

Motor Mill Foundation

Revised Minutes

September 26, 2023

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: President Ken Zichal, Treasurer Chuck Morine, Don Venteicher, Dan Slagel, Jane Metcalf, Dave Beck, Lee Lenth, Chris Schoen, Mark Yackel-Juleen, and CCCB naturalist Abbey Harkrader. Secretary Larry Stone and Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock were absent. Schoen was asked to recorded the meeting. Zichal called the meeting to order at 7:05 p. m.

AGENDA

Metcalf moved to approve the agenda. Slagel seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Morine moved to approve the minutes of the August 15 meeting as distributed. Slagel seconded. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Morine presented the following treasurer's report:

August 15 Beginning Balance \$32,176.52

Receipts

Aug. 23	Merchandise sales	6.00
	Passport sales	15.00
	Donations	49.00
	Donation by Burnell Smith for turbine cover	1,950.00
Aug. 28	Merchandise sales	80.00
	Donations	53.00
Aug. 31	Credit card sales	
	Benches	121.25
	Merchandise sales	56.47
	Passport sales	14.55
	Donations	4.85
Sep. 5	Bench sales	175.00
	Merchandise sales	30.00
	Donations	139.00
Sep. 18	Bench sales 9/16	150.00
	Merchandise sales	10.00
	Donations 9/12 & 9/16	107.00

Blackbaud	20.00
Total Receipts	2,981.12
Expenses	
Aug. 16 thINK 1 st payment turbine cover	1,950.00
Aug. 18 Alpine Communications	17.23
Sep. 8 SSNHA	79.21
Sep. 11 Allamakee-Clayton Electric	66.24
Sep. 18 Alpine Communications	17.23
Total Expenses	2,131.91
September 19 Current Balance	33,025.73

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

OLD BUSINESS

1 – INN RESTORATION UPDATE – Harkrader noted that the furniture in the inn was still sparse. They are looking for a table. Metcalf stated that picture rails were needed to hang pictures.

Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs staff and Silos and Smokestack staff came for an inspection on August 30.

2 – STABLE ROOF UPDATE – Schoen reported that he had spoken on site with Allison Archambo (Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs) during the site visit on August 30 about historically appropriate materials for the stable roof. Archambo agreed that a metal seam roof was practical because of its durability and not in conflict with the estimated 1940s renovation of the stable from a gable roof to a gambrel roof as the roofing material at that time would have either been asphalt shingles or corrugated metal. Archambo was not comfortable with using Decron simulated shingle metal roofing as it has not been around long enough to assess its durability. Schoen stated that his understanding was bids for replacing the stable roof would not be sought until all terms of the federal grant for the Inn project were completed.

3 – TURBINE DISPLAY UPDATE – Slagel reported that thINK of Elkader was still acquiring the plexiglass for the turbine display case. MMF paid thINK a \$1,950 deposit on August 16. Morine stated that Burnell Smith, who had indicated to Stone that he wanted to contribute to the turbine display, donated \$1,950 to cover half of the cost to build the display case.

Slagel said that the turbine had been treated with polyvinyl butyral (Butvar B-98) to inhibit deterioration, but because the case would not be sealed to allow access, the turbine might still be subject to adverse impacts from Powder Post beetles and extreme humidity and temperatures. Schoen suggested that perhaps a metal or plastic base might help keep the beetles from entering from below. We will continue to monitor conditions by the turbine.

4 – INTERPRETIVE MASTER PLAN UPDATE – Harkrader passed around printouts of proposed text for the turbine interpretive panels. Some corrections were made and some information needs to be confirmed. Zichal suggested that a star needed to be added to the LiDAR map to show the mill's location. Minor tweaks were suggested to the building construction diagram.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – PICKWICK MILL OFFERS 2 BOLTERS - Zichal reported that at a recent visit to the Pickwick Mill in Minnesota he was offered two bolters that they have in storage. Morine asked if we could find out if they are in good enough condition to be able to display them without having to do significant repair to them first. Zichal said he would contact them for more information.

2 – HERITAGE DAYS STAFFING – Heritage Days will be October 14 and 15. Schoen, Slagel, and Zichal are scheduled to do tours at Motor Mill on Saturday. Beck and Zichal volunteered to do tours at the mill on Sunday. Morine said that he would collect on October 13 the materials for our display at Osborne. Morine will man the display on Saturday and Sunday. Additional volunteers are expected to also man the booth at Osborne those two days.

3 – OCTOBER MEETING AT ZICHALS – Zichal offered to host the October 17 MMF board meeting at his home. Morine noted that reelections were needed for board members Morine, Stone, and Lenth and for board officers. The board accepted the invitation. The meeting will begin at 6 pm with a meal to follow.

4 – OPENING AND CLOSING CHECKLIST – Harkrader stated that Pollock had suggested that we have a checklist for opening and closing procedures at Motor Mill to make sure the appropriate electrical switches are turned on and off, the sales counter door closed, the turbine covered, etc. Evidently power to the surveillance cameras and WI-FI were turned off by mistake. Schoen suggested that breaker switches be clearly marked as to which should be turned on/off and which should be left alone. All agreed that the checklist would be valuable. Slagel volunteered to draft a checklist.

5 – ANNUAL TUCKPOINTING – Harkrader stated that Pollock suggested that the MMF board consider setting aside money each year for tuckpointing on the various buildings at the site. There are some issues that should be addressed in the near future and routine maintenance is expected.

The contactor doing tuckpointing at the Inn told Pollock that he was planning to retire, but was interested in performing the necessary work as needed. Schoen noted that the person doing tuckpointing on the historic buildings would have to be approved by SHPO do the work and assumed that this was the case for the individual doing the work at the inn. Yackel-Juleen made a motion to have the person give a presentation to the board. Lee seconded the motion. Carried.

REPORT

TRRC - Slagel sent members an electronic copy of the minutes of the September 5, 2023 Turkey River Recreation Corridor meeting. Schoen said that he had reported at that meeting the status of the Inn restoration work and other MM activities.

ADJOURNMENT

Beck moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. Venteicher seconded. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Schoen for Larry A. Stone, secretary

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