

BOURBONNAIS GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP MEETING—May 7, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: President James Paul called the meeting to order at 7 pm. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ATTENDANCE: James Paul, John Hassett, Charles Balesi, Wal Schuler, Laurel Soper, , Daron Kinzinger, Bonnie Bergeron, Ellen Stringer, Lynn Ahlden, Norm Strasma, and Marcia Rabideau.

PRESENTATION: This is an historic meeting for the BGHS: the first Zoom meeting in the midst of this Covid-19 pandemic. The membership thanks Laurel for setting up this Zoom meeting and hosting it.

MINUTES: The minutes of the March 5, 2020 minutes were approved. The motion was made by Wal and seconded by Bonnie.

TREASURERS REPORT: John provided a summary of the BGHS accounts: general account balance of \$28,975.10; CD--\$6510.77; Log Schoolhouse account--\$36,085.70; and Windows account--\$290.94. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills by Charles and seconded by Bonnie. The treasurer's report was approved.

MEMBERSHIP: Bonnie will send out reminders that annual dues should be paid by June 1. Jim will remind members of the same in his upcoming BGHS News—May/June e-mail.

WAYS AND MEANS: Ellen Stringer summarized the problems of the scheduled July 4 *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fair during the pandemic. The membership will decide at the June 4 membership meeting whether or not to cancel the craft fair. Since only during the final phase of Illinois reopening (when a vaccine or highly effective treatment is widely available or there are no new cases over a sustained period) will gatherings of 50 or more people be allowed, it appears that July 4, 2020 craft fair will not take place. Ellen said that the number of vendors themselves is about 50. Discussion included ideas about returning the rental space money to the vendors for the July 4 fair or letting them use it for an upcoming show. The Kankakee County Fair Grounds will allow the BGHS \$1200 rental for the July 4 show to be used for a future show. Regarding the *Fleur-de-Lis* Celebration Dinner on September 18, a decision will be made at the June 4 membership meeting. Jim requested the members to suspend open houses at the Letourneau Home/Museum until it was safe to reopen. Daron made the motion and it was seconded by Bonnie. During discussion, Laurel amended the motion to “. . . suspend open houses until August. . .” when the members could revisit the issue in July. The amended motion was agreed to and the motion carried.

CURATORS REPORT: None

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Laurel will contact the contractor who will complete the boardwalk work. John had submitted a bid for painting the Letourneau Home/Museum upstairs for \$1200 (4 rooms, closet, inside of windows, and stairway) and \$250 for the front porch (including interior white wood and green floor. The membership agreed to the bid, but Daron will need to get board approval. Some plaster work will need to be done beforehand, and John will do that work also. Jim mentioned that Alex S. had cleared the vegetation out behind the outhouse (see BGHS Facebook for photos) for \$320 (16 hours at \$20/hour). Jim said Alex is

looking for more garden work, and that there is a lot to be done. The members agreed that Jim should ask Alex to do the same amount of work for the same amount of money this month. Jim said that he had requested mulch from Bourbonnais Public Works. Daron mentioned again that some 57 trees on the property need to be pruned. The members were concerned about who would do the work, and preferred a reliable arborist. Daron agreed to show Jim the trees in question.

NEW BUSINESS: Jim requested those in attendance encourage other members to join the Zoom meeting next month or try to have them listen in by smartphone to the meeting, and maybe thereby participate.

OLD BUSINESS: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Paul