

BOURBONNAIS GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP MEETING—December 12, 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, Charles Balesi, Daron Kinzinger, Mary Ann Lambert, Christine and Max Michels, Steve Monts, Ken Ponton, Marcia Rabideau, Penelope and Phil Stickney, and Gary Seiner attended via Zoom.

MINUTES: The November 9, 2023, meeting minutes were approved. The motion was made by Mary Ann and seconded by Penny. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Steve provided the bank balances as of the end of November: general account \$19,033.25; and log schoolhouse account \$2540.39 which includes the Windows subaccount of \$576.37 (to save a \$15 monthly fee for a separate account if below \$2500). **Steve will check on the CFKRV pass through investment account and inform Jim [on December 13, Steve emailed Jim with the amount: opening balance in July 2; 2021 was \$6,534.23; and balance on December 13, 2023 was \$7,268.48].** Marcia made a motion that the Windows money be in the general or Letourneau Home/Museum account. Daron seconded the motion. Motion carried. A motion was made by Marcia to accept the treasurer's report and pay the bills. Motion was seconded by Ken and carried.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT: Christine recommended that the Sign Up Genius volunteer sign up should be under "Members" on the BGHS website. **This issue will be discussed further at the March 7, 2024 meeting.**

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT COLLECTION COMMITTEE REPORT: Ken stated that State Representative Jackie Haas will propose a resolution in the state legislature to create a state History Day in June. He said there are currently 13 historical societies in Kankakee County.

CURATOR'S REPORT: Gary stated that he:

- Decorated the Letourneau Home/Museum and the log schoolhouse for Christmas; and
- Decided to ask Mike Van Mill to donate one of the chairs from the Gossett family—the members reviewed photographs of the proposed donations in order to assist Gary.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Bonnie's email to Jim: no change in membership since last month.

WAYS AND MEANS:

- Steve provided an overview of the December 2 *Les Artisans* Arts and Craft Fair. **Ellen will submit her report on the total income of the fundraiser.** Steve stated that the suggested donations at the door totaled \$900.03. Jim thanked all who volunteered for the event, and Ellen for once again organizing a successful craft show.
- Daron stated that the BGHS fundraiser at Culvers from 5-8 pm on Wednesday November 15 brought in \$455.
- Gary again made a suggestion for the design for the remnant log schoolhouse pieces to be used in fund raising. He recommended sanding the pieces so that splinters will not hurt anyone, and a paper wrap identifying the log pieces. Some members opposed the sanding as it would detract from the authenticity of the 1837 log pieces. Jim recommended

wrapping the un-sanded log pieces with see-through wrap so the splinters would not be an issue. **The matter was tabled until the next meeting.**

- The members discussed preparing for the special Christmas open house on Sunday December 17.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

- **Tabled: Levi Lawson plans to build his structure using Gary's design after he conducts a fund raiser for his project. He needs an officer's signature on a form before he can proceed. The BGHS will need to supervise his project.**
- Daron gave an update on the newly completed privet shrub hedge on the west boundary of the property.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Tabled: Daron and Jim met on September 21 to move this draft forward so that it can be presented to the membership in 2024. **Daron is retyping the agreed upon language so that it can be presented to the membership.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- Next meeting will be on Thursday March 7, 2024 via Zoom—vote will be taken on whether or not to resume in-person meetings.
- Jim announced special BGHS dates remaining for 2023.
- Jim re-emphasized the need for volunteers on the Perry Farm Living History Advisory Committee. The committee met on November 16 and plans to meet again on January 18 at 7 pm via Zoom.
- Several individuals have already expressed interest in volunteering as docents/interpreters for the log schoolhouse: Doris, Betty, Wayne Rybak, Jeanne Benson, Maureen Antignoli, Karen Duchene-Korup, Kristen Singer, Joyce Harris, and Trena Vanleck.
- Tabled: **Betty Leininger will check to see how we can trade mark this logo.**



- Jim asked for the nomination slate of officers and board of directors for 2024. The nomination slate included: Jim Paul (president), Gary Seiner (vice-president), Ken Ponton (executive vice-president), Christine Michels (corresponding vice-president), Steve Monts (treasurer), Daron Kinzinger, Jim Paul, Gary Seiner, Josue Savoie, Malette Trudeau-Stevenson, and Ken Ponton (board of directors). Motion was made by Ken and seconded by Christine to close the nominations and accept those nominated. Motion carried.
- Daron mentioned that the Bradley Historical Society is trying to revive itself.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm. Motion was made by Daron and seconded by Mary Ann. Motion carried. Respectfully submitted by Jim Paul