

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

(DRAFT)

June 21, 2023

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: Dan Slagel, Chuck Morine, Larry Stone, Chris Schoen, Dave Beck, Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock, CCCB naturalist Abbey Harkrader, and intern Becca Patten. In the absence of interim chair Ken Zichal, treasurer Morine called the meeting to order at 7:05 p. m.

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Schoen moved to approve the minutes of the May 16 meeting as distributed. Slagel seconded. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Morine presented the following treasurer's report:

MMF treasurer's report, June 2023

May 16 - Beginning balance	26,659.60
Receipts	
May 18 donation - Amazon	11.78
May 30 bird house sales	10.00
merchandise sales	205.00
donations	252.00
June 03 merchandise sales	5.00
donations	13.00
June 12 merchandise sales	50.00
Donations	50.00
June 20 bench sale	50.00
donations	38.00
donation: Blackbaud	20.00

Total Receipts**704.78**

Expenses

May 19	Alpine Communications	17.22
May 25	cash for change	60.00
June 06	Dan Slagel, hardware	253.60
June 09	Esser's, merchandise	181.90
June 12	Allamakee Clayton Electric	61.47
June 16	Alpine	17.22

Total Expenses**591.41****June 20 - Current balance****26,772.97**

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

OLD BUSINESS

1 – INN RESTOPRATION UPDATE – Pollock said renovation is proceeding, although work may not be complete until August.

The contractors are waiting for delivery of some doors. The kitchen cupboards have been installed, but the countertops have not. Jud Francis has a week or more of work left on the first floor.

The contractors have promised to be ready for tours for the July 14-15 open house.

2 – TURBINE DISPLAY – Slagel contacted Regal Plastics in Evansdale, who provided an estimate of more than \$4,500 to supply materials to build a turbine display case. They could not deliver or assemble it, however.

Slagel then checked with thINK in Elkader, who gave an estimate of \$3,500, which included installation. They could not promise to do the work before mid-August.

The board took no action, pending further discussion with more members present.

3 – INN FURNISHINGS – Harkrader said three bedrooms will be named in honor of the Klink, Kuehl, and Beck families. She has been seeking donations of furniture and photos from those families, along with cash donations to pay for framing photos.

The hope is to frame some historical photos and documents, such as the plat map of the town of Motor, letters from Crosby and others, invoices or receipts from the Mill, and old photos of the wooden bridge and of the farm. The total framing cost could be \$500 or more.

Slagel moved that the Foundation contribute \$500 for the framing. Schoen seconded. Carried.

4 – INTERPRETIVE COMMITTEE – Pollock showed MMF members the final draft for the on-site brochure. Schoen moved to approve the design and text. Stone seconded. Carried. The brochure should be available for the July 14-15 Inn open house.

5 – TURKEY RIVER SAFARI – The turnout was low for the June 10 Turkey River Safari kickoff. Safari backpacks will continue to be available at the Mill, at Osborne, and the Elkader Public Library, as well as other sites in Clayton and Allamakee Counties. The post where participants can do a rubbing to prove they've visited Motor is located near the county attractions sign across from the Inn.

6 – JOHN NIKOLAI MEMORIAL – Slagel showed board members the completed John Nikolai Memorial plaque, which will be officially unveiled at the Mill at 7 p.m. on July 14.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – UPCOMING EVENTS - A VIP open house tour of the Inn is planned for Friday, July 14. Pollock hopes for about 50 people to attend. The public grand opening will be July 15.

The schedule is as follows:

Friday, July 14

5:30 p.m. – guests arrive; appetizers and champagne; tours;

6:30 p.m. – stage ribbon cutting photos;

7 p.m. – unveiling of John Nikolai memorial plaque at Mill.

Saturday

11 a.m. – ribbon cutting;

11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. – Inn tours;

11:30-5 p.m. – Mill tours; food stand by Obwowbow Light Group;

1 p.m. – quarry hike;

2 p.m. – pioneer games on lawn;

3 p.m. – prairie walk

2 – STAFFING FOR HOLIDAY WEEKENDS – Ken Zichal has said he will be available to give tours on Sunday, July 2. Schoen volunteered to help.

The board made no decision about Labor Day weekend.

3 – TRANSFER OF RECEPTION AREA FROM MILL TO INN – The board concurred that this will be ongoing, when we are able to access the Inn.

4 – PREVIEW WEBSITE – Harkrader showed the new Motor Mill Foundation website that she has refurbished with the cooperation of Jansen Products. Board members agreed that it is attractive and should bring more visitors.

5 – CREDIT CARD SALES AND PAYPAL – Pollock said she is in the process of setting up the PayPal account so credit card sales and website donations will go directly to the Motor Mill Foundation bank account, rather than being funneled through the Conservation Board. She said WiFi will be activated at both the Mill and the Inn very soon, allowing the electronic transactions.

Stone moved to authorize Pollock to make the transition. Slagel seconded. Carried.

TRRC

Slagel and Pollock attended the June 4 TRRC meeting. Much of the discussion pertained to the Safari kickoff and the Inn open house.

NEXT MEETING

The board agreed to hold the next meeting on July 11 at the Inn to prepare for the July 14-15 grand opening.

ADJOURNMENT

Beck moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m. Schoen seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

Motor Mill Foundation