

BOURBONNAIS GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
August 3, 2017

Call to Order/Pledge/Attendance:

Meeting called to order by President Jim Paul at 7 pm. The pledge of allegiance was recited. In addition to President Paul and Treasurer, Tim Arseneau, other members in attendance were: Gary Seiner, Ken Ponton, Mary Ann Lambert, and Marcia Rabideau.

Presentation:

Jim Paul addressed the society about the BGHS support of the French/Canadian Festival that will be held at Maternity BVM Church and grounds on September 9 & 10. The Society will have a table/booth at the festival from 10 am to 4 pm with information to distribute and books to sell. Jim recommended that the society members who volunteer at the table/booth wear 19th century type clothing if possible and distribute/explain printed material which will be distributed to the public: Letourneau Home/Museum booklet, membership application, *Four Walking Tours of Historic Bourbonnais*—and the special walking tour for the fest which features the church inside and outside, and the heart of old St. Viator College, *Fleur-de-lis* dinner on November 3, French-Canadian Heritage Wall at KCC, and French Heritage Museum. Later in the meeting Tim Arseneau made a motion for table/booth volunteers to wear 19th century clothing if possible, and the motion was seconded by Ken Ponton. Motion carried. The society will also bring the French-Canadian flag to the table/booth.

Minutes:

Ken Ponton made a motion to approve the June 1 and July 6, 2017 minutes. Those minutes were sent to members by e-mail. Ken Ponton made a motion to accept the minutes, and Tim Arseneau seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report/Finances:

No formal report was available. The balances are \$9800.23 in the checking account and \$120.49 in windows account. Treasurer Tim Arseneau, stated that the craft show brought in a fund raising total of \$1887. The \$500 donation from the Village of Bourbonnais during the Friendship Festival was an extra fund raising amount. Marcia Rabideau made a motion to pay the bills, and the motion was seconded by Gary Seiner. Motion carried.

Ways and Means/Programming/Publicity:

Jim Paul mentioned that 10 individuals had paid for the *Fleur-de-lis* celebration dinner on November 3 at the Kankakee County Country Club. Publicity has been ongoing in the *Daily Journal*, and a general press release will be sent out in September. The deadline for the *Fleur-de-lis* celebration dinner will be October 16.

Memberships:

No report.

Curator:

No report.

Building and Grounds:

A garden work session was scheduled for Saturday August 12 from 8-10 am. Marcia Rabideau made a motion to purchase a new Shark vacuum cleaner for \$50, and Ken Ponton seconded the motion. Motion carried. A new hot water heater has been installed. The membership expressed appreciation for Camp MOSH's cleaning of the house/museum and weeding the day lily gardens on July 17. Gary Seiner was also thanked for trimming the bushes. The toilet in the museum still leaks.

Ken Ponton gave a brief report on the house/museum's relationship with the village. He said that in 1989, an attorney worked up a contract between the village and the BGHS in which the house/museum would be donated to the village and in a 99 year lease, the BGHS would pay \$1/year lease. The BGHS will maintain the building and grounds. The village will pay the utilities. The grounds and buildings will be used only for historical purposes and activities. All legal papers will be placed in our safe.

Mary Ann Lambert requested that Fr. Richard Pighini offer a tour of the Heritage Rooms and St. Viator Hall during the Maternity BVM Parish French-Canadian Fest.

Old Business:

Jim Paul stated that no application for the Annual *Fleur-de-lis* Award of Excellence had been submitted yet. The deadline for submission is October 1.

New Business:

Sue O'Halloran, the great great grand daughter of Noel LeVasseur has requested a visit of the museum on August 11. Ken Ponton volunteered to contact Ms. O'Halloran to make the arrangements.

Adjournment:

Ken Ponton made a motion to adjourn at 7:50, and the motion was seconded by Mary Ann Lambert. Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted (from notes taken by Marcia Rabideau),

Jim Paul