Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

(DRAFT)

April 18, 2023

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: Dan Slagel, Chuck Morine, Ken Zichal, David Beck, Larry Stone, Chris Schoen, Lee Lenth Don Venteicher, Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock, and CCCB naturalist Abbey Harkrader. Vice-chair Zichal called the meeting to order at 7:00 p. m.

AGENDA

Lenth moved to approve the agenda as distributed. Schoen seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Morine moved to approve the minutes of the March 23 minutes as distributed. Slagel seconded. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Morine presented the following treasurer's report:

Mar. 21 Beginning balance 26,089.52

Receipts

Mar. 20 John Nikolai memorial donations 250.00

Apr. 15 merchandise sales 25.00 donations 80.00

Total receipts 355.00

Expenses

Mar. 10 Alla. Clayton Electric 42.86

Apr. 17 Alpine Communications 17.22

Total Expenses 60.08

April 18 Current balance 26,384.44

Stone moved to accept the treasurer's report. Lenth seconded. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1 INN UPDATE Pollock said the contractor says he's still on schedule. The water is hooked up and the bathtub and shower have been installed. The third floor is mostly done. Jud Francis continues to work on plaster. Flooring needs to be done. The mason is consulting with the State Historic Preservation Office to be certain the tuck pointing is done correctly.
- 2 TURBINE DISPLAY Slagel proposed building a support platform for the refurbished turbine, and setting a simulated shaft on a steel ball under the center of the turbine. A partial penstock could be built behind the turbine. The entire turbine apparatus should be enclosed in a glass or plastic case. Case options might include patio windows/doors or a custom plastic enclosure.
- 3 INN FURNISHINGS Harkrader said the beds have been chosen. She, Jane Metcalf, and Margaret Stone are researching wall decorations of historic photos or documents.

Beck said the Garnavillo Museum has agreed to donate a number of items related to Motor. Beck also will meet with Paula Embretson, whose parents, Paul and Betty Johnson, owned the Mill before the County acquired it.

- 4 INTERPRETIVE COMMITTEE Pollock showed MMF members the design for a rack card, which will be printed soon. Northeast Iowa RC&D also is nearing completion on a trifold brochure.
- 5 DUST CONTROL Pollock discussed dust control with the county road department. The tentative conclusion was that calcium chloride or other chemicals might jeopardize the limestone buildings. She will look at other options.

It's possible that the county may consider sealcoating Galaxy Road from Communia to the south side of the Turkey River

- 6 TOUR GUIDE SCHEDULE Harkrader distributed a tour guide schedule.
- 7 MILL CLEANING Central School students worked with Kenny Slocum at the Motor Mill site on April 18.

Pollock said MFL-MarMac students may want to help as a belated Earth Day service project on April 26. She will inquire about details.

8 – JOHN NIKOLAI MEMORIAL – Slagel met with Mary Fran Nikolai to discuss options. They agreed that an etched aluminum plaque is a good choice. It would include a photo of John Nikolai and a brief text as a tribute. The cost for an 11x14-inch plaque would be \$900 to \$1000. Morine moved to authorize Slagel to proceed with the project. Lenth seconded. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – UPCOMING EVENTS – Kenny Slocum will lead a pasque flower hike from the Motor Mill campground from 5-6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 21.

The Mill will open for tours on May 27.

The kickoff of the Turkey River Recreational Corridor Safari is at Motor on June 10.

2 – 2023 MERCHANDISE – The board agreed to continue with the same t-shirts and other merchandise as in past years. We will consider new designs and items for 2024 after we have the new logos.

TRRC

Slagel said the April Turkey River Recreational Corridor meeting included a tour of the Inn.

DISCUSSION

Venteicher showed board members a model of a water turbine he made with his 3-D printer. The options for this technology to make interpretive items may be endless!

ADJOURNMENT

Lenth moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Schoen seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

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