

ACGS
MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
06 APRIL 1995

CALL TO ORDER A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Thursday 06 April 1995 at the ACGS library. President Roger Lawrence called the meeting to order at 18:41.

ROLL CALL Donald Chaput was absent; Lucille Lagassé was excused. A quorum was present. There was some discussion as to whether Diane Lavoie was a member of the Board. *(A check of the notes of the 09 February 1995 meeting showed that Diane had resigned (but remained as library director) and was replaced on the Board by Ray Desfosses.)*

RECORDING SECRETARY The notes of the 09 March 1995 meeting were reviewed. Corrections were noted in the report of the president, the library/acquisitions committee, and the grants committee. Anne-Marie Perrault asked about the necessity for having a motion to approve minutes. Roger said that, based upon a previous discussion with Jack Stanton, such a motion and vote was optional. *(A check of Robert's Rules of Order [printed October 1980] states that the chairman, rather than asking for a motion to approve minutes, would simply state, "If there is no objection, the minutes stand approved as read [or corrected]." Should someone object, then a vote must be taken.)* The notes, after corrections, will be filed.

TREASURER'S REPORT The Board reviewed the balance sheet and income & expense statement for March and a special report comparing the actual vs. budgeted transaction summaries for the 1st quarter of FY 1995. Brenda Costello noted that, although we appear to be running approximately \$10,000 ahead of projections, there were about \$8,000 in building fund contributions that had not been projected and plowing and heating costs were less than projected. Brenda said that she had received a bill for the soda machine supplies for \$210 and noted that we had only collected \$168.39 since last October. There was some discussion as to cost of stock. Gerry Nash pointed out that we need to factor in inventory when examining this - our inventory is quite high. A check for a set of Jetté's has bounced. A replacement has been sent and deposited but has not yet cleared. Pauline Côté suggested that we don't send anything out until checks have cleared. She also wished to know if any checks for research had bounced.

Pauline Cusson asked if the \$2,589 in the checking account for building fund expenses were really there. After receiving a positive response from Brenda, she suggested that we use some of it to reduce our debt. Brenda noted that she was advised not to last month, as we had other expenses - mainly to renovate the first floor. She also pointed out that the Bank of New Hampshire deducts an interest payment on about the 3rd of the month, so our account is probably near \$500 less than is shown on the statement. Gerry asked why we had so many accounts - could not some of them be combined? It was noted that one of the accounts is in a Canadian bank and the one in St Mary's Bank was kept open because we thought at one time we might ask them for money. Most of the Board seems to have no problem with having multiple accounts. **Pauline Cusson moved** that we pay at least \$2,000 on the loan; **Bob Maurier seconded**. A short discussion followed: Brenda said that she felt that \$2,000 would be a reasonable amount. Ray Desfosses said that he had received a \$596 bill from Winchester Mechanical (the boiler contractor) for the vent work recently done, and would that affect our decision? He also asked if we should pay it - should this be considered a repair or an upgrade? General feeling was that it is an upgrade and we must pay the contractor (as this item was not in the original contract). **Motion carried**. Pauline Cusson inquired concerning item 11.3. Brenda replied that it was last month (February)'s check to the Maine chapter. Bob Maurier pointed out an error in the March 1995 archivist fund - Brenda corrected.

PRESIDENT'S- REPORT

(Fund raising items:)

Roger read the proposal to rent out the lower floor of our building to the state of New Hampshire.

There was a suggestion by Roger Cassavant that ACGS sponsor (in conjunction with a local college) an Elder Hostel. The college would provide room and board and the ACGS would put on training/research sessions in genealogy for up to 8 groups. Each group would convene for a 5 day week. The cost would be \$250 - \$350 per week and we would receive a portion of the fee. We'd have to be prepared to provide help for this venture and should consider it well before making a commitment.

Gerry Nash proposed that we engage Lucie Therrien to give a concert which we could sponsor and reap some of the profits. Roger Cassavant had also suggested Josée Vachon for a concert. Do we wish to do this as a fund raiser? Roger said to move this item to new business.

The idea of a yard sale was brought up. Roland Marchand said that, if it hadn't been for Roger Cassavant's business, the last one would have been a fiasco. Pauline Cusson said we should also defer this to new business.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No particular update from Pauline Cusson on the Spring Conference. Brenda was asked what she had received for this. She said \$350 thus far. All speakers have a copy of the flyer. Flyers for the All New England meeting will be available by the 03 June meeting of the committee to be held at the National Archives in Waltham MA.

A Ron Cormier is marketing a series (2 books and a video) entitled L'Acadie. He wishes to know if we would like to have some copies on consignment to sell and retain some of the profits. Anne-Marie has reviewed these and finds the video, although technically well-done, a bit schmaltzy. She did say, however, that if you're Acadian, you'd love it. It is done primarily in English and some of the French names are poorly pronounced. The question is: "Are we in the marketing business?" Several pointed out that we do not have a full time staff to assist in selling these items. The video sells for \$29.95 and each book for \$7.50. We would only get \$2.00 on each of the video and the pair of books.

Bob Maurier moved that we ask for more of a "cut" if we are to do this. There was some question as to whether this was a motion or merely a suggestion. It was pointed out that the vendor could set up a table to sell these at our Spring Conference. (The **motion died** for lack of a second.)

Roger suggested that we consider offering a fixed stipend, as does NEHGS, to our speakers. (No further discussion on this.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Library/Acquisitons: Bob Maurier stated that we were having difficulty finding enough librarians. Roland echoed this complaint, stating that the list was long but that few were really available. It would be near impossible to expand our hours. Roland also noted that there are problems in locating sources in our library (specifically from the card index) - probably because of changes in filing methods. We need to do new indexing. Judy Arseneault noted that it would be good also to have a list of our holdings available to send out to prospective new members.

Roger noted that the records on CD-ROM from Maine would not be available until later this month.

Research: Pauline Côté said that all research will be accompanied by references - this will increase copying and mailing costs. Photocopying of St Joseph's (Fitchburg MA) will be done next week. Roland has 300 additional records of Notre Dame des Canadiens. There was some discussion as to how (and whether) we should publish these. Should we put it in the Genealogist? print as a supplement to new copies we sell?

Pauline Côté asked what our procedure should be for deciding what gets done next. General feeling was that we do first in - first out, yet be aware that there may be an occasional "high priority" item which should receive precedence. No news yet on St Francis of Winooski (VT) or St Georges. There was some discussion about records of St Raphael's. Are these at St Patrick's?

The discussion then turned to the availability of New Hampshire Vital Records. We have been refused these before (ostensibly by the Chief, Bureau of Vital Records). Some suggested that we write to William Gardner (the Secretary of State, who is an ACGS member) and ask his intercession. Jack Stanton said that the decision to release the records would probably rest with Dr Charles Danielson, the Director of the Division of Public Health Services (Jack's boss), and that Jack could approach Dr Danielson with the request. Can we purchase? How many reels? Cost per reel? It was agreed that the letter to Bill Gardner could be drafted but not sent, pending Jack's efforts.

Publicity: Has anything gone out on the Spring Conference? Roger will check with Lucille Lagassé.

Computer: Roland now has a history of St Basil's. He says we could buy a 286 PC with 2 MB RAM and a 30 MB HD for \$150 and install an external CD-ROM (about \$100 more) to have available for use by researches. **Roland moved** that we buy the PC; **Gerry seconded. Motion carried** (does not include the purchase of the CD-ROM). Brenda said she had a 386 PC with 120 MB HD and a CD-ROM that she would be willing to bring to the library temporarily.

Building: Ray Desfosses reported that he had contacted a locksmith to get an estimate on securing certain doors in the library. He is concerned about the proliferation of keys and thinks this will solve the problem. The high estimate is for the Schlage locks and would cost about \$1,750. A "mediocre" job would run about \$1,100. There was much discussion as to what we really want. Do we need crash bars on the upper floor, since we don't plan to occupy it now? Consensus seems to be that we put crash bars on "our" floor and on the top floor. Roger asked Ray to get more detail on the prices - 4 crash bars and insure that other doors can be secured. **Gerry moved** that Roger spend what has to be spent in the event we get a tenant. **Bob Paquette seconded. Many** thought this authority too broad. We could call a special meeting to decide and still have time to get the job done. **Gerry withdrew his motion; Bob Paquette withdrew his second.**

Editorial: Anne-Marie reported that issue #63 has been "overproduced". It seems that NH Mailing "discovered" some extra copies (after we had apparently not had enough printed, then proceeded to order more). She is unhappy with this outfit and is considering looking for another vendor.

Grant Writing: (See ACGS Proposal.) Anne-Marie needs Board approval for this proposal - specifically the cost items in the Project Objectives on page 6. Gerry and Bob Maurier questioned the emphasis on "French" in the proposal - thought we'd have a better chance at a grant if we were more "diverse". Considerable discussion. Anne-Marie agreed to try to "work" it and get it in the mail by the 15 April deadline.

**UNFINISHED
BUSINESS**

(Not discussed.)

**NEW
BUSINESS**

Roger noted that a change was necessary in the by laws on the item concerning quorum. Jack said he needs suggestions for wording for the Building Committee in the by laws. Board to get proposed changes to Jack by next meeting.

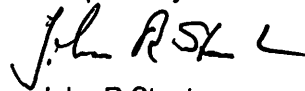
Judy has received \$310 in donations with membership renewals - this due to the change in the renewal notice.

Anne-Marie and Roger would like to set up a lending library with donations made in memory of Mark Gauthier. Much discussion; no resolution.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 21:46. Next regular meeting to be held at the ACGS library at 18:30 on Thursday 11 May 1995.

Respectfully submitted,



John R Stanton
Recording Secretary