

BOURBONNAIS GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
September 6th, 2018

Call to Order:

Vice President Gary Seiner called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Attendance:

Gary Seiner, Nelda Ravens, Faith Quigley, Ken Ponton, Laurel Soper, Mary Ann Lambert, Daron Kinzinger, Tim Arseneau, Marcia Rabideau, Malette Trudeau-Stevenson, Michelle Meier, and Ellen Stringer.

Minutes:

Correction proposed to Curator's report: Malette acknowledged scanner being bought and made statement that she was behind, based on computer troubles.

Treasurer's Report/Finances:

Tim submitted his report. There was a \$100 check donation left out of the discussion of August's meeting.

Primary Account: \$13,107.52

Log School House Account: \$3,153.88

Windows Account: \$185.63

PayPal is being used for the dinner fees. There will not be reimbursements for PayPal rate changes. There is no update on insurance claims for potential beehive project. Daron stated that checks and paperwork for the *Fleur-de-Lis* dinner can be found in the drawer near the front of the room. Those who have submitted dinner fees can check with Tim for verification of their payment. Norma inquired about ONU donation pledge and their lack of follow through. Comments are made regarding a more official pledge format in the future. Tim discussed filing of bills. He proposes that there be a policy about recording financial records. Daron submitted bills to Tim. Nelda made motion to accept treasurer's report, Laurel seconded.

Membership Report: none given

Ways and Means/Programming/Publicity:

Ken inquired about school house ownership and Tim discussed working with the village on the business of thus at this time. Gary was given preservation paper from Jim about dinner. Marcia presented three newspaper articles. They were Marcia's August issue, Jim's September issue and the August plaque articles. The members passed them around. Norma brought a printed email sent from an unknown individual that inquired about Dominick Bray. The email asks why the historical society doesn't place any focus on the man that built the first mansion in Bourbonnais.

Fleur-de-lis Celebration Dinner:

Val, Lynn, and Charles have met with Betty and Jean about dinner cuisine. They are working to confirm that a French or Quebec resident attends the dinner. Invitations were sent out in early August but there were no invites sent to the monthly email list to save postage money.

Reservations are due the 21st of this month and the dinner takes place the evening of September 28th. Donations to the dinner have reached over \$1,300.

Curator's Report:

Laurel gave a report for Malette and Marcia. Malette, Marcia and Laurel in addition to volunteers have met and re-inventoried house with the exception of the office and attic. They will give sheets to Malette for the database. There are several printers, monitor and speakers taking up room in the office. Malette was asked permission to move them, she permitted it. Malette wants to recycle equipment. Laurel suggested we use Staples for printing instead. None are opposed to ideas so Laurel will recycle items.

There was a visit from Guillaume Lecroix, Council General of France, on Thursday August 30th. He visited the French Heritage Museum and the Letourneau house. He possibly will attend the upcoming dinner. Charles Balesi was in charge of the visit. WVLI, local newspapers, and the Village acknowledged the visit.

There were statements made to put up more fliers of the group around town. Gary intends to place fliers in the bank and library if possible. Norma talked of a program September 15th that regards early Bourbonnais information of the environment. There will be a speaker present. Michelle Meier stated information pertaining to her grandma living in the Letourneau home for some time. Group discussed the history of the home regarding former owners and the original designs of the porch, basement and chimney.

Building and Grounds:

There is still mulch and supplies available for use. There's mention of possible markers to be put in west of the house in the gardens. The washing machine needs fixing. The piano may need fixing. There was talk of the lawn becoming too long as Tim was gone and didn't pay the bills. Gary proposes that bills be paid in advance to prevent this occurrence. The idea was shut down and Daron proposed that Tim make checks available for other people to sign in case of Tim's absence. No finite conclusion on the matter was reached.

Old Business: none

New Business:

A new recorder has been purchased and was used for the first time for review of minutes.

Bonnie stated that the membership date has been changed from March 1st to June 1st. The membership cards need to be printed with new date. Bonnie leaves for Florida after the October meeting and requests the cards to be printed before then.

There was a call from Howard Granger, an Arizona resident who is visiting later in September. He had questions about name changes to Granger Street. He talked of his genealogy questions. Nelda will call Bonnie about email information for Granger.

There is an inquiry as to whether the September 29th board meeting was approved.

Daron proposed new membership fees. He stated that it should be free for students, higher for businesses, and individual fees remain unchanged. Nelda proposed that senior citizen fees change to the same as individual fees to eliminate category. Laurel stated that the group look into other historical societies and simplify the system. This will be discussed at the board meeting, September 29th.

Sandy came Sunday, September 2nd around 12:50 p.m. and left at 1:15 p.m. as no one was there to let her in to chaperon for that day's open house. She picked weeds between those times while waiting.

Gary asked for updated phone number list and for there to be an asterisk drawn next to numbers who have keys to the house. There are nine individuals who have house keys.

Someone needs to be at house on October 1st

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Comments: none

Adjournment:

Ken made motion to adjourn, Norma seconded. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Faith Quigley**