

Boston Mill Society Board Meeting Minutes

6 PM

October 20, 2015

Shedd Fire Station

Present: Spencer Lewis, President; Tom Adams, Vice President/Treasurer; Anita Lewis, Secretary; Jim Ballard, Carl Browning, Larry Thompson, and Don Ware, BMS Board Members.
Absent: Ron VanOrden, BMS Board Member.

The president called the meeting to order at 6 PM. A late addendum to the minutes draft of the August 18th meeting was read aloud by the president as a couple of board members had not yet seen that revision. The board voted to approve the draft of the minutes as published.

The treasurer praised the BMS bookkeeper, Al Lutzeier, for the "umpteenth hours" that he has invested in attempting to reconcile the books from the end of Marlene's term in April 2014, until Dec 31, 2014. As audit committee members, the treasurer and Jim Ballard spent three hours on the previous Sunday going over the information that the bookkeeper had compiled. There are a couple of discrepancies that are unresolved in part due to there are no copies in our available records of the July & September 2014 bank statements from the Key Bank checking account. Key Bank will be contacted to retrieve the copies of the missing statements. Current total funds are \$25,158.96

The treasurer also reported that as best as they can figure out there was a \$1,000.00 grant from Linn County Cultural Commission provided for the purpose of busing schoolchildren to Thompson's Mills for tours. As far as can be determined, none of the money has been used. The treasurer proposed that if the board approves, that item be included in the budget proposal at the annual meeting. Jim Ballard added that this funds are for the busing of Linn County schoolchildren only and added that he felt that the funds be used as a cooperative payment of the busing cost - the school districts would bear part of the financial costs. In 2014 the BMS was paying the Peak Internet bill for Thompson's Mills up until the relationship devolved with OPRD. At that time OPRD assumed those payments with a little over \$720 remaining on the two year contract. However there is a refundable \$100 deposit that was put up by either the BMS or Al Lutzeier that needs to be addressed. The treasurer is in process of obtaining the needed information.

The treasurer expressed his opinion that we should not assume that getting the fire suppression study fully funded will stop at the \$7,625.00 estimate submitted, because; 1) it is only an estimate, and 2) the estimate did not include specific design engineering services for the system. The treasurer proposed that the board keep the full \$15,000.00 budgeted for the fire suppression study in reserve until everything is completed and passed on to OPRD. It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that the full \$15,000.00 be kept in reserve for funding fire suppression system study until it is completely clear what the complete costs will be. Don Ware requested some clarification about the funding' which Tom Adams supplied.

Next was the subject of the scheduling the annual meeting. The president proposed that the meeting be scheduled in February 2016, that way the board could have a meeting in November, skip December due to the holidays, and have a January meeting to make sure everything was in

place just prior to the annual meeting. The president said that he would approach the people at Teen Challenge about hosting the annual meeting again since they did such a good job last time. It was moved, seconded, and approved to schedule the annual meeting on Saturday, February 20, 2016 at 11:00 AM. Probable subject matter may include: by-laws, fund raising, special projects, membership building, dues, and of course the 2016 budget.

A brainstorming discussion followed concerning ways the BMS could assist the local OPRD managers with preservation, restoration, or improvement projects that are on their wish list. All of the board members were urged to seriously work on finding ideas for specific projects and ways to generate project funding, so the board can develop very specific budget proposals for the annual meeting. Mentioned in the comments about generating funds were the ideas of contacting local agricultural groups and area businesses to make them aware of the Boston Mill Society and to let them know where we are heading and to encourage their participation. It was also pointed out that currently we have nothing going on as far as actively building membership. Jim & Carl Browning both expressed interest, subject to Parks approval, of course, in having a display at the exit point of the tours that would: 1)let guests know about the BMS; 2)tell them about what project we were currently working on and future projects coming up; and 3)would ask them if they would like to join the BMS and/or volunteer for a project. At that point it would be fresh in the guest's mind what Thompson's Mills is about and the BMS can offer them a tangible way to support Thompson's Mills and/or specific projects at The Mill. The president agreed to attempt to set a meeting with Julie Whalen to attempt to coordinate our goals.

After completing further discussion of other means of getting the word out about Thompson's Mills in the local area, the board agreed to meet again at 6:00 PM, November 17, 2015, at the Shedd Fire Station.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Submitted by Anita Lewis, BMS Secretary