

BOURBONNAIS GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP MEETING—July 6, 2023 (action items are in red)

CALL TO ORDER: President Jim Paul called the Zoom meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He hosted, presided over the meeting, and took minutes. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ATTENDANCE: In addition to Jim Paul, Mary Ann Lambert, Christine and Max Michels, Ken Ponton, and Elmira Wilkey attended in person; and Bonnie Bergeron, Daron Kinzinger, Betty Leininger, Steve Monts Jean Legris-Pekoc and Roy Pekoc, Josue Savoie, Gary Seiner, and Marcia Rabideau attended via Zoom.

PRESENTATION: The membership then discussed “Who am I?”—from the June/July 2023 issue of BGHS News eletter). Jim gave the answer as Dr. Charles Morel. Elmira then gave a fantastic presentation about the Sister Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary—based on her research. Everyone applauded her.

MINUTES: The June 22, 2023, meeting minutes were approved. The motion was made and carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Steve provided the bank balances as of the end of May: general account \$23,495.82; log schoolhouse account \$7731.79; windows account \$526.35; and CFKRV pass through investment \$6,534.23 (this account will be updated later in July). Steve stated that the log schoolhouse landscaping bill was \$2377.03, slightly higher than the estimate. A motion was made and passed to pay this amount. Daron will ask for board approval. A motion was made to accept the treasurer’s report and pay the bills. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT: Christine mentioned that several nominations for the *Fleur-de-Lis* Award of Excellence have been received. Jim reminded everyone that the deadline for the nomination is August 1.

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT COLLECTION COMMITTEE REPORT: Ken gave his report, and mentioned his work with Gary on the artifacts for the Letourneau Home/Museum.

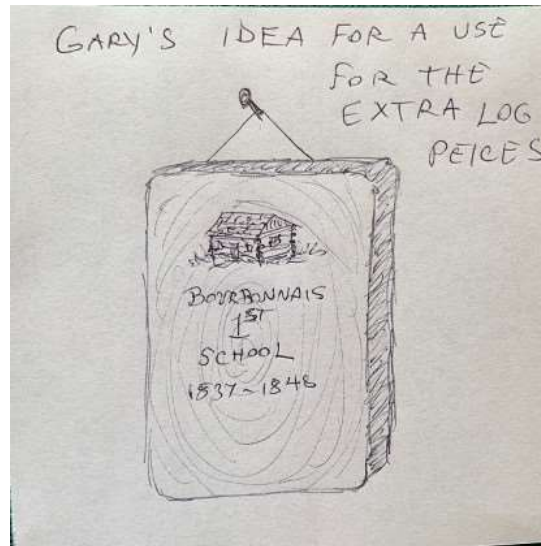
CURATOR’S REPORT: Gary stated that he has:

- Replaced the Lending Library bookcase with one that Frank Koehler donated; and
- Continued to set out items not previously displayed.

MEMBERSHIP: Bonnie gave the report and said she will leave a copy of the membership list in the Letourneau Home/Museum meeting room.

WAYS AND MEANS:

- Jim introduced a discussion about Gary’s design for the remnant log schoolhouse pieces on the back porch. Here is the design. The matter was tabled.



- Jim emphasized the ease of volunteering for open houses by using the Sign Up Genius.
- Steve stated that the income from the \$1 suggested donation for entry to the July 4 craft show was \$957.71.
- Jim distributed invitations to the October 17 Fleur-de-Lis Celebration Dinner.
- Daron led a discussion about the possibility of holding a fundraiser at Culvers from 4-8 pm.
- Jim advertised his new Facebook public group page [Bourbonnais History Dossier | Facebook](#); and
- Jim stated that the Log Schoolhouse's nomination as a Kankakee County historic landmark may be approved by the county board on August 8. The Village of Bourbonnais has already approved the log schoolhouse as a village historic landmark.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

- Since the log schoolhouse landscaping is done, Steve, Ken, Gary, Max, and Daron will monitor watering of the new plants. Steve volunteered set up a soaker hose system around the plantings.
- Jim mentioned again that Angi be used as a resource to find someone to complete repairs as needed for the home/museum upstairs east side wall plaster, back porch repainting, and future roof repairs/replacement for the Letourneau Home/Museum. Daron said that he has not observed any new problems.
- **Jim will ask Steve Bisailon of Bisailon Rid All to spray for ants in log schoolhouse.**
- Levi Lawson likes Gary's design for his Eagle Scout project. Levi plans to do the work in August after he conducts a fund raiser for his project. **The BGHS will need to supervise his project.**
- Jim and Gary are teaching members with keys how to set and disarm the new alarm system.
- **The village is pursuing the idea of planting an arbor vitae or shrubs along the west boundary to hide the trash bins and driveway.**

- Jim will supervise the Camp MOSH work in the day lily gardens on July 11,

OLD BUSINESS:

- Daron stated that he is still in the process of editing of the bylaws (drafted by Jim and emailed to Daron on 3/2/22). The draft provides language for restructuring of the BGHS.
- Jim reiterated that members help in the search for a new BGHS Web Master and Facebook Administrator and Membership Chairperson. Jim read Laurel's insights about advertising her current position. Josue Savoie volunteered to assume this position. Jim and the members thanked him.
- Jim asked if anyone would like to volunteer as Membership Committee chair.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The next BGHS membership meeting will be in-person and Zoom at 7:00 pm on Thursday August 3.
- Jim announced special BGHS dates for 2023.
- Jim re-emphasized the need for volunteers on the Perry Farm Living History Advisory Committee. At the last meeting, Daron asked if there would be a BTPD issue with the open meetings act. Dave Zinanni said that he would check it out. Jim stated that Doris O'Connor has volunteered to join the PFLHC.
- Jim said that after the French Heritage Corridor Leadership Team sets up an Illinois Module on the FHC website, he will introduced a tour document *Let's Spend the Weekend in Illinois's French-Canadian Heritage Corridor*.
- Jim mentioned that he, Ken, Charles, and several other local authors will have a book signing at the Kankakee County Museum on July 22.
- Jim mentioned that the deadline for nomination for the Fleur-de-Lis Award of Excellence is August 1. The officers will chose the 2023 awardee after the August 3 membership meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm. Motion was made and carried.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Paul