

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

(DRAFT)

October 18, 2022

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: John Nikolai, Mark Yackel-Juleen, Larry Stone, Dan Slagel, Chuck Morine, Ken Zichal, David Beck, Lee Lenth, Jane Metcalf, and Chris Schoen. Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended. Chairman Nikolai called the meeting to order at 7:05 p. m.

AGENDA

Beck asked to add an item about a new reference book to the agenda. Schoen moved to approve the agenda with that addition. Slagel seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Zichal moved to approve the minutes of the September 20 meeting, with a correction of a typo in the treasurer's report to show a balance of \$17,073.30. Stone seconded. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Morine presented the following treasurer's report:

Sept. 20	Beginning balance	17,073.30
	Receipts	
Oct. 3	donations 10/01	89.00
	Blackbaud	20.00
	donation; Dale & Caryl Rammelsberg	600.00
	donation; Patricia Lamb	100.00
Oct. 11	donations; Heritage Days	218.25
	merchandise sales	296.00
	bird house sales	50.00
	Total	
	Receipts	1,373.25

Expenses

Oct. 4	Esser's; merchandise	134.82
Oct. 6	cash for Heritage Days change	100.00
Oct. 12	Alla. Clayton Electric	47.85
	TH ink Custom; Heritage Days banner	85.00
Oct. 17	Alpine Communications	17.21
	Total Expenses	384.88

October 18 balance 18,061.67

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

Stone agreed to send complimentary Gordy Callison prints to Dale and Caryl Rammelsberg.

OLD BUSINESS

1 – LUMBER SALE – Schoen and Morine said excess lumber we hope to sell on Oct. 22 has been sorted, stacked, and priced. It is in the Cooperage and on the second and third floors of the Mill. The board agreed that there would be no early sales, and that buyers would be required to pay on Oct. 22. We will allow lumber to be picked up until November 2.

2 – HERITAGE DAYS – The board agreed that Heritage Days weekend went well. There were 50+ visitors at the Mill Saturday and 80+ Sunday.

Pollock noted that the Conservation Board expects to have a special event for the 50th anniversary of Heritage Days in 2025.

3 – TURBINE RESTORATION – Schoen said the turbine restoration is complete and the turbines may be picked up in Maryland as soon as the Conservation Board pays the Maryland historical department. Nikolai and Schoen have not decided when they will make that trip.

4 – WATER IN BASEMENT – Nikolai is still attempting to reach John Moyna to discuss a way to prevent water from the road and the Mill roof from running into the basement.

5 – SHINGLE REPAIR – Lenth has tried without success to talk more with Amish carpenters about replacing missing shingles on the Mill roof.

6 – VISIT TO MINNESOTA MILLS – Several MMF member and spouses were able to visit Schech’s Mill and Pickwick Mill on Sept. 24 – despite the complications of road detours. It was interesting to compare the similarities and differences between those mills and Motor.

7 – INN WATER AND SEPTIC – Schoen reported that the septic tank and leach field have been installed at the Inn. He monitored the process to watch for historical artifacts, but discovered nothing of significance.

Pollock has been in touch with James Handke and Shawver Well about options for repairing the old well or drilling a new one. She emphasized that this is the Conservation Board’s responsibility – not a matter for Foundation members to get involved with.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – ELECTIONS – Morine moved to re-elect the following board members, whose terms are expiring: Beck, Metcalf, Nikolai, Schoen, deNeui, Zichal, Yeckel-Juleen. Slagel seconded. Carried.

Zichal moved to re-elect the current officers: Nikolai – chair; Zichal – vice-chair; Stone – secretary; Morine – treasurer. Slagel seconded. Carried.

2 – STONE STRUCTURES – The board briefly discussed partnering with the Clayton County Historic Preservation Commission to promote the CCHPC “stone structures” website.

3 – MILL BOOK – Beck has been reading the book “An American Grist Mill – Stover Mill: A Study in 19th Century Technology,” which Slagel purchased online. Beck highly recommended the reference. Stone moved to reimburse Slagel the \$70 cost. Beck seconded. Carried

REPORTS and UPDATES

1 - BRIDGE LIGHTING – The annual holiday bridge lighting ceremony will be November 19. The Mill will be open at 4:30 p.m., and the lights will be turned on at 5 p.m. Tours may continue as late as 6 p.m.

Lenth has coordinated with the Littleport Fire Department to hold their annual fund raising dinner at the Littleport church that evening.

2 - LIGHTS ON TOP OF BRIDGE – Metcalf passed along comments she'd had from people wanting lights on top of the bridge. Several board members agreed that it would make a striking display – but that the logistics of putting up and taking down the lights were not feasible without the donation of professional services.

3 - TRRC – Schoen and Pollock attended the October 4 TRRC meeting. Much of the discussion centered on applying for an Iowa Great Places grant to help with the Inn restoration.

4 – UPPER MISSISSIPPI GAMING GRANT – UMGC has award \$50,000 for the Inn restoration.

5 – INTERPRETIVE PLAN – There will be a meeting with RC&D at Osborne at 2 p.m. on Dec. 15 to review the master interpretive plan.

6 – HOLIDAY WALK – The Conservation Board's annual Holiday Walk will be Dec. 1 at Motor. It will feature people portraying characters involved in Motor Mill history.

ADJOURNMENT

Stone moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m. Morine seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

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