



## Thompson's Mills Preservation Society

*formerly known as the Boston Mill Society*

[tmppsonline.org](http://tmppsonline.org)

### **Thompson's Mills Preservation Society Minutes**

**September 25, 2018**

Members Present: Jim Ballard, President; Ron VanOrden, Treasurer; Donald Lyon , Secretary, Patty Linn and Larry Thompson, Board Members at Large. Carl Browning, absent. Tom Parsons, OSPD, Carolee St.Clair and Roy Thompson, TMPS members and Kathy Knower, Albany Visitors Association.

1) Meeting was called to order at 6:04pm by President Jim Ballard. Minutes of June meeting were accepted, motion made by Larry, 2nd by Patty--Unanimous. August minutes should be amended to show 2 Towns Cider House as correct name--not Two Towns, Patty moved, Larry 2nd. Unanimous.

2) Ron VanOrden gave the Treasurer's Report including Financial Summary sheet for 1.1.18-9.22.18. Opening balance was \$16,963.76. Commitments \$11,791.57 and cash uncommitted of \$9134.30. Donations were received for gift shop items

Jim reported that all donations rec. in name of Eunice Arthur have received "thank you" notes and Tom Adam's book for donations over \$50. Move to accept Report made by Don, 2nd by Larry. Unanimous.

Some discussion ensued regarding future projects, specifically fencing around garden. Gail (??), daughter of Gayln Schlegel, has volunteered to cover the costs if TM or TMPS will undertake the construction.

Reimbursement Policy: TMPS has not had a stated policy for reimbursing Board Member expenses for TMPS business. Ron had researched IRS and DOL guidelines. He moved that all expenses to be reimbursed have an itemized receipt and when receipt has been lost or is not itemized that another Board member sign an explanatory note. Moved by Ron, 2nd by Don, Unanimous.

3. Review of 1st apple pressing on September 15. Comments by Jim, Tom and Don. In summary, pressing went very well--we had apples from Oregon Country Farm picked by Don and Carolee plus apples from Calapooia Food Alliance. Beautiful day and perhaps 200 visitors, many from Corvallis and Philomath. Decided that 11-4 pressing required two shifts so we would press 12-3 until we had more volunteers. Collected 11 emails/interest list. Don to resend Excel file to Ron (done).

4. Membership Items--Business Cards: Don reported on Moo.com and other options for inexpensive business cards for TMPS Board Members. Moo.com cards allowed variable back of card designs but not front, plus expensive at \$15 for 50. Staples and Vista-card offer 50 to 500 single name cards for \$8-10. Don will layout options so that individual members can opt to have personal email or other info on their card or not.

Jim has requested costs for more "thank you notes"--shall we place large order? Don will provide details to Jim.

5. Newsletter for 2018. Determined that newsletter should be completed and sent by end of this year. Larry will write about his youth working/living at the Mill. Carl will write about the early efforts to establish the Park from his personal experience. Don will cover the cider project and orchard. Tom will have his Ranger's Corner. Carolee will provide image and article about Bucky the Mill cat. There will be a request for Volunteers--an interest list for occasional volunteers and those wishing to be steady volunteers, docents, etc. Ron is the editor. He requests news items arrive just before November 15 so that they are not misplaced.

6. Tom Parsons, TM Ranger The Hay Barn has been removed. Asbestos prohibited the salvaging of beams. Host sites are almost finished. Eugene-Cascades-Coast Regional Destination group (WVVA) plans a visit to see how they can tie in with TM. Tom reported that Joey's (Tom's boss) boss Sarah Steele is eager to get some "outcomes." That is, projects planned, in the works and completed. Hopefully this means another Ranger at TM. The Silo roof is in the contractor pre-bid stage. Whitewashing of silos will be a OPRD project. The idea was raised that TMPS might underwrite the logo repainting by local artist. Tom will contact her. Tom is much encouraged by new leadership and filled positions.

7. New Business: Don described the Grant Workshop presented by Willamette Valley Visitor Association which Katie Knower also attended. Key takeaways were that TMPS should develop projects before searching for a grant rather than identify a grant then search for a project. Tori Middelstadt and other WAVA staff welcome requests for advice from organizations which is an indication of serious pursuit of grants. Same for Albany Visitor Assoc (Katie Knower). Finally, many grant offerings are not filled so don't be shy about applying. Granting organizations are in the business of giving money away and view requesting organizations as business partners not freeloaders.

Some projects that were then mentioned were: Money for bus tours, to provide books for teachers who bring groups to Mill, inscribed souvenir items for school groups--pins, pencils. Jim is researching.

Discussion about Facebook Page. Ron will "invite" Tom to be TMPS Facebook administrator.

Portable Quern--Jim continues to search for lightweight and affordable quern. Good grant project. Expense about \$1500. Roy Thompson mention a way to reduce shipping via Walgreens policy of allowing customers to "drop ship" items to their stores, saving much of shipping costs.

Patty reported that there was no list of school groups at Linn Co. Historical Museum but that she would create a list by questioning LCHM staff.

It was decided to thank Halsey-Shedd Fire Department for use of their room in Shedd for our TMPS meetings with two gallons of cider (which were delivered to TM on 9.27 before their annual inspection).

8. Adjourn: Next meeting 23 October. Meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.