



Thompson's Mills Preservation Society

formerly known as the Boston Mill Society

tmppsonline.org

Thompson's Mills Preservation Society Minutes

November 27, 2018

Members Present: Jim Ballard, President; Ron VanOrden, Treasurer; Donald Lyon , Secretary, Larry Thompson, Board Member at Large. Carl Browning and Patty Linn absent. Roy Thompson, TMPS member, Tom Parsons, Ranger; Sarah Steele, District Manager Willamette Valley; Tammy Baumann, Visitor Experience Coordinator, Valleys Region also present.

1) Meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by President Jim Ballard. Minutes of October meeting were accepted, motion made by Ron, 2nd by Don--Unanimous.

2) Ron VanOrden gave the Treasurer's Report including Financial Summary sheet for 1.1.18-11.23.18. Opening balance was \$16,963.76. Commitments \$11,622.57 and cash uncommitted of \$11,213.24. See Financial Statement for details. Ron noted that we are not spending much and income is slowly increasing. Don turned over \$164 in income from sales of cider which he made after the October 27 pressing and the income from the hard cider workshop. He also provided reimbursable receipts for a bin of apples (\$140) and for 4 sawhorses for cider pressing. Move to accept report made by Larry, 2nd by Jim. Unanimous.

Jim took a few minutes to ask our OPRD guests to introduce themselves. Sarah is Tom's bosses boss and Tammy is involved with identifying critical and useful artifacts that can be used for exhibits as well as coordinating the development of exhibits and signs. Sarah had a letter from OPRD for TMPS acknowledging OPRD's appreciation of the role that TMPS plays. Last year Jim had written to OPRD to explain what TMPS was doing and that we wanted to be engaged with OPRD to help with future projects. Sarah also explained a bit about why communication had been so slow over the past few years and confirmed that she was very excited about the potential for development at Thompson's Mills.

3. Wrap-up of 2018 apples pressing and cider events by Don and others. Don gave a brief description of the cider pressing events and the plan to use these promoted activities to draw people to the mill for first and regular visits. Don estimated that the Saturday cider events drew at least 150 visitors each time and sometimes much more. Tom noted that visitors who had first helped press cider were considerably more engaged and excited about their tours inside the mill. Jim also described his impressions of the benefits of holding the cider pressing events. Sarah had attended the 2nd to the last one, so she had some understanding of the effect--and the quality of the cider. Tom mentioned that in the future we would pay more attention to dates so as not to conflict with major happenings in the area. Don described briefly that our last event had been a hard cider workshop, which received late publicity and was held on Veterans Day--resulting in a small turnout. This is normally a very popular event in Brownsville.

4. Fundraising Projects--Silos: Laurie Rodriguez is the Silverton Painter who painted the two flour logos on the Silos when the mill opened as a park. She expressed interest in doing

the touchup painting and needed more information which ORPD would have to coordinate. She mentioned that the work should be done before mid June to adhere to the whitewashed concrete walls properly.

5. Tom Parsons: Tom mentioned that the first step in getting the Fire Suppression project going was to begin the Fire Suppression Planning Project with the money that TMPS has budgeted. Ron noted that this amount was \$7270. Sarah acknowledged that ORPD was very much aware of the complexities and multitude of the projects ahead. A lengthy dialog followed with considerable input by Sarah, Tammy and Tom. Sarah acknowledged that TM has been undervalued in the past and that the path forward is complex. Insuring the integrity of the structure is the first priority. How to connect people to the mill, What function should the Mill House serve? Creating a diverse recreational portfolio to include bike trail, bike camping, garden and orchard. Events and how to schedule them given current hours of operation. Jumble of diverse ideas demonstrates the complexity of where to begin!

Painting of entire structure is to be in the near future (along with whitewashing of silos). Some discussion about TMPS getting grants indicates that TMPS should work closely with ORPD because successful grant request places money into ORPD which needs to be considered and accounted for within ORPD. In short, TMPS needs an OK from ORPD before it even applies for a grant. It was suggested that ORPD could help with grants for signage. Jim, Larry and Roy all had ideas to suggest having to do with new projects such as exhibits. Tammy mentioned the Andville Academy (in Dundee area?) as an organization that trains youth in traditional skills such as woodworking or cooperage. This Academy might be interested in helping to create exhibits.

The Bike Camping project was also discussed. Need some OK's from ORPD first. Highway signage to direct people to the Mill was also discussed. Tammy has some information and should be contacted about this. The Scenic Byways project is Joey Martinez's area. Sarah talked about archiving and identifying items at the Mill that might be used in exhibits. The Ross Springer estate was mentioned as having a great deal of material relating to TM as Ross had worked at the Mill. Larry has some contacts with the family.

Interpretation projects seem to be the easiest to OK and get going, both for inside and outside of the Mill. Tom stated that there is an "Interpretive Plan" for the Mill in existence. He will provide copy and has ideas he wants to implement.

6. Policy for events held at the Mill. Jim mentioned briefly the need for a policy that would insure that his efforts and activities benefit the Mill and not other organizations. It was decided that a meeting including Jim, Tom and Don should be convened soon to establish policy.

7. Promotional items update: Don reported on his contacts with Gateway Imprints regarding T-shirts, tea towels, etc. Gateway in Lebanon produced most of the gift shop items in the past and has many designs for T-shirts, tea towels and other items. Don stated that the best price break on T-shirts was to order at least 75 T-shirts which can be mixed design and size. T-shirts, then would be \$10.50 each. XXL is more expensive.

8. Newsletter Update: Ron stated that he had 7 pages of newsletter contact. Jim felt that TMPS should provide at least two newsletters per year. Hardcopy will be mailed to

everyone for whom we have a address. If only an e-mail, those people, mainly on the interest list for activities, would receive e-copy. Enclosures will include an invitation to annual meeting, membership card (for current members), and membership form for those who are not current members. Mailing may cost more than price of one stamp.

9. Annual Meeting is 1pm, Sunday, January 27, 2019 at Halsey Community Center.

10. New Business: No new business.

11. Adjourn: Motion by Larry, 2nd by Don at 7:45pm. Next Meeting is Annual. Minutes sent to Board and guests on 11.30.18 by Secretary Donald Lyon. Corrections and comments please!