

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

(DRAFT)

July 11, 2023

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at Motor Mill. Those present included: Ken Zichal, Jane Metcalf, Don Venteicher, 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. Zichal called the meeting to order at 7:02 p. m.

AGENDA

The agenda was approved with the addition of an email letter from Mark Yackel-Juleen.

MINUTES

Schoen moved to approve the minutes of the June 20 meeting as distributed. Morine seconded. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Morine presented the following treasurer's report:

JUNE 20 BEGINNING BALANCE	26,772.97
RECEIPTS	
June 26 merchandise sales	18.00
donations	15.00
June 26 CCCB merchandise sales	351.00
July 03 donation; Karen Barnes	200.00
bird house sale	10.00
passport book	10.00
merchandise sales	4.00
donations	152.00
July 07 donation; Blackbaud	20.00
donation; Keith & Kathy Garms	2,500.00
donation; Lorraine Hubbard, IMO Edward Beck	500.00
donations CCCB PayPal transfer	1112.34

July 08	merchandise sales	16.00
	donations	56.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS		4,964.34

EXPENSES

June 23	thINK; Nikolai plaque	993.00
July 07	SPOOM membership	50.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		1,043.00

JULY 11 – CURRENT BALANCE **30,694.31**

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

OLD BUSINESS

1 – INN RESTOPRATION UPDATE – Pollock said renovation is proceeding slowly, but the Inn will be accessible for the July 14-15 open house. Some furniture will be temporarily moved in to the second floor, although appliances will not be installed. The wood floors need two more coats of finish. The contractors are waiting for the delivery of six doors.

The contractor and Conservation Board staff will clean Wednesday and Thursday to be ready for the open house.

Limited seating will be provided during the open house.

2 – TURBINE DISPLAY – Slagel said he has been in touch with three companies to discuss a display case. Regal Plastics in Evansdale estimated that materials would cost about \$4,500, but they would not do installation.

thINK in Elkader gave a rough estimate of \$3,500, including installation.

Plexcraft in Iowa City suggested using polycarbonate instead of plexiglass. The approximate cost of just materials would be about \$2,400. Installation and assembly who be extra.

Beck moved to authorize Slagel to get more details from thINK, including a firm estimate and an approximate time frame. Morine seconded. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – GRAND OPENING OF INN – Pollock said contractors are not able to install bathroom fixtures by July 14, so she will arrange for accessible portable toilets.

The Conservation Board staff will clean on Thursday. Depending on the weather forecast, the staff may erect a tent in front of the Inn.

Much of the event will take place on the first floor, but guests will be encouraged to take the ramp to reach the second and third floors.

Public parking will be north of the Stable.

2 – WIFI – Pollock said WiFi is operational in both the Mill and the Inn. The public will not need passwords, but a separate password-protected link can be used by staff to monitor security cameras.

3 – SUNDAY HOURS? – The board agreed to offer Sunday tours on July 30, following Elkader's Sweet Corn Days, and on August 20, in conjunction with Art in the Park. Zichal volunteered to work. If warranted, we may try to open the Mill Sept. 3, the Sunday of Labor Day weekend, as well.

4 – PAINT BIRDHOUSES – Zichal is repainting some of the purple birdhouses, which were made and donated by Roger Buchholz. Lighter colors sell better.

5 – WE ARE OPEN SIGNS – The board discussed more signage to let people know the Mill is open for tours. The consensus was that a sign on the bridge would not help much, because paddlers usually are too tired or hot for a tour. Stone will look for places to put two large banners, such as the one that formerly was hung on Jon deNeui's property.

6 – FLOUR DRESSERS FROM PICKWICK – Kendal Harvey from Pickwick Mill near Houston, Minnesota, asked if we'd be interested in having middlings purifiers or flour dressers. The board agreed that we do not have a use for other mill equipment that has no connection to Motor.

7 – MARK YACKEL-JULEEN – Mark Yackel-Juleen sent board members an email apologizing for not being able to participate more in board activities, and offering to resign if appropriate. The board agreed unanimously that Yackel-Juleen is a valuable member and should remain on the board.

ADJOURNMENT

Zichal adjourned the business meeting at 8:20 p.m. The board then toured the Inn.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

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