BOURBONNAIS GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP MEETING—September 19, 2024 (action items are in red)

CALL TO ORDER: President Jim Paul called the Zoom meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He hosted, presided over the meeting, and took minutes. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ATTENDANCE:  In addition to Jim Paul, Charles Balesi, Barbara Cantwell, Daron Kinzinger, Frank Koehler, Betty Leininger, Cindy McBarnes, Christine and Max Michels, Steve Monts, Doris O’Connor, Jean Legris Pekoc and Roy Pekoc, Ken Ponton, Gary Seiner, Malette Trudeau-Stevenson, and Ellen Stringer attended.

PRESENTATION: Jim posed the question from the BGHS News Eletter of September/October 2024 “Who are we?” Jean gave the correct answer: Thomas and Margaret Durham.

MINUTES: The August 8, 2024, meeting minutes were approved. The motion was made by Charles and seconded by Betty. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT:  Steve provided the bank balances as of the end of August: general account $27,729.91 which includes the Windows subaccount of $576.37; and log schoolhouse account $4,567.44. Balance of the CFKRV pass through investment account on December 13, 2023 was $7,729.05. A motion was made to accept the treasurer’s report and pay the bills by Gary and seconded by Max. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT: Christine mentioned recent emails in the gmail account. Jim has responded to all of them.

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT REPORT: Ken recommended that a marker indicating the Letourneau Home’s original site be placed in the Clancy Gernon Funeral Home parking lot. Jim said that he would speak to Tim Gernon about that possibility. Ken gave a summary of the tour for Joanne Robertson (George and Elodie Letourneau’s GG Granddaughter) and family that he, Mary Ann, Gary, Daron, and Doris conducted on September 8.

CURATOR’S REPORT: Gary made a motion to give the 1916 Broadway Buffet Calendar to the Bradley Historical Society. Steve seconded the motion. Motion carried. Gary reviewed his many new ideas for displaying artifacts. Some of his changes include making a sugar ax by a fake cone of sugar for the kitchen table, a new tin in the pantry, making fake coal for the coal bucket, and bringing taxidermy animals down from the attic. Gary stated that he needs several 40 and 60 watt bulbs. The membership again thanked Gary and Mary Ann for their care and display of both museums’ artifacts.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Doris stated that so far, 99 individuals are BGHS members for 2024—51 regular plus 48 Lifetime. 18-19 past members have not paid dues to date.

WAYS AND MEANS:

* Daron spoke again about the need for a Landing Page. Josué is still working on placing French Heritage Corridor logo on website; the Pictorial History of the Log Schoolhouse; and posting June/July, July/August, and August/September news eletters and approved June and July minutes.
* Ellen brought the members up-to-date on the December 7 craft show. The show is full and she has publicized in many ways, including a BGHS scarecrow at the Perry Farm.
* Jim stated that Randy Papineau (woodworker) said that two possibilities for the remnant log pieces are: bookmarks and card holders.
* Cindy explained the five October visits to the museum campus by the Liberty Intermediate School students and teachers. She has enough volunteers for the first week of October. She will send Jim a list of the dates where chaperones/docents are needed so that he can publicize in the next news eletter.
* Since museum campus open house had to be canceled in both August and September, Daron and Gary recommended that, starting next year, the open house be only once a month on the second Sunday from 1-4 pm. Frank made a motion to that affect, and it was seconded by Ken. Motion carried.
* Jim encouraged everyone to publicize the Sign Up Genius as the easy way to volunteer for upcoming open houses. Judy Smead has volunteered to chaperone the Letourneau Home/Museum on October 6; Doris O’Connor has volunteered to chaperone on October 20 and November 17, and Ken Lewellen has volunteered to chaperone on November 3.

There are open dates in need of volunteers. The Letourneau Home/Museum open house volunteer chaperone “sign up” link is:

[Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society: Chaperoning Letourneau Home/Museum Open House--Meet and Greet, Hand Out Self-Guided Tours, Oversee Artifacts (signupgenius.com)](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48ADAE2BABFCC43-chaperoning#/). The Log Schoolhouse volunteer chaperone “sign up” link is: [Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society: Chaperoning Log Schoolhouse Open House--Meet and Greet, Hand Out Self-Guided Tours, Oversee Artifacts (signupgenius.com)](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48ADAE2BABFCC43-chaperoning2#/). The volunteer link for the December 7 *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fair is <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48ADAE2BABFCC43-chaperoning1>.

* Frank gave a summary of the September trip to Boucherville, Quebec Province. The purpose of the trip—which included representatives from the village, MBVM church, BGHS, Kankakee County Historical Society, and Bradley-Bourbonnais Rotary Club—is to foster the creation of a “Sister City” between Bourbonnais and Boucherville.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

* B&C Yards Plus (owner Pete Gryzlak) is in the process of clearing unwanted trees, shrubs, and weeds from the southeast boarder along the water retention creek.
* Daron, Jim, Pete G., and others plan to survet the museum campus and ask Pete for an estimate on more tree/shrub removal/pruning.
* Daron made a motion to purchase three yard signs advertising open houses etc. from Fast Signs for a bid of $810.22. Doris seconded the motion. Motion carried.
* Betty’s idea of the Maintenance/Repair Fund had consensus support. She wishes to donate $50 to start that fund.

OLD BUSINESS:

* Tabled: Daron and Jim met on September 21, 2023 to move the draft (created by Jim) forward so that it can be presented to the membership in 2024. Daron has prepared a supplemental draft outline and would like to schedule a meeting with Jim to review both drafts. Jim would like a printed copy of Daron’s draft before such meeting. Daron has sent a general overview to Jim. After Jim and Daron reach agreement on the changes, the agreed upon language so that it can be presented to the membership.
* Tabled: the iNaturalist app.

NEW BUSINESS:

* The next membership meeting will be on Thursday November 7, 2024 at 7 pm and via Zoom only.
* Silent auction items were discussed for the *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner
* Jim announced the following special BGHS 2024 dates with links—**save the dates:**
  + **Tuesday September 24**, beginning at 5:30pm—*Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner [Fleur-de-Lis Celebration (bourbonnaishistory.org)](https://bourbonnaishistory.org/fleur-de-lis-celebration)
  + **October 17—**Perry Farm Living History Advisory Committee meeting at 7 pm
  + **October** 22—Log Schoolhouse Advisory Committee meeting at 3:30 pm
  + **November 7--**membership meeting
  + **December 5--**membership meeting, election of officers and board members
  + **Saturday December 7** from 9am – 3 pm—*Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fair [Les Artisans Fair (bourbonnaishistory.org)](https://bourbonnaishistory.org/les-artisans-fair)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm..

Respectfully submitted by Jim Paul