

## **Thompson's Mills Preservation Society Annual Meeting Minutes, February 2, 2020**

Members Present: Jim Ballard (President), Ron VanOrden (Treasurer), Donald Lyon (Secretary), Larry Thompson, Alice Royle, and Carl Browning (Board Members) Absent was Patty Lynn. Also present were Tom Parsons (Ranger), Kim Jackson and Rebecca Bond (Albany Visitors Association), Roy Thompson (TMPS member). Marin Aurand (Archivist at Mill), Celinda Miller (Park Host), Chas Keller, Ralph Duhn and Rick Klotz also attended.

1. President Ballard opened the meeting at 1pm. Attendees were introduced. New Board member Alice Royle was introduced. Dues were collected.
2. Approval of minutes: Larry asked that Section 4, paragraph 6 be changed from "Hot Rod group" to "Vintage Chevrolet Club"--happy to do it Larry. With that change Minutes were accepted unanimously.
3. Treasurer's Report: Ron had generously provided us with plentiful copies of the Financial Summary for January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019, the 5-year Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet as well as the Financial Summary of January 1-31, 2020. For the year 2019 we had an opening balance of \$22,561.67. Income was \$16946.04 and Expenses were \$14,788.01 leaving a Cash Balance of \$24,719.70. We have non-cash assets of \$3,062.10 (estimated). Commitments were \$10,182.33 leaving Cash uncommitted of \$14,537.37. Move to approve by Don, second by Alice--unanimous approval.
4. A four-minute segment of Grant's Getaway featuring Thompson's Mills was shared via Tom's technical wizardry. Alice is seeking approval for TMPS and TM to use the segment on our website and for other promotional efforts. Ron stated that this program and others are already linked to our TMPSONline.org website. The segment can also be accessed by doing a Google search for "Grant's Getaway Thompson's Mills You Tube" where the link can be dragged to one's desktop (theoretically).
5. 2019 Highlights: Tom presented an excellent photo journal of 2019 events including installing the river level gauge, silo restoration and logo restoration, trees removed to recreate historic skyline, the April flood that entered the Mill basement, the Cayuga ducks so enjoyed by visitors, Hay Barn renovation (several more years to go), car shows at the Mill and, of course Cider Pressing, and much more. Tom will send to Ron for website inclusion.

Tom also reported that we had 13,000 visitors in 2019, triple of when he first began at the Mill--yea Tom! Eagle Scouts and their dads have erected a sturdy fence around the area to become a vintage garden (circa 1920). Tom reports that Scouts will continue to be a welcome source for such projects.

6. Archivist Report by Marin Ayrand: Marin is under State Park contract to archive the approximately 3500 objects if interest at the Mill. Currently 1400 objects are catalogued. Marin states that the completed collection will make this the largest State Park collection. Larry and Roy admit to coming from a long line of recyclers. The information will be stored on *Past Perfect* database, which Tom will learn and eventually, visitors will be able to access. Database will be important for insurance purposes, as well. Oldest object catalogued so far dates to 1870. Marin also shared a dozen objects from carpenter's levels, a Coke bottle, tire pump and lanterns.

7. Budget Proposal for 2020 and Approval of Budget: Jim asked for our suggestions and had his own list, too. Ron moved that \$15,000 be approved to protect, restore and maintain the Mill. Larry 2nd'ed--approval was unanimous. There was discussion of how the Gift Shop items were to be dealt with. At a March 3 meeting Tom will try to have the TMPS be made a "vendor" which frees the State from having to exercise control. Jim reports that T-shirt sales generate enough income to qualify as free advertizing. Tote bags are a new item expected to sell well due to new State ban on plastic bags. Postcards don't sell but are used as "takeaway" item by school groups. Mugs are slow sellers but tea-towels are selling very well. Ron moved that \$6000 be budgeted for Merchandise items, 2nd by Don, Unanimous approval.

It was thought that money for bus subsidies might not be needed in 2020. \$1000 for fencing around house will come from the \$15,000 general Mill expense funds. \$500 has been budgeted for advertizing with Albany Visitor Association and elsewhere, including Darkside Movie Theatre. Ron moved that \$2000 be budgeted for Promotion. 2nd by Larry, unanimous approval. Ron moved that \$2200 be budgeted for Operating Expenses such as Newsletters. 2nd by Don, unanimous. Finally, Ron, 2nd by Don, establishes a Contingency Fund of \$1000 with move.

8. TMPS Activities Planned for 2020: Budgeting for Food Trucks was discussed but Jim is confident that we will not have to provide any guarantees of income if we invite food trucks to our events, mainly cider pressings. Having 4-H animals and birds from Animal Rescue Groups will also be scheduled during Cider Pressings, which are scheduled for Sept. 12, 26, October 10 and 24--all Saturdays. Other activities at the Mill would be possible gathering of artists to paint at the Mill and Thursday Cruise-Ins by auto clubs.

9. New Business: Park Host Celinda Miller will be managing the Vintage Garden, which now has been fenced. She is researching varieties of seeds available in 1920 Willamette Valley. Jim mentioned that Champoege State Park had, at one time, information about this and even sold heirloom seeds. Scouts and Master Gardeners are potential worker resources for Celinda.

10. Election of Board of Directors and Officers: It was determined that Larry, Patty, Don and Jim are up for reelection in March of 2020. Carl and Ron's terms expire Feb. 2001. Alice's term will expire Feb. 2001. Bylaws require terms to be two years.

Those with March 2000 expiry dates have agreed to another term with expiry date at time of Annual Meeting. Officers Jim Ballard, Ron Van Orden and Donald Lyon have agreed to stay in present positions of President, Treasurer and Secretary. Moved, 2nd'ed and approved unanimously.

11. Next Board Meeting: 17 March (third Tuesday) 7pm at Thompson House.
12. Adjourned at 3pm. Minutes prepared by Donald Lyon, secretary, and emailed to Board Members and attendees on Feb. 3, 2020. Please send corrections and additions to Don.