

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

(DRAFT)

August 15, 2023

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: Ken Zichal, Don Venteicher, Dan Slagel, Chuck Morine, Larry Stone, Chris Schoen, Lee Lenth, Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and CCCB naturalist Abbey Harkrader. Zichal called the meeting to order at 7:02 p. m.

AGENDA

Stone asked to discuss a request to use a metal detector at Motor. Slagel requested that we up-date the project list. Stone moved to approve the agenda with those additions. Schoen seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Morine moved to approve the minutes of the July 11 meeting as distributed. Slagel seconded. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Morine presented the following treasurer's report:

July 11	Beginning balance	30,694.31
	Receipts	
Jul. 17	bench sale	120.00
	merchandise sales	220.00
	donation; Deanna Krambeer	500.00
	donations	305.00
Jul. 19	merchandise sales	48.00
	donations	77.00
Jul. 25	bench sales	125.00
	donations	22.00

Jul. 31	bird house sale	20.00
	merchandise sales	64.00
	donations	181.00
Jul. 31	July credit card receipts	
	bench & bird house sales	131.45
	merchandise sales	110.03
	donations	146.65
Aug. 14	bird house sales	10.00
	donations: 9/5 & 9/12	65.00
	Blackbaud	20.00
	Total Receipts	2,165.13

Expenses

July 12	Allamakee, Clayton Electric	58.71
July 25	Freeman Hershberger, roof repair	250.00
	Alpine communications	17.23
Aug. 08	Esser's merchandise	282.48
	Allamakee, Clayton Electric	74.50
	Total Expenses	682.92

August 15 – current balance **32,176.52**

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

OLD BUSINESS

1 – INN RESTORATION UPDATE – Pollock and architect Mike Tucker did a walk-through of the Inn on August 15. She reported that there are still a number of issues to be resolved, including some painting, sanding, and plaster patching. More work may be needed on the rain gutters.

Pollock informed the contractors that they must be done by August 30, when Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs staff are coming for an inspection.

The board discussed items that we may wish to do, including leaf guards for the rain gutters and replacement of a shallow sink.

2 – TURBINE DISPLAY – Slagel has consulted with THINK of Elkader, who submitted a bid of \$3,900 to build and install an acrylic turbine display case with access doors, a top, and full back. The price includes a \$500 donation from THINK co-owner Ryan (last name?). Slagel moved to pay THINK a \$1,950 deposit for the project Schoen seconded. Carried. They hope to complete installation by early September.

The board also discussed how to display the pieces of the second turbine. There was no decision.

3 – INTERPRETIVE MASTER PLAN UPDATE – Pollock said the turbine panels are nearing completion. The board discussed how to display them, and the consensus seemed to be to use short pedestals on heavy wood blocks.

The IMP committee asked for a diagram showing the wall construction of the Mill to demonstrate how set-backs on each higher level provided a ledge on which to rest floor joists.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – PLANS FOR INN MAIN FLOOR -There will be no change until next year for how the Inn and the Mill will serve as welcome centers for visitors.

2 – CLOTHING FOR SALE – Morine ordered more hoodies and long-sleeved t-shirts from Esser's clothing.

3 – SUNDAY HOURS? – Zichal said he will work at the Mill August 20 and September 3.

4 – STABLE ROOF – Pollock hopes to address the Stable roof repair as soon as the Inn project is complete. We have about \$6,000 in grant money available from previous work on the Stable. Pollock will contact the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to discuss the use of steel roofing that simulates wood shake shingles. Venteicher will discuss the project with Amish carpenters.

5 – LIGHTING – Slagel will talk with THINK about the possibility of including small lights in the display case. Volunteers will explore options for a spotlight on the John Nikolai plaque.

6 – JON & Pat DeNEUI ANNIVERSARY – Board members and friends are invited to a 62nd anniversary celebration for Jon and Pat deNeui at 1 p.m. Saturday, August 19, at the deNeui farm.

7 – METAL DETECTOR – The board discussed a request by Harold Decuir to explore the Motor Mill Historic Site with a metal detector. Board members questioned whether there would be many remaining artifacts, given the long farming history and disturbance after the Mill ceased to operate. The consensus was to allow Decuir to search the area as long as he made prior arrangements for board members to be present and did no major digging,

8 – PROJECT LIST – The board reviewed a list of tasks that volunteers can do, as well as projects that would require professional help. Some items included: moving turbine pieces out of the Ice House to a better display site; closing the gap in the downstream peak of the Mill roof; examining and determining uses (if any) for equipment stored in the building on the Wahls farm north of Motor.

REPORT

TRRC - Slagel will send members an electronic copy of the minutes of the August 8 TRRC meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Lenth Moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m. Slagel seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary

Motor Mill Foundation