

Minutes of Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society Meeting May 7, 2015

Ms. Soper brought the meeting to order at 7 pm. Those members in attendance in addition to Ms. Soper were Dr. Charles Balesi, Waltrude Schuller, Bruce Moran, Marsha Rabideau, Gary Seiner, Daron Kinzinger, and Dr. Jim Paul. Dr. Paul wrote the minutes in Bonnie Bergeron's absence. Dr. Paul moved and Mr. Seiner seconded that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved. Motion carried.

In the absence of the treasurer, Ms. Schuller moved and Dr. Balesi seconded that the bills be paid. Motion carried.

Under Membership Report, Dr. Paul received Mr. Moran's e-mail address for the monthly news e-mail.

Under Curator Report, the society has accepted Mr. Butterfield's donation of a wood and upholstered chair from the early 1900s or late 1800s. Also, Ms. Rabideau stated that she will put an index program of her father's (Adrien Richard) *Tales of Another Day* on a CD or DVD and donate it to the museum. It was also decided that the "50s Room" in the museum will be converted to French-Canadian family display cases.

Under the Building and Grounds Report, Dr. Paul expressed gratitude to members Bonnie Bergeron, Judy Smead, and Gary Seiner as well as member/Master Gardener Steve Monts, and Master Naturalist Vicki Lamkis for their help in winter clean up of the arboretum on April 18. Dr. Paul asked for society help in picking a date for planting the heirloom annuals which are growing in his and KCC's greenhouses. The date was set for Saturday May 16 from 8-10 am.

Under the Ways and Means Report, Dr. Paul submitted to the BGHS a "walking tour" booklet of over 40 historical places entitled *Current Historic Homes, Buildings, Sites, and Exhibits in Bourbonnais and Rockville Townships (Kankakee County)*--produced by the Kankakee County Historic Preservation Commission. He will ask the Kankakee County Convention and Visitors Bureau to publish this booklet.

Under Unfinished Business, the May 20-25 Midwest French Colonial History Tour was discussed. Ms. Soper presented the souvenir booklet written by Vic Johnson. She will have it printed and ready to distribute at the *Bon Voyage* breakfast on May 20. Regarding the liability insurance for the tour, Ms. Rabideau moved and Ms. Schuler seconded that the liability insurance be purchased, but with a \$50 deductible to reduce the premium of \$340. Motion carried.

On a similar topic regarding liability of officers, Mr. Kinzinger led a discussion which resulted in the request for a board meeting to address this issue. Although some officers have liability coverage under their individual umbrella policies, it was suggested that at least two bids be solicited for this insurance. Ms. Soper will request that the board meet and address this issue. Under other old business, Dr. Paul agreed to check with Judy Smead regarding house/museum sitting for the first Sundays of June and July. She has already agreed to "sit" on the first Sunday of August;

Under New Business, Dr. Paul announced the 4th annual Durham-Perry Farmstead Open House on Saturday May 9 from 12-3 pm. Also, Dr. Charles Balesi proposed an alliance of local Rotary Clubs and the Illinois-Michigan Canal network for the purpose of advancing the idea of a French corridor from Michigan through the I&M Canal--an organizational meeting has been set for June 17 at KCC from 10 am-4 pm. Regarding the June article for *The Herald* from the BGHS, it was agreed that the daily blogs from Ellen Liehr to Laura McElroy about events on the Midwest French Colonial History Tour would represent the substance of the June article.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.