be a “Coffee Talk With Motor Mill Foundation” public meeting on March 3 at Osborne at 10 a.m., and 6 p.m. The public will be invited to share their expectations, likes, and dislikes about Motor. Staff from NE Iowa RC&D will be there to discuss the interpretive plan.

4 – ROUND TABLE – The Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque will host a regional roundtable on “outdoor assets” at Osborne from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. on April 21. At least some of the group – as many as 40? – may want a tour of Motor. Pollock asked Foundation members to try to be available.

5 – MOTOR AND RAINBOW PHOTO – Brian Gibbs has entered his photo of a rainbow and Motor Mill in the Keep Iowa Beautiful photo contest. There are links to vote on the Motor Mill and Clayton County Conservation Facebook pages.

6 – INTERPRETIVE PLAN – Pollock met with Zichal, David Beck, Schoen, Slagel, and RC&D staff on February 10 to continue discussion of the new Motor Mill interpretive plan.

ADJOURNMENT

Zichal moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m. Morine seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

Motor Mill Foundation