



Thompson's Mills Preservation Society

formerly known as the Boston Mill Society

tmppsonline.org

Thompson's Mills Preservation Society Minutes, October 23, 2022

Members attending: Rebecca Martin, President; Ron VanOrden, Treasurer; Donald Lyon, Secretary. Other Board members: Alice Royle, Carl Browning. Absent: Larry Thompson. Guests: Roy Thompson, Bob McCormick

1) Meeting was called to order at 4:06 PM outside at the Mill. Several additions to the Agenda were made by Don, including participation in Mid-Valley Ag Show in mid-November and Brooks Steam-up in July. Consideration of our producing a TMPS brochure, consideration of asking Bob McCormick to bring his historic farm wagon to next cider pressing event, request by Don to set an Annual Meeting date. Bob McCormick's memo was added to New Business. **Action Items are shown in bold and will be reviewed as old business at each meeting.**

2) Minutes of August 25, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved after motion by Alice. These minutes included several amendments made by Ron.

3) Ron VanOrden gave the Treasurer's Report with Financial Summary 1.1.22 through 10.21.22. Opening balance was \$25,240.33. Income was \$14,626.50 including \$422 for cider pressing. Assets are \$2090.71, est. and Commitments are \$15,385.95. Uncommitted cash is \$16,266.83 TMPS has 265 mailing addresses, 642 email addresses (745 is the total mail list). Unanimous approval to accept report after motion by Don, unanimous approval.

4) Meeting with Scott Youngblood (Tom's immediate superior) with Rebecca and Don on October 6, 2022. Don had earlier sent a one-page summary of the meeting to Board members. Highlights of the meeting included info that fire-suppression at the mill was at top of Sarah Steele's (District Supervisor) list. Scott felt TMPS fence project should be a OPRD project and expense and that something like obtaining and installing an old gas pump at Thompson's Garage would be a better project. Scott explained that building preservation projects were most suitable for TMPS. Scott has discretionary spending on projects not exceeding \$10,000 and that there was money in the budget that needed to be spent in next eight months. The 2010 Cultural Landscape Plan had detailed info on possible projects for the TMPS. Scott would obtain a copy for TMPS. We complained that there were delays over approving projects for the TMPS and Scott said we should run any projects by him for quick decisions. Don explained that TMPS members were frustrated because Ranger Tom Parsons had been unable to attend meetings since January 2022. It seemed that his superiors were devising ways to keep him meeting with the TMPS. Scott said he had no objection to Tom attending meetings. (Ron said the 2010 report was available online)

5) Ranger's Report : No Ranger's Report. It seems that Tom was told by Scott that he was not to attend TMPS meetings without prior approval and since Tom was out of the loop regarding meetings he did not know to request prior approval to attend this meeting. Pretty byzantine Scott! Very frustrating for TMPS as we had changed from Saturday to Sunday meeting to accommodate Tom's schedule. **Rebecca will contact Scott** regarding our frustration with this situation.

6) Old Business, a) Cider Pressing: Don reported on plans and promotion for October 29 cider pressing event, including a KGAL interview with Don and Steve Thoma about the 10.29 event. Press releases with local paper and radio stations as well as emails to the Cider Pressing contact list. **Don will pick up a bin of apples on 10.28** and is looking for other volunteer apples. Bob mentioned Falk family as possible donors. Carl, Don, Steve Thoma and Rebecca will be at the event and Tom will be asked to organize the hosts, et al to set up press, tables, etc.

b) Budget cycle: Rebecca explained that the OPRD budget cycle would be ending in 8 months, so we should be looking for projects under \$10,000 that did not involve many Ranger hours.

7) New Business: a) Don had hoped to nominate Steve Thoma as new Board Member but Ron pointed out that the bylaws stated that new members were to be appointed at the Annual Meeting unless they were appointed to fill a resignation or loss of a Board Member. Alice has volunteered to resign so that Steve can be appointed (**Alice, please send email of resignation to Rebecca and Don**) as we need him to step into the Treasurers role. Ron further pointed out that there were restrictions as to holding more than one office. Treasurer and VP can be shared. Secretary and VP cannot. There was some discussion at this point about how to deal with Treasurer Ron's decision to step down. Don had contacted Mike Humphreys a Brownsville accountant about maintaining TMPS books. Mike has tentatively agreed if a TMPS Board member acts as Treasurer and he (Mike just maintains books and generates reports). Ron felt that he would need to know Mike's current accounting credentials and that there would have to be an audit as the books change hands. Mike H. perhaps can suggest an auditor with current license. Additionally, **Ron wants to get Rebecca on record as signatory** for TMPS accounts. She, then, could authorize Steve Thoma when he becomes Board member. Ron felt that the booklet, Guide to Non-profits in Oregon be obtained for all Board members. **A meeting between Mike Humphreys, Ron Van Orden, Steve Thoma and Don Lyon** should be held soon to view the books and talk about the transition and audit. Ron asked that we give him three possible meeting dates, soon.

b) Carl has requested **Ron to order more copies of the book** about the Haunted House at the Mill.

c) **Rebecca is to talk to Tom Adams** about purchasing his remaining copies of Through the Flume Gates plus obtaining the rights to reprint the book.

d) Bob McCormick (society member and former Board member) has presented TMPS with a 3 page memo of ideas for TMPS outreach at public events and how we need to build up Society membership. Bob had given Jim Ballard a copy of Women for Agriculture's book Get Oregonized which he thought would be very helpful. **Ron promises to contact Nancye Ballard** to retrieve this book for the Mill reference library.

Bob suggests that TMPS request a free space in the Historical Farm Equipment section of the Mid Valley Ag Show, 3 days in Mid November. He suggests we obtain State maps and maps of State Parks as items to give away. This would be opportunity to build membership. **Rebecca will ask Tom for additional items** to create interest in our table. Brooks Steam Up in July would be another good membership event for us. Bob also volunteered to visit schools to interest teachers and kids in the Mill. He assumed there would be few school visits due to bus driver shortage. He asked about some form of recognition for Martin Thompson, deceased Board member and contributor to TMPS. Ron has Roy Thompson's article ready for next Newsletter. Bob mentioned Martin's endowment to TMPS and **Ron agreed that he should ensure that the fund was earning interest** now that rates were up. Bob observed that TMPS should create a list of achievements so that all Board members would be able to help promote the Society.

It was observed that TMPS bylaws are in the website.

e) Carl moved **that Don be authorized to produce and print a brochure** that would both promote the Mill and membership in the TMPS (website to be included). No objections. (Rebecca sent an email a few hours later authorizing Don to spend up to \$600 to produce and print the brochure).

8) Next Board Meeting: December 6 at 6pm. **Don will try to reserve Shedd Fire Department.** Annual Meeting set for January 21. **Don will try to reserve the Kirk Room in Brownsville Library.**

9) Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 6:04pm. There were no objections.