

BOURBONNAIS GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP MEETING—October 3, 2024 (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, Barbara Cantwell, Janet Evans, Daron Kinzinger, Frank Koehler, Mary Ann Lambert, Betty Leininger, Ken Lewellen, Steve Monts, Doris O'Connor, Jean Legris Pekoc and Roy Pekoc, Ken Ponton, and Gary Seiner attended.

PRESENTATION: Jim posed the question from the BGHS News Eletter of October/November 2024 “Who are we?” Gary gave the correct answer: Mary Lagesse and Philip Letourneau.

MINUTES: The September 19, 2024, meeting minutes were corrected and approved. The motion was made by Mary Ann and seconded by Ken P. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Steve provided the bank balances as of the end of September: general account \$25,849.80 which includes the Windows subaccount of \$576.37; and log schoolhouse account \$3,837.71. Balance of the CFKRV pass through investment account on December 13, 2023 was \$7,729.05. A motion was made to accept the treasurer’s report and pay the bills by Gary and seconded by Frank. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT: None.

EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT REPORT: Ken followed up with his recommendation at the September meeting that a marker indicating the Letourneau Home’s original site be placed in the Clancy Gernon Funeral Home parking lot. Jim has spoken to Tim Gernon, and he is agreeable. He wants to know where and type of marker we wish to install. Ken has researched a marker that costs \$600-700. He and other members will continue to investigate a marker that is suitable. Ken stated that the Paschke family (descendants of George and Elodie Letourneau) will visit the Adrien M. Richard Heritage Preserve soon, and he will give a tour. He also thanked Village of Bourbonnais staff member Tyler Goodrich for her assistance in ordering the souvenir pencils for the students visiting the log schoolhouse.

CURATOR’S REPORT: Gary reviewed the new and needed artifacts that he and Mary Ann have curated: several 40 and 60 watt bulbs as well as artificial eggs are still needed, Halloween decorations are up, the teacher writing desk (donated by Jean and Roy) is now in the log schoolhouse, a George Letourneau portrait from the Paschke family is on the meeting room table, a small photograph of Alexander Lamontagne is now on the chiffonier (dining room) that he created, a pin of Joseph Lasage--given to his family members at his 75th birthday--and donated by Joel Legris--will soon be on display, and a photo book of Letourneau family members will display photos donated by the Paschke family and others. The membership again thanked Gary and Mary Ann for their care and display of both museums’ artifacts.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Doris stated that so far, 81 individuals are BGHS members for 2024—32 regular plus 49 Lifetime. 22 past members have not paid dues to date.

WAYS AND MEANS:

- Daron met with Josué about a possible website Landing Page. Josué is still working on placing French Heritage Corridor logo on website; the Pictorial History of the Log

Schoolhouse; and posting June/July, July/August, and August/September newsletters and approved June and July minutes.

- Chaperones/docents for the five October visits to the museum campus by the Liberty Intermediate School students and teachers are: Jean and Frank Koehler, Cindy McBarnes, Doris O'Connor, Bonnie Brewer, Jeanne Benson, Jim Paul, Ken Lewellen, Linda Klette, Maureen Antignoli, and Karen Duchene-Korup.
- Chaperones for the upcoming open houses are: Judy Smead--October 6; Doris O'Connor--October 20, and Ken Lewellen--November 3.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

- B&C Yards Plus (owner Pete Gryzlak) is in the process of clearing unwanted trees, shrubs, and weeds from the southeast boarder along the water retention creek.
- Daron, Jim, Pete G., and others plan to survey the museum campus and ask Pete for an estimate on more tree/shrub removal/pruning.
- The members thanked Betty's for her donation of \$50 to the Maintenance/Repair Fund.
- Ken said that he would remove the vines around the out house.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Tabled: Daron and Jim met on September 21, 2023 to move the draft (created by Jim) forward so that it can be presented to the membership in 2024. Daron has prepared a supplemental draft outline and would like to schedule a meeting with Jim to review both drafts. Jim would like a printed copy of Daron's draft before such meeting. Daron has sent a general overview to Jim. After Jim and Daron reach agreement on the changes, the agreed upon language so that it can be presented to the membership.
- Tabled: the iNaturalist app.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The next membership meeting will be on Thursday November 7, 2024 at 7 pm and via Zoom only.
- Daron introduced ideas about YouTube video and Windrose Site;
- Doris and Frank recommended a map--for tours--showing the water routes from Quebec in relation to the Midwest.
- Gary and Jim recommend the large 1836-40 map (donated by Max) be placed in the log schoolhouse.
- Mary Ann mentioned that several groups have recently visited the museum campus including her family and that of Marsha and Larry Rabideau.
- Jim announced the following special BGHS 2024 dates with link—**save the dates:**
 - **December 5**--membership meeting, election of officers and board members
 - **Saturday December 7** from 9am – 3 pm—*Les Artisans Arts and Craft Fair* [Les Artisans Fair \(bourbonnaishistory.org\)](https://www.bourbonnaishistory.org/ArtisansFair)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm after motion by Ken L. and seconded by Mary Ann. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Paul