



Thompson's Mills Preservation Society

formerly known as the Boston Mill Society

tmpsonline.org

Thompson's Mills Preservation Society Minutes--July 9, 2019 (revised 8.6.19)

Members Present: Jim Ballard, President; Ron VanOrden, Treasurer; Donald Lyon , Secretary; Larry Thompson, and Carl Browning, Board Members at Large. Patty Linn, absent. Roy Thompson and Diana Thompson, TMPS members present. Tom Parsons present. Guest Kim Jackson of Albany Visitor's Association present.

1.) Meeting was called to order at 5:56 pm by President Jim Ballard. Minutes of April and May meetings were briefly reviewed, noting revisions. Motion to approve April Minutes by Larry, 2nd by Carl--Unanimous approval. Motion to approve May Minutes by Ron, 2nd by Don, Unanimous approval.

2.) Treasurer's Report: Current Cash Balance (not Opening balance) was \$22,561.67 and Cash balance was \$29,227.84 Our Non-Cash Assets are estimated at \$2565.50. Commitments are \$17,669.54 with Cash Uncommitted at \$11,558.30. Ron reported there were no new silo donations. Treasurer's report was approved unanimously with motion by Don, 2nd by Larry.

3a.) Silo Project Update: Tom reported that the Park Department's role in Silo restoration had been completed with a new roof and the main structures stabilized and recoated with a mineral substance (rather than whitewash). Our muralist Lori had begun work several weeks ago and was over half finished. Lori has indicated that it would be a good plan to touch up the logos every six years and that her assistant could handle that project.

Tom has a new mini-projector and will provide a program at the next meeting. Earlier Tom reported that in meetings with Brian McBeth it was evident that the Fire Suppression project would be the top priority at the park for the next few years--realizing that it made little sense to pump money into the Mill if it was in such great danger of burning down.

We briefly discussed the requirements to meet the Linn County Cultural Coalition's (LCCC) grant requirements, ie a publicity oriented event that would feature having the LCCC's banner on display. It was decided that the first cider pressing would be a good time. Don will obtain the LCCC banner for this event.

b and c.) Donors: Jim reported that there had been 26 (not 21) donors to the silo project including several Board members. Larry noted that Thompson family members had also donated. Jim will mail nine T-shirts to the top donors once he determines their sizes. Jim has sent Thank you notes.

4.) Event planning

a.) Mother Earth News Fair, August 3 & 4th: Don reported that staffing the event with two people at all times was his first concern. Don said that he would take the Saturday 9-2 slot

to ensure that booth was set up. Larry agreed to also take the 9-2 slot on Saturday. Roy and Carl will man the booth Saturday from 2-6pm. On Sunday, Carl and David (Tom's intern) will be on duty from 9-2. Don and his partner, Connie will take the 2-6pm slot which involves the tear down. Roy says he will come if needed. Tom also volunteered to take a shift. Possibly Tom could take Carl's place on Saturday afternoon unless Carl really wants to do two shifts--more fine tuning TBA. Don plans to create talking points that will focus Staff conversations with Fair visitors. Don described some of the items he hopes to procure for the booth including copies of Open the Flume Gates, Images from Tom's PowerPoint, OPRD brochures for Mill, TMPS rack cards for membership, Jim's Silo donation letter, hats and aprons for staff to wear, TMPS banner and some unnamed artifacts from the Mill. AVA's Kim Jackson will provide some printing of materials. Tom notes that books are property of OPRD and have to be "purchased" before leaving Mill.

b.) Auto Group Aug. 10: Larry reported that all was in order for the Vintage Chevrolet group to visit the Mill from noon to 3pm on August 10. Tom will have docents on hand. Larry will provide box lunches for the docents. This is not an event the public is encouraged to attend but mainly for club members. Larry plans a KGAL Valley Talk interview.

c.) Hand's On History. Jim and Tom plan to have the large quern on site in Brownsville to encourage visitor's to visit the Mill and learn more about pioneer history. 3-4 people in pioneer dress will staff.

d.) Apple Pressing Events: Scheduled for 31 August, 21 September, 12 October and 26 October. The Cider Committee including Don, Carl, Tom and Jim will meet to coordinate activities such as apple picking and publicity. Albany Visitor Association's (AVA) Kim Jackson will be invited. He will help with publicity. The Calapooia Food Alliance (CFA) in Brownsville is prepared to provide apples for \$130 per box. Additional help picking apples is requested--Don will check with CLHS advisors to see if students are available to pick or press.

e.) Car Club gatherings--no new info reported.

5.) Merchandise Sales including T-shirts, bags, tea-towels, postcards, other: Sales are picking up according to Jim--\$400 in past few weeks, including donations. Most of tea towels have been sold. T-shirts--about half sold. Post cards--a few. Ceramic coffee cups were discussed. The \$12-14 price from Gateway seems prohibitive. Tom Parson (not Kim Jackson) suggested we try No Dinks Graphic Company in Albany (Cory Barton). Don will check. He also will purchase 144 new tea-towels for several orders of printing, as per discussion with Jim.

6.) Tom's Ranger Report: Tom will have additional staff, at least for the summer: Carl is energetic retired ranger with good contacts. He has organized County Inmates work program--very successful. A Seasonal Ranger named David (Plett) and another staff member will be on duty twice a week. Uncle Billie's Barn is being rebuilt (interesting discoveries for the amateur archeologists). The Miller's House is getting some attention from Tom's superiors. Possibly an evaluation of what is needed will be made. Sarah Steele and Brian McBeth are still focused on the Mill--the fresh look of the silos will help greatly.

7.) Newsletter: Ron will send out the 7-page newsletter soon after it has been determined if Bucky is lounging or languishing, according to Carolee. Don wishes to change "augur" to "auger" (3rd paragraph) to spare Oliver Evans from relying on bird bones to operate his mills. Don suggested that requests for volunteers be made via the Membership/ Renewal form. This was nixed by Ron and Jim. Don and Carl will create a list of Volunteer Opportunities at the Mill and determine how to circulate. Tom will redesign the Guest Register to include a space to signify interest in volunteering.

8.) New Business: Ron reported that TMPS 's liability policy was in effect until July 2, 2020.

9.) Next Meeting: August 13, 6 PM at the Mill. Brian McBeth will be invited. Minutes submitted to Board and attendees by Donald Lyon 11 July 2019. Minutes revised after August meeting and sent to Board, 8.7.19. Changes shown in italics.