

Report on Meeting, November 9, 1993

A meeting was held with Sylvio Dupuis, President of Catholic Medical Center to ask for his guidance in forming an Ad Hoc Committee to search for a building for ACGS.

Gerry Nash of Nashua who knows Mr. Dupuis through various business encounters, made the initial contact and was present at this meeting. The ACGS was represented by the President, Vice President, and Treasurer.

We began by explaining we were out of space in our current facility and that the pastor had informed us that there was no extra space for storing our back issues and surplus repertoires.

Mr. Dupuis explained that he knew very little about who we were so we explained that we had an active membership of about 2,000 people. He was also surprised at the available cash to proceed with our project.

He suggested that we work with a consultant over the next several months to develop an image within the community. He pointed that those people we might be targeting in a building fund drive have no idea of who, what, why, or where we are. He recommended that we work with Pat McGee of Porter-McGee. He will call and give him my name & number. Mr. Dupuis suggested that we start this phase as soon as possible.

This does not preclude us from continuing our search for building or buying a building. This way, if we do make a decision during the next 4-5 months, we will have had this time to do our homework to make the society more visible. We talked about doing an open house on one Sunday a month. Sylvio suggested asking the churches on the west side if we could put a flyer in their church bulletin announcing the open house.

Gerry Lalonde also explained to Sylvio that we are pursuing the possibility of doing a small bio on one of our ancestors each week or bi-weekly in the Family section of the Sunday News. Gerry Nash thought that the Nashua paper may also be a good place to do the "Family" article. We could also target other franco cities/towns like Lowell, Lawrence, Fitchburg, Worcester etc.

After Mr. Dupuis left, we discussed the Rimmon School possibility in more detail; the cost of building a building; and the likelihood of finding an existing building to suit us and our bank account.

/p 11-10-93

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
November 11, 1993

CALL TO ORDER A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Thursday, November 11, 1993 at the ACGS Library. President Pauline Cusson presided.

ROLL CALL Julie Smith, Bob Paquette and Roger Lawrence were excused. A quorum was present.

RECORDING SECRETARY The secretary's report was read and two corrections requested. The report will be filed as corrected.

TREASURER'S REPORT The treasurer's report was read and accepted. It will be filed for audit.

PRESIDENT/
VICE PRESIDENT'S
REPORT

Sylvia

Pauline Cusson read a letter from Lucille Lagasse recommending the addition of Tom Roy of Newcastle to the Ad Hoc Committee. Pauline advised the board about the meeting that she, Larry Autotte and Gerry Lalonde had with Sylvia Dupuis and Gerry Nash. He declined to serve on the committee due to other commitments. He did have several suggestions regarding our effort. He suggested that we work with a public relation consultant to improve our image in the community. He suggested Pat McGee from Porter-McGee in Manchester. He also recommended we do a fund drive for 3 years not 5. Gerry Nash suggested we reconsider the Rimmon School. He felt we could ask the City for a 100 year lease for a minimal amount. It would probably ~~would~~ take about \$50,000. to do repairs necessary.

Gerry Lalonde showed the Board a land map for a piece of property on Candia Road that is for sale. It contains 5 1/2 acres and the Realtor suggested an offer of \$50,000. It doesn't contain city sewerage so it would require a septic system. Gerry recommended we make a decision whether or not to pursue this. The Board agreed we should look at the land and proceed from there.

Gerry Lalonde is pursuing the idea of doing a short biography on a French Canadian ancestor in the Family section the Sunday News. The idea would be to also target other cities such as Lowell, Lawrence, Fitchburg and Worcester.

Newsletter: Pauline put together a sample newsletter with information about the library. She put in photos taken by Paul Levesque during the Spring Conference. She included newsy information about different things going on in the society. She hopes to get it out by January 1, 1994.

Burkhart Franco Societies: The meeting was postponed until January 9 due to illness at the Woonsocket group. Jan ~~Burkhart~~ did mention the possibility of a hospitality suite or social for the Francos during the All New England Conference. Jan also mentioned updating the brochure we recently sent out.

All New England Conference: The next meeting is to be held sometime in February 1994. Jean Pellerin has volunteered to work at our booth during the conference.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Library Board: Connie Hamel reported that they are cataloging the Acadian Collection. They are also redoing all the tags on the repertoires.

Research Dept: Pauline Cote informed the Board that Frank Binette is having serious difficulty with his eyes and having trouble doing research. Louis Valliere is also having eye trouble. Pauline has been able to get a few people who have offered to do some research but more help will be needed.

Computer/Publications: Roland Marchand reported that he is planning a meeting Monday, November 15, for the publications committee. This is to set up the format for Blessed Sacrament and all future publications. He has everything finished except the last packet and that should be ready Monday. It should be ready to be printed in about two weeks.

Memberships: Michael Melanson mailed 96 ~~November~~ *December* renewals.

Editorial: Issue #58 has been at the printer for about 3 weeks and should be ready to mail shortly.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

One of our members, Jim Belanger, owns an off site storage area in Hollis and has offered us space.. He would have to charge us but at a reduced cost.

Manchester Historical Society: Al Hamel gave a talk on genealogy and after the meeting he suggested Bob Paquette talk with John Mayer who is director of the Museum. They are working on a plan to purchase the old bank building. This would house the Manchester Historic Society. Bob asked him if they had room for us and he replied there was room on the second floor. They will keep us in mind if they do get the building.

Pauline Cote asked what had been done about a replacement for Julie Smith's position on the Board. Pauline Cusson is going to talk with Ruth Lund and also Bertha Bertrand.

Al Hamel was in Concord last week for a meeting with a group on tourism. The theme was Inherit N.H. They had round table discussions and Al did one on genealogy. In talking with people there he learned about some of the ways they were publicizing their organization such as putting brochures at the Tourist Information Booths on the Massachusetts border and Route 93. He also suggested familiarizing the workers at the Information Booths with our society.

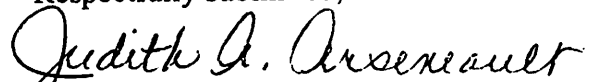
NEW
BUSINESS

A poll was taken and the Board decided not to have a Christmas Party this year. It was decided not to have a meeting unless one is required to discuss the land or anything else that might come up.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on January 13, 1994

Respectfully submitted,


Judith A. Arseneault

