

Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society
Minutes of March 1, 2018 Meeting

Call to Order/Pledge/Attendance: The meeting was called to order by President Jim Paul at 7 pm. The pledge of allegiance was recited. In addition to President Paul, other members in attendance were: Gary Seiner, Tim Arseneau, Jorie Walters, Sandi Sandeno, Nelda Ravens, Norma Meier, Daron Kinzinger, Laurel Soper, and Daron Kinzinger.

Presentation: None

Minutes: The minutes for the December 7, 2017 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report/Finances: General fund Dec. balance: \$9579.56; Windows: \$155.55; and Log School House Restoration: \$2775.03. General fund Jan. 2018 balance: \$8260.36; Windows: \$155.56; and Log School Restoration: \$3308.29. Jim remarked that the Log School account was too high compared to his account. He will look for the discrepancy. Tim has reduced the monthly phone bill from \$129 to \$58. He will set up Pay Pal so that individuals may pay dues and donate online. Laurel will follow up. Jorie made a motion for the bills to be paid. Daron seconded. Motion carried.

Ways and Means/Programming/Publicity: *A secretary is desperately needed.* Sandi volunteered to chaperon open house on March 4. Home/museum will not be open on Easter. Judy Smead will chaperon on Chaperones are June 3, July 1, and August 5. Chaperones are needed for May 6, September 2, October 7, November 4, and December 2. Laurel reported on successful Chocolate Tour on February 3. 225 individuals visited the Letourneau Home/Museum to enjoy French settlers coffee and chocolates. Ellen Stringer and her son Aiden assisted. Jim presented the printed articles in *The Herald* for December, January, and February. He mentioned that Laurel has now placed all news articles for *The Herald* since November 2014 on our website under Le Journal. Laurel solicited more articles. Jim suggested an Illinois bicentennial theme for this year. The Kankakee County Historic Preservation Society is offering a plaque denoting Letourneau Home designation as a Kankakee County Historic Landmark. The cost is \$184.10. Nelda made a motion to acquire the plaque. Laurel seconded. Motion carried. Jim wrote a thank you note on 1/26/17 to Michael Buchanan, Jewel/Osco manager, for the \$100 Jewel gift card that was raffled off at Christmas open house.

Memberships: Bonnie Bergeron has requested that June 1 be deadline for membership renewal. Jim mentioned that our by-laws require dues at beginning of calendar year. Tim said this could be amended.

Curator: No report.

Building and Grounds: Gary said that the outside window frames need to be painted, and that there is a problem with the new vacuum cleaner. Jim suggested that Marcia Rabideau contact Alex Stirikos who wants to volunteer for us (815 939-3699).

New Business: Jim will invite Julie Larson to make a presentation about bee keeping. Jim Beedle (815 351-6669) is willing to donate the Yost mill stone to our gardens. A reinvigorated Durham-Perry Farmstead Open House will be on May 5 from 10-1. Jim distributed brochures about the Momence Farm Museum—www.momencefarmmuseum.org. Nelda made a report on the status of the Van Meter cemetery. ONU has conducted GPR and a plaque will be placed were most bodies are present. The

society has nominated Gary for an Outstanding Volunteer of Kankakee County. Jim placed the Kankakee County Historic Preservation Commission's *Preservation Plan* and KCC Power Point handouts from his Life Long Learning "Kankakee River Valley Pioneers: Thomas Durham and George Letourneau" on the shelves. Jim will speak at the Kankakee Kiwanis luncheon on March 12 about the Log School House. He mentioned that the first meeting of the steering committee will be on April 4.

Old Business: Chris Shoup's art and the Ian Fleming Foundation were tabled until next meeting when Dr. Charles Balesi can report.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Paul