

Motor Mill Foundation

Minutes

(DRAFT)

March 19, 2024

The regular meeting of the Motor Mill Foundation of Clayton County was held Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at the Osborne Conservation Center. Those present included: Kenneth Zichal, Chuck Morine, Larry Stone, Chris Schoen, Mark Yackel-Juleen, Jay Elvers, and Don Venteicher. Dan Slagel attended via Zoom. Clayton County Conservation Board director Jenna Pollock and CCCB naturalist Abbey Harkrader also attended. Julie deNeui Wolfe was a guest. Zichal called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**AGENDA**

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

**MINUTES**

Morine moved to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2024, meeting as distributed. Schoen seconded. Carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Morine presented the following treasurer's report:

<b>Feb. 20</b>	<b>Beginning balance</b>	<b>36,201.94</b>
	<b>Receipts</b>	
March 18	donation: Blackbaud	20.00
	<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>20.00</b>
	<b>Expenses</b>	
March 9	Allamakee Clayton Elec.	61.74
March 18	Alpine Communications	17.58
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>79.32</b>
<b>March 19</b>	<b>Current balance</b>	<b>36,142.62</b>

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

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1 – REPORT ON INN WELL – Pollock said work has been completed to insulate and add a heater to the Motor well house after the plumbing froze during the January sub-zero weather.

2 - ROAD DUST MITIGATION – Pollock said information about road dust control should be available in May.

3 – BOLTERS – Zichal has been unable to reach John Moyna about moving the Pickwick bolters from the Stable to the Mill. The board briefly discussed other options, but agreed that Moyna's help would be preferable. Pollock noted that the Conservation Board hopes to let a contract for roof repairs on the Stable, so the bolters would need to be moved out when that work begins.

4 – BRIDGE LIGHTING – Pollock does not expect to hear more until later this summer about the proposal of businesses to place holiday lights on the bridge.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1 – DEDICATION OF BRIDGE TO JON DENEUI – The Clayton County Board of Supervisors on March 12 gave informal approval to a Motor Mill Foundation proposal to place a plaque near the Motor Mill Bridge in honor of Jon deNeui.

The board discussed this possible wording:

The Motor Mill Bridge stands as a testament to the unwavering commitment of Jon deNeui, a dedicated volunteer of the Motor Mill Foundation. Jon's vast historical knowledge and engineering expertise guided the construction of a replica of the 1899 bridge, as well as much of the restoration work on the Mill.

Stone will confer with THINK about plaque options.

2 – ARCH BARRIERS – Slagel reported that Roger Swales has visited the Mill and proposed using a concrete footing to support a barrier. Stan Rodamaker is working on a design for barriers. He has suggested that a grate may need to be on the outside surface, rather than in the arch itself.

Pollock is preparing a pre-application for an Upper Mississippi Gaming Corporation grant that could help pay for the work.

3 – THIRD FLOOR MILL LIGHTING – The board discussed the potential need for more lighting on the second and third floors of the Mill when bolters are moved to the third floor and interpretive signs are installed on the second floor. There are some existing electrical outlets, but more wiring may be required.

Pollock noted that sitting benches donated by Don Bodensteiner of Elgin may be available to use on those floors.

4 – 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 should be about 40 students at the Mill from 1-3 p.m.

## **NOTES**

Pollock reported that the Conservation Board has hired Brenda Yearous and Laura Elsinger to work as co-coordinators at the Motor Mill Historic Site beginning May 13.

Zichal suggested inviting representatives of Schech's Mill and Pickwick Mill in Minnesota to come to Motor for a tour and exchange of ideas.

A proposal for volunteers to use metal detectors at Motor, under the supervision of Schoen, is on hold for the time being.

Julie deNeui Wolfe invited Foundation members and others to a memorial celebration for Jon deNeui to be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 15, at the Grace Evangelical Free Church on Hy 13 south of Elkader. It is hoped the bridge plaque honoring Jon can be dedicated on the same day.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Elvers moved to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Yackel-Juleen seconded. Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Larry A. Stone, secretary, Motor Mill Foundation