

BOURBONNAIS GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP MEETING—April 1, 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, Charles Balesi, Bonnie Bergeron, Daron Kinzinger, Steve Monts, Ken and Judy Ponton, Josue Savoie, Wal Schuler, Gary Seiner, Laurel Soper, and Ellen Stringer attended.

PRESENTATION: None.

MINUTES: The minutes of the March 4, 2021 minutes were approved. The motion was made by Ken and seconded by Bonnie.

TREASURERS REPORT: Steve stated the bank balances as of April 1, 2021: general account \$22,369.44; log schoolhouse account \$58,076.05; windows account \$400.96; and CD \$6523.01. Gary made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and pay the bills. Laurel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MEMBERSHIP: Bonnie Bergeron said that we have no change in membership: 158 members of which 4 are new this year and 62 are lifetime members. 53 have paid and 39 not paid. Laurel volunteered to create 2021 membership cards.

WAYS AND MEANS:

- Ellen said that the upcoming July 4 *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fair is basically full—using the current guidelines of the Kankakee County Health Department. She would like to have more vendors with less space in between booths. She has ordered mini flyers for the fair and is seeking a sponsor for the hand sanitizer (cost about \$100).
- On March 19, Gary met with Nicole Smolkovich of the Community Foundation of the Kankakee River Valley in order to set up the BGHS as a “Designated Fund” on their website “Donate” page. She recommended that an endowment be created as a “pass through fund”. He will leave the folder on the Letourneau Home/Museum front table for Jim.
- The BGHS received a donation check of \$110 from the “Network for Good”. The general consensus was that the donation should go into the General Account and Jim volunteered to send a thank you note.
- Laurel has copied content (including minutes, *The Herald* articles, and BGHS news eletters) to the new website. Jim mentioned a link to his article on the web about the French-Canadian Heritage Corridor <http://planning.k3county.net/pdf/FCHC.pdf>. Jim, Ken, and Josue volunteered to review the content before Laurel offers a “soft launch” of the new website.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

- Jim has contacted Burklow Construction of Kankakee about the chimney leak. A chimney specialist, Brian, will contact him about an inspection.
- Jim has obtained three bids for pest control at the Letourneau Home/Museum: 1) Critter Ridder—Dennis said that he will come when needed for no cost, but he was unwilling to

submit an estimate for annual pest control; 2) Rid All Pest Solutions; and Orkin. The membership accepted the Rid All Pest Solutions as the lowest bid. Jim will leave their service contract on the Letourneau Home/Museum front table for Daron to sign.

- Paul Zeedyk of Zeedyk Remodeling will submit a bid to replace the boardwalk;
- A Saturday May 15 garden work session from 9-11 am was agreed to;
- Gary requested another work session to prune the shrubs and trees;
- Gary stated that a grape arbor board needed to be repaired;
- Camp MOSH will be asked to clean the home/museum and gardens during the week of July 19-23; and
- Ellen will ask her Dad who he uses to maintain his cedar shake shingle roof.

CURATORS REPORT: None.

NEW BUSINESS: After reviewing two differing views about how the log schoolhouse will be incorporated into the BGHS (see BGHS News—March/April 2021), Gary made a motion to “Establish the rebuilt log schoolhouse as a permanent BGHS exhibit with at least one representative on the Collections Committee who will address all log schoolhouse issues.” Charles seconded the motion. Motion carried. Jim said that he had already asked Ken Ponton if he would serve as the log schoolhouse representative on the Collections Committee, and Ken has agree to do so. Since Marcia did not attend this meeting, Jim made a motion to wait to discuss the bylaw and accession policy amendment proposals at the May 6, 2021 meeting. Charles seconded the motion. Motion carried. Charles mentioned that a new family will soon take ownership of two car dealerships in Bourbonnais. Charles met one of the car service persons is related to Marge Hildebrand. Charles suggested that a welcome letter be sent to the new owners. Bonnie said that her husband Dick Bergeron had built both dealerships in Bourbonnais. Also, Josue stated that a Franco-American Zoom discussion will take place on April 24 from 7-9 pm (EST).

OLD BUSINESS: None.

Ken made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bonnie. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Paul