

**Board of Directors
Boone County Historical Society
May 19, 2026**

Board Members present: Gina DelRose (President), Jeff Walton (Vice President), Heidi Thacker (Secretary), Sonya Dobberfuhr (Treasurer), Toni Ellingson, Sue Holmes, Gail Jacky, Cindy Poulter, Carol Rowe, Zach Yahey

Board members absent: Jenny Breckenridge, Denise Hauser, Cheryl Lindberg

Staff present: Natali Monaghan

The meeting was called to order by President Gina DelRose at 5:33 PM. Roll Call, the Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation by Gina DelRose, and recitation of the Society Mission Statement followed.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Cindy Poulter and seconded by Carol Rowe to accept the minutes from the April 2026 meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

- Sonya presented the March 2026 PNL to the board, while explaining she also has the January PNL and will have February and April by the next meeting. She continues to work with the accountant to sort out the proper line items for each expense.
- In March, income for the Society was \$2,924.43, with expenses amounting to \$17,207.85. This included the bonuses that were paid. The net for this account is minus \$14,283.42.
- March income at the Funderburg House was \$3,776.92 (\$3,500 earned from the wedding); expenses were \$2,348.35. Net was \$1,428.57.
- Sonya reviewed recent grants received by the Society from the BCCF, including the Indigenous Peoples grant of \$7,500 in 2023, the Hispanic exhibit grant for \$3,500 received in 2024, and the Spanish-language self-guided tour grant for \$3,500 in 2025. Deposits from these grants were made to the general fund. However, the accountant has indicated the money from each grant should have been put in (1116) Accounts Receivable (restricted line item) on the date it was given and then subtracted as it was spent. (Also necessary for tax purposes.) It is recommended by the accountant that we move the currently unspent money, approximately \$4,500, to Accounts Receivable. This will reduce \$4,500 from our net.
- A motion was made by Carol Rowe and seconded by Toni Ellingson to file the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

District Report

- Natali reported that the boiler room has been largely stripped out and the old boiler decommissioned. Further work will follow.

Museum Staff Report

- The opening of the Indigenous Peoples exhibit on May 15 was attended by about 25 people. The exhibit still has some adjustments to be made, which will be completed soon.
- Events update: So far, there are about 12 artist entries for the June 28 Art Fair. Also, a few Clue and Fondue tickets for the July 25 event have been sold.
- After the Willy Wonka-themed Clue and Fondue, as Sonya explained, we may go forward with just classically-themed Clue and Fondue events in the future.
- Natali put forth the idea of hosting a Christmas tea, provided by Vintage Goose, instead of a Christmas party/gala this year. It would take place at the Funderburg House on a Saturday. It was suggested we charge \$45 per person, as the Vintage Goose fee is \$30 per person (with a minimum of 25 people required). Since Vintage Goose has only one opening in December, it was recommended that we look at weekends in January.
- The museum has been the destination of several field trips during the past two weeks.

Committee Reports

- Membership Committee
 - The Membership Committee met to discuss the general membership meeting and luncheon to be held July 12 from noon to 2PM. A presentation will be given by Gail Jacky. Since the meeting will be themed toward America's 250th anniversary, American barbeque food will be served. A sign-up sheet for food was passed around.
 - Ideas to increase membership and to sell raffle tickets for the donated quilt were also discussed during the meeting. Raffle tickets will be available at the general membership meeting so members are offered the opportunity to sell them, as well.
 - Two of the three sleighs will be removed from the garage at the Funderburg House to make room for the circus wagon. This will allow us to prep the wagon for parades, which will increase the visibility of the Museum.
- Off-Site Liaison Committee
 - The Museum was represented by Gail, Natali, and Gail's granddaughter at Día del Niño. Gail reported that there were not many not-for-profits in attendance.
 - At Build-a-Bike, many Museum, Clue and Fondue, and Art Fair brochures were distributed.
 - Natali suggested that the Society participate in the Back-to-School Event at the Community Building.
- Oral History Committee
 - The committee met and discussed a variety of ideas, with Zach recommending a prepared set of questions for interviews. Digital recorders have been ordered and received, and the interview process will begin soon.
- Fundraising Committee
 - Information about Clue and Fondue and the Art Fair was previously discussed during this meeting.
- Volunteer Committee
 - Three or four volunteers are needed to man the front desk. Sonya will reach out to Lifescape. It was also suggested that we approach the general membership to see if anyone is willing to help.
 - Volunteers will also be needed to transcribe oral interviews.
- Nominating Committee
 - Denise Hauser's approval to serve on the board was made at last month's meeting.

Old Business

- The Cooperative Agreement was signed, and a copy was distributed to each board member.

New Business

- Sonya has requested that the accountant notify the Society if the Society or Funderburg checking account balances fall below \$10,000. This notification will give the board time to react by voting to transfer funds. Currently, the Funderburg House account has \$8,000. Since we had to pay approximately \$6,000 for repair to the lift, and maintenance on the house costs roughly \$3000 per month, Sonya is requesting that the board vote to transfer \$20,000 from the Maintenance Fund to cover anticipated costs for the remainder of the year. Moving the money would bring our Maintenance Fund balance to \$276,000, down from the current \$296,439.89. A motion was made by Carol Rowe to transfer \$20,000 from the Maintenance Fund to the Funderburg House checking account. The motion was seconded by Sue Holmes. Motion carried.
- Maintenance of the lift was discussed with suggestions of finding a protective cover and using the lift more often.
- Gina explained that the Museum is one of the beneficiaries of the Sullivan Trust; others include the Salvation Army, the Belvidere Cemetery, the YMCA, and the Ida Public Library, all Boone County entities. Since the Rock River Valley YMCA has assumed ownership of the Belvidere YMCA, there is a question concerning the Sullivan Trust and the allocation of the money, especially if they opt to shut down the Belvidere Y. A new contract has been submitted by the RRVYMCA for each of the beneficiaries to sign. However, it is felt that representatives from the RRVYMCA need to meet with each of the organizations before any contract is signed. A motion was made by Sonya Dobberfuhl and seconded by Toni Ellingson to continue to look at the original trust contract and meet with other trust beneficiaries before the contract is signed. Motion carried.

Adjournment

- Motion was made by Toni Ellingson and seconded by Carol Rowe to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 PM.

Next Meeting

- Next meeting will be held June 16, 2026, at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Thacker

May 20, 2026

