

Boston Mill Society Board Meeting
May 12, 2015
Shedd Fire Hall

Present: Larry Thompson, President; Steve Smith, Vice President; Karen Force, Secretary; John Borden, Treasurer; Members Mike Smith, Bob McCormick, Don Ware

Absent: Kent Hickam and Kyle Smith

Guests: Elaine Lutzeier, Spencer and Anita Lewis – all from OPRD/Thompson's Mills

The meeting was called to order by President Larry Thompson at 6:05 p.m.

MINUTES: Minutes of the March 17, 2015 minutes were read and accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: none. It was asked if there will be a report available for the annual meeting on May 16th. John explained that the BMS accounts are only receiving 100th of 1% interest. John said he has to put his paying customers on hold to do the spreadsheet and was having difficulty finding the time. Several members expressed their concern about not having any detailed information since August, 2014. John expressed frustration that he did not receive the needed information for several months and when obtained it was tax season. Mike gave John BMS completed membership renewal forms along with cash and checks to pay for their annual membership. Larry also gave John the money and renewal forms he had. There are 30 paid membership renewals to date.

BUDGET/ANNUAL PLAN: Larry read the proposed 2015/16 annual plan/budget. Mike Smith made a motion to accept the budget/annual plan proposal. Bob McCormick seconded. Passed.

ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE: The annual meeting begins at 11:00 a.m. and is slotted to conclude at 1:00 p.m. It was noted that the newsletter did not have the meeting times. Mike suggested that Karen e-mail the membership with times. She agreed. Teen Challenge will cater and Mike is pleased with the menu. Invocation will be conducted by Troy Cunningham. There will be meals for a minimum of 20 people and a maximum of 40. Soup, sandwiches, dessert, drinks, water & coffee will be served. Karen brought up that Chet Houser, President of the Monteith Historical Society, will be the keynote speaker.

INVENTORY/STORAGE ISSUES: Larry spoke briefly about the former gift shop inventory. OPRD is willing to buy inventory to re-establish a gift shop in the mill which will be run by Elaine Lutzeier. Mike suggested that the inventory get sold for a discounted price. He does not want the inventory sold on consignment but all at once. Karen asked if that would include the storage bins and Mike said it would be appropriate. Bob suggested the proposed store be as an Adopt A Park project which would allow the BMS to buy inventory for selling at fairs and events. He also wanted to know if the BMS can reserve the right to have that option available. Mike Smith made a motion that Larry has until the end of May to approach the OPRD regarding the sale of proposed inventory items. Mike clarified that the BMS has a complete inventory list which he and Karen will place values. The proposed package will then be given to Larry to approach Julie at OPRD. Karen asked when she and Mike would meet; he said next week. Don Ware seconded the motion. Passed.

TOM ADAMS' REQUEST FOR PROJECT FUNDING: Bob McCormick moved that the proposed funding project for the mill be reviewed by the new board in July, 2015. Mike Smith seconded. Passed.

ROY'S E-MAILS AND PROPOSED RESPONSE: Karen explained that Roy has received several e-mails from Al. Due to Julie Whalen's strict instructions that there is not to be any unauthorized communication between mill staff and volunteers and the BMS board, Roy asked the board to discuss a possible solution. It was determined that Roy should respond to Al's next e-mail (if there is one) and tell him there is to be no contact.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS?: Mike Smith said that there are several local farmers who have been invited to the annual meeting and he thinks some will join the BMS board then.

BOB MCCORMICK UPDATE ON BMS HISTORY: Bob reported that the handbook is not completed due to inconsistencies within the board regarding tasks vs. committees. Mike agreed there are inconsistencies. The handbook will eventually be finished after the upcoming board elections.

COMMENTS: Bob does not like the way the board operates. His observation is the board makes decisions regarding policy, committees and tasks but does not complete. He does not agree with the current way projects are assigned and completed. He thinks that assigning tasks and not committees is not the proper or organized way for a board to operate. He thinks the proper procedure is for the board to assign committees chaired by board members and the committee chair appoints committee members. He also stated the new board needs to decide how it will operate and that he will not remain a board member when his term is completed May 16th (2015). Mike Smith thinks that reorganizing will make the BMS a stronger organization. He also stressed that BMS members need to participate. Bob said he would like to present at the July meeting a handbook outline. Mike thinks the handbook can be placed on the website.

BY-LAWS UPDATE: Larry brought an example of a handbook which includes by-laws. He thought the by-laws plus guidelines would benefit the future board's effectiveness. The by-laws were revised but not approved. By consensus it was decided to table and move the by-laws update and vote to the incoming board.

APPROVAL OF FORMS: Karen presented a Project and Funding Proposal form and an amendment to Article IV, Section 2. Bob McCormick moved to table the proposal for the incoming board to review and vote on. Don Ware seconded. Passed.

COMMENTS:

Bob stated that in the minutes from 3 or 4 years ago it was asked that the mill's park ranger draft a self-guided tour brochure or map. To date it has not been completed. Since the BMS is classified as an Adopt-A-Park, Bob thinks the board should make a brochure for points of interest. Mike Smith commented that OPRD should probably make one for themselves. Bob thinks if the BMS sponsored the brochure it would bring publicity and possibly increased membership.

Bob spoke about the book mobile being available from the City of Halsey. He explained it would be a possible place to store inventory and travel to events. Mike stated that the City of Halsey wants to donate the bookmobile to a nonprofit entity and has offered it to two other nonprofits. Mike thinks if the inventory is sold then the bookmobile is moot.

It was brought up that a mailing needs to be sent out asking for renewals and new members. Mike proposed that he and Karen write a letter asking for such and Kyle can send out.

Mike commented that he would like an exit survey for the annual meeting. He suggests it include a request to volunteer their time to the BMS.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2015, 6:00 p.m. at the Shedd Fire Hall. Bob would like to meet June 16th for handbook review and newsletter.

Karen thinks there should be a new board orientation around that time frame.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.