

BOURBONNAIS GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP MEETING—February 4, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: President Jim Paul called the Zoom meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ATTENDANCE: In addition to Jim Paul, Bonnie Bergeron, Janet Evans, Daron Kinzinger, Steve Monts, Ken and Judy Ponton, Marcia Rabideau, Gary Seiner, Laurel Soper, and Ellen Stringer attended.

PRESENTATION: None.

MINUTES: The minutes of the January 7, 2021 minutes were approved. The motion was made by Daron and seconded by Marcia.

TREASURERS REPORT: Steve stated that after bills were paid, there is \$22,694.95 in the general account; \$58,073.23 in the log schoolhouse restoration account; \$390.96 in the windows account; and \$6523.01 in the CD. Jim stated that the Community Foundation of the Kankakee River Valley has a check box for the 3% processing fee (to cover the Pay Pal fee for each dues or donation payment) on their “Donate” web page. After some discussion in which Laurel stated that this fee will be covered by the dues increase, the matter was dropped. Jim explained how the BGHS as of January 12, 2021 has paid its \$100 lease in full to December 29, 2085. He and the treasurer have copies of the letter to Mayor Paul Schore of January 20, 2021 with copy of the \$100 check dated January 12, 2021. Anyone else may have a copy of each if requested. Bonnie made a motion to pay the bills and accept the Treasurer’s Report, and it was seconded by Gary. Motion carried.

MEMBERSHIP: Bonnie stated that of the 157 members, 62 are lifetime, 53 are paid with 3 new members, but 39 have not paid their dues. Bonnie and Laurel volunteered to review the membership list, delete the deceased, and decide what to do next about those who have not paid. Since the Letourneau Home/Museum has been closed for nearly a year due to the pandemic, Jim asked the members to consider waiving membership dues for 2021. The ensuing discussion emphasized that individuals who join the society, do so in order to further its’ mission, and that the dues are so minimal already. Bonnie made a motion to not waive the dues for 2021, Gary seconded the motion. Motion carried.

WAYS AND MEANS: Jim asked for a volunteer to contact Nicole Smolkovich of the Community Foundation of the Kankakee River Valley (815 939-1611) in order to set up the BGHS as a “Designated Fund” on their website “Donate” page. Gary said that he would meet with Nicole. Ellen then led a discussion about hosting the upcoming July 4 *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fair. She plans to book additional vendors along with the 19 who have received credit from 2020, to equal 50. This will be a “half capacity” show that will allow us to space vendors apart from each other for social distancing. However, the question remains as to how many people will be allowed inside the Expo. Vendors and shoppers will be required to wear masks and all other Covid 19 mitigations. The Fairgrounds will offer suggestions on set up, possibly allowing some vendors outside the Expo. Fewer vendors would mean less profit. Ellen plans to hold checks until the event in order to limit paperwork and refunds in the event an outbreak forces us to cancel close to the event. Ellen will give an update at the March 4 meeting.

CURATORS REPORT: None.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Gary stated that the chimney leak was no worse. Jim stated that he has requested that a roofer from Burklow Construction check the chimneys. Ken informed us that the chimneys were added for looks, and that a cap/dome was put on top to keep out rain. He said that may be the issue, but it might also be the flashing. Regarding the boardwalk, Ken has volunteered to take up the old boardwalk and set it by Stratford Drive East if Public Works will pick it up. Jim recommended that he wait until a contractor can be agreed to and how much his/her debris removal fee would be. Ken recommended using Facebook to find a contractor. Daron stated that the western neighbor of the Adrien M. Richard Heritage Preserve still has sump pump run off on the preserve.

NEW BUSINESS: The membership addressed and after motions, unanimously passed the bylaw proposed amendments that follow.

Section 3.2 Dues. (Change to read as below.)

Dues are paid upon joining or by July of each calendar year. Dues paid after July 1 shall be deemed paid through the next calendar year. Annual dues are as follows [commencing January 1, 2021]:

Senior (over 60) and Full-time Student - \$10

Individual - \$20

Family - \$30

Business - \$50

Business lifetime memberships are \$500

Individual lifetime memberships are \$300

Section 5.2 Board of Directors Number and Term (Change to read as below.)

The board of directors of the corporation shall be a minimum of three (3) persons and a maximum of seven (7). All directors shall be appointed by a term of two (2) years commencing with the first regular meeting following their appointment, commencing in 2008. (This bylaw was proposed in 2007. The ratification will confirm the bylaw.)

Section 6.3.3 Executive Vice-President. (Change to read as below.)

The Executive Vice-President shall be responsible for coordinating and supervising special projects, including chairperson of the Collections Committee.

(To be added.)

Section 6.4.6 Collections Committee. The purpose of the Collections Committee is to:

1. Create and submit a collections management policy to the Board of Directors for approval.
2. Recommend a collections management system (software and hardware) purchase to the Board for approval.
3. Ensure that the collections management system is properly installed and existing inventory data from the "Accessions by Location" spreadsheet (updated 12/4/19) is imported to its database.
4. Advise the Board of Directors on requirements to maintain the collections management system and implement procedures to support the collections management policy.

Article VII. Meetings of the Board of Directors, Section 7.1 Meetings (Change to read as below.)

A meeting (1) of the board of directors shall be held a minimum of one (1) time per year. (This bylaw was proposed in 2007. The ratification will confirm the bylaw.)

Jim then requested that the membership give him permission to solicit all board of directors' and officers' vote by email since Article IX of the bylaws states that the "board of directors and officers may amend these bylaws by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present at any regular meeting, after such amendment has been deliberated upon and recorded in the minutes of any regular meeting." The membership granted Jim permission to send the email vote solicitation.

OLD BUSINESS: Laurel made a motion that the BGHS upgrade the website to the current version of Website Builder, which will increase the monthly expense from \$14.99 to \$19.99 per month. The new version will allow unlimited pages, 50 GB disk space, 1000 GB bandwidth, and improved design interface. Marcia seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jim thanked Marcia for submitting the bylaw amendment proposals and working on the acquisition policy; and Laurel for hosting the Zoom meeting. Ken made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Gary. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Paul