

ACGS
MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
09 NOVEMBER 1995

CALL TO ORDER A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Thursday 09 November 1995 at the ACGS library. President Roger Lawrence called the meeting to order at 18:43.

ROLL CALL Lucille Lagassé and Ray Desfosses were excused. A quorum was present.

RECORDING
SECRETARY (Notes of 05 October 95 meeting): Roger noted that, under the Computer Committee report, the \$200 was to go to acquisitions. Remove apostrophe from "DMP's". Change "memberships" to "members" under Membership Committee report. Suggestion that, under the report on Inventory, we change "Library" to "building". **Gerry Nash moved** that the minutes be accepted for filing as amended; **Don Chaput seconded; motion carried.**

TREASURER'S
REPORT Pauline Cusson referred to the balance sheet as of 09/30/95 and noted that, if the equity from this sheet is subtracted from the equity for the October balance sheet, the difference is \$722.03 — which equals the amount of profit on the Statement of Income & Expense. The Fund Activity Report for September was included as there had been an error in the previous reporting. The Building Fund receipts have been corrected to read "\$2,305.75" instead of "\$1,505.75". On the October Balance Sheet, the checking account amount of \$7,824.78 is less the \$3,550 for the microfilms — 284 reels of N.H. vital records. Gerry Nash asked if we kept a running total of how much was pledged. Pauline said no — that Gerry Lalonde had set it up the way it is on advice of an accountant. We have made a \$3,000 payment on the loan. Considerable discussion as to the method (or even the necessity) of reporting the status of the Archivist Fund, or any of the "funds" for that matter. It was noted that most of these are simply authorizations to spend, and that they are limited by the actual amounts available. We are paying about \$500 in interest per month. Roger asked ~~is~~, since the October balance sheet shows that we have \$2,153 in the building fund, could we be hurt by paying another \$2,000 on the loan. Pauline replied that we need it there to cover our monthly interest payments. Don questioned item 12.4 on the Statement of Income & Expense. Pauline replied that this was for copies of conference videotapes. Anne-Marie asked if we previously had made a decision to stop videotaping conferences. This caused considerable discussion. Consensus seemed to be that we keep a master and one copy of each. Bob Neveux noted that we were down to 4 Jetté books. Gerry said he is going to Canada on 07 December and will pick up another 15. Anne-Marie asked if we should be in the business of selling these. Most feel that it is an

easy profit. Don suggested that we note in the Genealogist that we have them for sale. **Bob Neveux** moved that we buy 15 copies of Jetté and pay Gerry back in January; **Anne-Marie seconded; motion carried.**

SOCIETY BUSINESS

Roger called attention to the new (used) computers that we now have and additional furniture. We need to move some of the PCs to the top floor. Gerry noted that we need a some ceiling work upstairs to stop the dust and flaking. Anne-Marie talked about workers' comp which went to almost \$800 this year. She was in the library when someone who was doing an audit for the State called and asked to look at our payroll records. As we have no such thing and the State doesn't know how to asses a "no-payroll" entity, we are assessed based on 6 clerical people each of whom make \$12,000/year. We may be able to put our situation in writing, send it to the State, and perhaps get a refund. We could end up with as low as a \$200/year payment. Our liability insurance covers our volunteers. Chase and Durand covers both liability and workers' comp. Anne-Marie asked if all thought the obituary project to be worthwhile. Most seemed to think so. Mike is making copies at home; we are pasting them and indexing them. We need more volunteers for the project. Jack suggested that Anne-Marie contact RSVP (the Retired Senior Volunteer Program). He will get her a contact number.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Internet: Don Chaput said that on CompuServe and America Online we got 50 to 60 queries last month. Don has been answering them himself. He distributed copies of the Woonsocket RI based American-French Genealogical Society's WWW page and explained the workings of the main menu. He asked if we should consider doing something similar. Some discussion as to cost of a WWW page and the benefit we might realize from having one. Don said that it would cost \$200 to \$300 per month to have a page designed and maintained — we could seek a sponsor to bear the cost. He also pointed out that we would have to have a dedicated PC which would be on constantly. Pauline could contact Jan at AFGS to get more info. This branched to a discussion as to things that AFGS has that we don't — e.g., the Drouin female index. There was also a discussion as to whether we should consider accepting credit cards. Pauly Labbé wondered if this would be something the volunteer librarians may not like to be responsible for.

Research: Roger has received a letter from Pauline Côté resigning from research no later than 31 December. (Not a resignation from publications.) She will transfer what she has concerning research to Connie Hamel.

Publications: Pauline Côté will continue in this capacity. Roland brought back the St Joseph's (Laconia) backup disk. Some discussion as to proper disposition of archived copies of repertoire records. Bob Neveux suggested that we retain a copy of everything here at the library.

Computers: Roland has been checking out some of the new pieces of hardware. He has worked with Pauly to finish indexing. Much has been completed already. All will be indexed except for the Drouins and the PRDH.

Membership: Judy reported that we had 131 renewals for September and 38 new members. 131 renewals were sent out for November. We are sending renewals out every month for 3 months previous. Judy said that the 3-month reminders do produce positive results. Gerry suggested that we might try sending reminders earlier, perhaps in 45 days instead of 90 — and that that may bring in more revenue. Bob Maurier asked how many paid members we now have. Judy replied 2,350. We gain more new members than we are losing.

Building: (Ray Desfosses not present.) Roger noted that there was more graffiti on the building walls near the trees — another reason to remove them.

Editorial: Anne-Marie reported that the fall issue has come back from the typesetter pagination person. It should be out by the end of the year.

Acquisitions: Bob Maurier reiterated that the order had gone in for the N.H. vital records. These include records up to 1900. The only backorder on books is one we sent to Mrs Jeannine Cormier-Meyers for baptisms. He is working on new orders. Has some books ready for the bookbinders. He would like to make plans for special purchases in 1996. Some suggested ones are baptisms of Montréal and Protestant churches in the greater Québec City area. These are available on microfilm. Roland asked if Bob could make a prioritized list of new holdings he would like to have. Anne-Marie asked about the time period covered by some of the publications that have been purchased. She said that she has heard that some people have questioned the purchase of "recent" documents. She wondered if we should have a policy concerning what sort of resources are we going to buy. Bob would like some guidance from the Board as to the purchase of one family genealogies. Roland expressed concern about how long it takes to get books bound.

Inventory: Bob Neveux said he has gotten together with Gerry Lalonde to iron out problems with sales, in-stock items, etc. Bob said that there are 3 different inventories that are being kept: (1) a physical inventory of tables, chairs, etc., with replacement value; (2) items for sale; and (3) a "customer list" of who has bought what. This last one is in line with his capacity as publicist. At this point it was noted that we had Larry Autotte to run the committee to plan conferences and that Lucille Lagassé had the list of newspapers and other media in which we can advertise. Bob said that he needs some more shelving.

Library: Pauly reported on problems with someone not being able to get into the ACA collection. Perhaps the doors should be removed. We do have an inventory of what's in there; there are ACGS property tags on all. She also brought up the situation of people coming to the library on Wednesday

mornings, when we are not open but when the research department may be working. Should they be allowed in? Consensus seems to be that they should only be allowed in if there can be a librarian on duty. Pauly said that she has a difficult time getting librarians in for the times we are ordinarily open. Bob Maurier asked if we could pay librarians some small amount, say \$5.00/hour. It could relieve the staffing problem. There was some concern that that would lead to expansion to pay all volunteers — who would then no longer be truly volunteers. Pauly noted that some of the labels are coming off. Some talk about built-in bookshelves (for, among other things, city directories). **Pauly moved** that we have the bookshelves built for \$200 ± \$25; **Anne-Marie seconded**; **motion carried.**

**UNFINISHED
BUSINESS**

Roger talked about the necessity of cleaning the upstairs. We have about 8 gallons of paint left over. The ceiling will have to be considered separately. Gerry has some ceiling tiles, so we may only need the grid. We need a qualified someone to install it. Repairs should be done in stages — lights, ceiling, walls, etc. Some discussion as to a date to meet to start cleaning and painting.

**NEW
BUSINESS**

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting more or less disintegrated at 21:13. Next regular meeting to be held Thursday 14 December 1995 at the ACGS Library.

Respectfully submitted,



John R Stanton
Recording Secretary