

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

(DRAFT)

February 20, 2024

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: Kenneth Zichal, Chuck Morine, Larry Stone, Chris Schoen, Dan Slagel, Mark Yackel-Juleen, Jay Elvers, and Don Venteicher. Jane Metcalf attended via Zoom. Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and CCCB naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended. Zichal called the meeting to order at 7:00 p. m.

AGENDA

Slagel asked to add an item to discuss students helping at the mill for Earth Day. Stone moved to approve the agenda with that addition. Schoen seconded. Carried.

MINUTES

Schoen moved to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2024, meeting as distributed. Schoen seconded. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Morine presented the following treasurer's report:

Jan. 16	Beginning balance	37,363.88
Receipts		
Feb. 6	Jon de Neui memorial donations	45.00
	donation: Blackbaud	20.00
Total Receipts		65.00

Expenses

Jan. 19	Alpine Communications	17.58
Jan. 19	TRRC sponsorship	500.00
Feb. 09	Allamakee Clayton Electric	61.78
	West Bend Insurance	400.00
	ETAB, tax prep.	230.00
Feb. 16	Alpine Communications	17.58

Total Expenses **1,226.94**

Feb. 20 Current balance **36,201.94**

The 2023 Federal income tax and Iowa sales tax returns have been filed.

Slagel moved to accept the treasurer's report. Yackel-Juleen seconded. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1 – REPORT ON INN WELL – Pollock said work is proceeding to insulate the Motor well house after the plumbing froze during the January sub-zero weather. A supplemental heater also will be added. James Handke will repair the plumbing. Work should be completed before April 1.

2 - ROAD DUST MITIGATION – Pollock recommended having the road between the Stable and the bridge treated with lignin, which is an organic product that should not damage the limestone buildings. Application details should be available in April.

Pollock also noted that county officials have told her that seal-coating or asphalt for Galaxy Road from the bridge to Communia may happen in the future, but not soon.

3 – BOLTERS – Zichal has been trying to reach John Moyna about how and when to move the Pickwick bolters from the Stable to the Mill.

4 – BRIDGE LIGHTING – A M Painting and Erickson Underground have volunteered to handle holiday bridge lighting. Pollock will continue discussion with them to work out details.

NEW BUSINESS

1 – INN STAFFING – Pollock said the Conservation Board has advertised to hire a seasonal Motor Mill Coordinator, who will work weekends at the Inn, as well as help with other interpretive duties at Motor.

The board also discussed the need for additional volunteer tour guides. Zichal urged the board to ask community members.

2 – MEMORIALS AND RECOGNITION FOR VOLUNTEERS – The volunteer recognition committee – Schoen, Morine, Zichal, and Stone – recommended a plaque near the bridge to acknowledge Jon deNeui's work on that project. The committee also suggested a sign in the basement to honor Lee Lenth's building of the basement stairs and platform.

In addition, Schoen has drafted a history of the Motor Mill Foundation to list previous and current board member and volunteers, along with key financial donors. The booklet will be made available at the Inn and in the Mill.

Yackel-Juleen moved to authorize Zichal to meet with the Board of Supervisors to ask their concurrence for dedicating the bridge to deNeui. Morine seconded. Carried.

3 – MOVE DISPLAY CASES FROM MILL TO INN – The board plans to move cases and other items from the Mill to the Inn on a regular work day, Tuesday, February 27.

4 – GATES FOR MILL ARCHES – Slagel and Pollock met at the Mill to study how to close the stone arches. In discussion with Stan Rodamaker, owner of Custom Metal Railings, they proposed fastening angle iron inside the arches, then bolting a metal gates or gates to that frame. A footer also might be needed at the base of the gates. The board concurred with the proposal, and suggested the gates be in sections to allow easier removal and/or replacement if there is flood damage. Rodamaker estimated the cost at between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

5 – MODEL OF HOW MILLSTONES WORK – Slagel showed a model he had built with lands and furrow grooves etched onto two plexiglass discs. By turning the discs and observing the lines, it is possible to see how the millstones would have cut the grain, then spun the flour to the outside.

6 – STUDENT VOLUNTEERS FOR EARTH DAY – Slagel has been in touch with Central Community School students who want to volunteer for Motor on April 17 in celebration of Earth Day, which is April 22. There could be from 40 to 60 students from grades 7 to 12.

ADJOURNMENT

Schoen moved to adjourn at 8:17 p.m. Elvers seconded. Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary, Motor Mill Foundation