

**ACGS**  
**MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**09 MARCH 1995**

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**CALL TO ORDER** A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Thursday 09 March 1995 at the ACGS library. President Roger Lawrence called the meeting to order at 18:47.

**ROLL CALL** Lucille Lagassé, Judy Arseneault, and Pauline Côté were excused. A quorum was present. Also in attendance was Diane Lavoie.

**RECORDING SECRETARY** The notes of the 09 February 1995 meeting were reviewed. Corrections were noted in the report of the research department and under new business. The notes, after corrections, will be filed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** There were approximately 1/3 more memberships recorded than in the previous month.

No extraordinary expenses in February — \$543 for snow plowing; electricity somewhat higher; gas down slightly.

Roger Lawrence asked if we had received anything from the insurance company for the broken windows. Brenda noted that we do have a bill for \$140 from Portland Glass. Leo Morency was to have come in to examine damage to the front light. Insurance claims will not be honored unless the losses have been reported to the police. Gerry Nash suggested that we consider being "self-insured" for relatively minor items of vandalism. If we put in too many claims, he said that our rates could rise or our policy could be canceled. We should find out what our deductible is.

Anne-Marie Perrault asked about an expense item for "supplies" for the Genealogist. Brenda Costello replied that it was for envelopes. Bob Maurier asked if the amount in "chequing" was in dollars Canadian and if it was after his recent book purchase. Yes to both points.

Brenda inquired as to paying off more on the debt. The Board's general feeling was that, for now, it was more important to spend money to prepare the downstairs rooms for occupancy.

There being no other items for discussion of the treasurer's report, it was filed for audit.

## PRESIDENT'S- REPORT

The cabinets for the Drouin volumes will be in next Tuesday. Connie Hamel will be here and she could use some help — the cabinets will be carried upstairs for us.

The records of the archdiocese of St Paul (Minnesota) will be released soon. They go back to the early 1800's. Roger reported that, as we were the first to ask about their availability, we could purchase them — 342 reels, at \$17 each. No resolution on this purchase. He also noted that there is a CD-ROM available of Maine marriages for \$99. It was agreed that we should purchase this. He asked if we should write to the Ogdensburg (New York) diocese to inquire about films — no objection to this item.

He reported that the Ocean Spray company has "PC's to give away"; he'll find out more particulars on this. He also said that Connie would be available to work in the library when she returns from her absence.

Regarding the recent vandalism and ways to preclude recurrences, Roger noted that it would cost \$300 for the pole and \$20 - \$90 or more per month for the light. Initially, there appeared to be sentiment to purchase the light, put it on the building, and use the power from the building. There was also a suggestion that we wait until we have the trees in the front cut down. Roger asked Ray Desfosses to look into the costs of the various options.

A discussion followed on preparation of rooms on the lower floor for occupancy — possibly by elements of the New Hampshire State Library. We've had bids of \$5,500, \$3,625, and \$3,735. This last bid was reported by Gerry Nash, who noted that there were two options: \$3,735 without tiling the floors and \$7,603 with tiling. He said that, if we ever plan to tile at some time in the future, we should not paint with an enamel as the tiles would not then adhere well. Bob Maurier questioned whether there were sufficient light in the big room downstairs. It was noted that it was only going to be used for storage and that a new coat of paint and higher wattage bulbs would improve conditions.

**Anne-Marie moved** that we fix the whole downstairs as inexpensively and as quickly as possible. **Diane Lavoie** (and **Pauline Cusson** and **Ray Desfosses**) **seconded**. There was some discussion that we may have to be a bit more specific. Should we remove the mirror and the handrail? Ray said that we must make up our minds exactly what we want to do before having it done. It was made clear that we will have the cabinets removed. **Motion carried**. Regarding rental, Gerry said that it is customary to charge for about 20-25% more than what is available as usable floor space — this overage for hallways, etc. The question of what we were going to do for bathroom access for the State Library people caused considerable discussion. Do we let them use ours (even when nobody from ACGS is here), or do we fix up the bathrooms downstairs? Ray said that this latter choice could prove to be quite expensive. No resolution on this point at this time, but Roger did ask Ray to research the cost of fixing the (downstairs) bathrooms.

## VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Pauline Cusson noted that we have a mailing of about 2,000 for the Spring Conference. Professor Janet Shideler will be speaking on Franco American Feminism and on French Canadians from Tupper Lake to Chateaugay. Jerome Anderson from the New England Historic Genealogical Society will talk on paleography - reading French Notarial Acts. Fritz Wetherbee will relate the story of a murder in Pembroke in 1873 and the trial of Joseph Pagé (LePage). The library will be open on Sunday 30 April for research from 10:00 am to 04:00 pm. The subject of the raffle was brought up. It was decided that the prizes would be a copy of Jetté, the first 50 issues of the Genealogist, and a gift certificate (or check) of \$100 for items the ACGS has to offer. The fee for the conference was discussed. Initially, the feeling was that we should charge \$7 for advance registration and \$10 for on-site. Some proposed \$10/\$15. The pros and cons were laid out, then **Roland Marchand moved** and **Don Chaput seconded** that we charge \$10 for advance registration and \$15 for on-site registration. **Motion carried: Bob Maurier cast a dissenting vote.**

Turning to the All New England conference this fall, Pauline noted that the group had revisited the idea of incorporation. Since we either plan to make money or to redistribute the profits, we cannot be called a nonprofit organization. It was suggested that we open a separate checking account (as Pauline has been elected treasurer of the New England group) and have the registrations come through here. If opened at St Mary's Bank, we would need a federal ID #. Pauline will look at commercial banks. The hotel in Burlington is booked solid, as that is also parents' weekend at UVM. The hotel rate is \$99 per night for up to 4 in a room; continental breakfast is included in the price of the registration. There will be an optional dinner cruise on Lake Champlain Saturday night.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Library/Acquisitons:** Roger asked Diane if she had been satisfied with instruction she had received (in becoming library director). Diane said yes, but she is still not sure exactly what volunteers do and where everything is. Bob Maurier said that the Drouin volumes had been picked up to go to the bindery. There are new books in from Longueil. Roger asked the Board how much could be spent on books; it was noted that there was over \$1,400 in checking and we should use some of it for this purpose. No apparent objection. Bob said that Larry Autotte said that, if we wished to purchase a new set of the Beauce-Dorchester-Frontenac series, he would purchase our old set for \$75. The new set (soft cover) sells for \$150 and it would cost about \$10 per volume (\$110) to have them bound. We could also bind the existing ones (which would be a lesser expense) but at least 3 of them are in very poor condition. **Anne-Marie moved** that we purchase the unbound set and have them bound; **Roland Marchand seconded; motion carried.**

**Research:** Roland reported (for Pauline Côté) that St Augustine's was soon to be back and bound.

**Building:** Ray said that the fresh air venting, with louvers, in the boiler room has been done. The City came in to check the back flow preventer and found it OK. There was some discussion concerning fixing the windows downstairs.

**Editorial:** Anne-Marie said that # 63 is at the printer's now; it's a large issue. Number 64 is completed.

**Grant Writing:** (See Anne-Marie's memo to the Board dated 9 March 1995.) She and Roger will be attending a workshop (\$45 fee) on evaluating boards of directors. She said that, if we're turned down for a particular grant, the Foundation sits down with us to explain why. We may not be fortunate enough to get any funds this year, but we'll learn how to do better in the future.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Roger distributed a list of potential donors to the ACGS. He picked these names from the telephone directory. He noted that a letter to each one would probably not bring favorable results; rather, he asked if each of us could take a few of these, select a companion, and make a personal contact to request donations. Anne-Marie suggested that we come back next time with a personal list of those we feel we could contact; Roger agreed.

Gerry Nash talked about some library tables that we could purchase (see list). Should we? Anne-Marie asked if we really need more tables. Consensus seemed to be that we do, but tables with more room. It was suggested that Roger look at them and, if they appeared OK, buy any or all of them. Bob Maurier thinks they're too diverse and suggested that we not buy them. Bob Paquette thought we should table the tables (no pun intended). No resolution on this.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was a question about the trifold wording generated by an individual member who had been upset when he sought information on Anglo-Canadian (mostly non-Catholic) marriages. He said that we should state in our trifold that we are a "catholic" organization. He wished to have a refund of his membership fee; it was given to him. The situation did point out that we perhaps need to be somewhat more specific in the information presented in the trifold.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 21:08. Next regular meeting to be held at the ACGS library at 18:30 on Thursday 06 April 1995.

Respectfully submitted,



John R Stanton

Recording Secretary