

**American-Canadian Genealogical Society 1999-2000
Officers, Board of Directors and Committee Chairs**

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**AMERICAN-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OCTOBER 14, 1999**

Call to Order

President Roger Lawrence opened the meeting at 6:15 p.m. A quorum was present.

Roll Call

Present:

President Roger Lawrence
Vice President Anne-Marie Perrault
Treasurer Gerry Lalonde
Recording Secretary Lynne Swenson
Corresponding Secretary Donald Chaput
Library Director Mary-Jean Chaput
Director Craig Donais
Director Sam Harris
Director Robert Maurier
Director Muriel Normand

Excused from the meeting:

Director Paul Lambert

Absent from the meeting:

Research Department - Constance Hebert

Recording Secretary's Report

The former Recording Secretary's written report of the September 13, 1999 meeting was presented. Changes to the minutes were made to correct the spelling of Mr. Laurie Ebacher's name.

A motion to accept the minutes as corrected was made by Craig Donais. The motion was seconded by Robert Maurier. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Gerry Lalonde

A written financial report was submitted. Gerry discussed the payments made on the building loan. \$5,000. has already been paid this year and he will be paying another \$5000. to bring the loan down to \$29,000.

There was discussion of the credit line, which is \$125,000. Gerry indicated that \$75,000. has been borrowed to do major work. There was further discussion on the interest and principle payments. There were questions about expiration of the credit line. Gerry indicated that there is no expiration date and discussed the procedure for a credit line approval.

Discussion on the postage for the AC Genealogist listed for September. Gerry informed us that the bill for that expense was paid in October.

There was discussion of the currency exchange when American funds are deposited in the Canadian account.

There was discussion on acquiring a Visa card for the Society to be held by the Treasurer. Situations where the card would be an asset were discussed.

Roger Lawrence brought discussion of a motion to get a Visa credit card for ACGS brought to the floor.

Robert Maurier made a motion to get a Visa Credit Card in the Treasurer's name for the Society.

Discussion followed on a debit card versus a credit card.

Robert Maurier amended the motion to get a debit card instead of a credit card. Motion was seconded by Muriel Normand. Motion carried.

Vice President's Report - Anne-Marie Perrault

Anne-Marie suggested that the Guidelines for the ACGS be changed to reflect all the changes suggested in the new Guidelines that had been submitted.

Craig Donais made the motion that a vote on this matter be tabled at this time so that the changes can be reviewed by all members of the Board. Gerry Lalonde seconded the motion. Motion carried. Anne-Marie Perrault abstained from voting.

All suggested changes made by Craig Donais be made.

President's Report - Roger Lawrence

Roger suggested that a letter be sent to the ACA to inform them of the September election results. He asked for suggestions for finding a new Building & Grounds Supervisor. There was discussion of the duties entailed by this position.

The Conflict of Interest Statute required by the Attorney General had been voted on and accepted as a policy of ACGS. All new Board members will need to read and sign this statement.

Corresponding Secretary's Report - Donald Chaput

No report filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings & Grounds - Gerry Lalonde

Gerry informed the Board that a contract had been signed with Avalanche, Inc. for snow-plowing this winter. The contract is for \$525. Discussion followed as to whether or not the President should have signed the contract as indicated in the by-laws Duties of the President #3.

contract was for landscaping / not for plowing.

There was discussion on the need to buy new tables for downstairs.

Craig Donais made a motion to buy 6 new tables. Motion seconded by Robert Maurier. Motion carried.

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Computers - Roland Marchand

No report submitted.

Roger asked Sam Harris about being on the computer committee. Sam is willing to be available as a backup as needed.

~~Roger~~ Anne-Marie says that ^{Joe Turnbull} George Mousseau has been in to do an assessment on the computers and will upgrade them and will network those that need to be done. This should eliminate many problems. Roland Marchand is working on software.

^{obit.}

Conferences

The American-French Genealogical Society had donated the Red Drouin CD and *Ann Quintin PUBLIATN* Tanguay CD to be raffled off at the September Conference. There was discussion on why it was not raffled off at that time. The decision was made to use the raffle tickets that were left over from the Conference to draw winners for these items. Winner of the Red Drouin CD was James Eaton of Salem and winner of the Tanguay CD was Jerry Morency of Nashua.

Dates for the Spring and Fall Conferences were set. The Spring Conference will be May 4-5-6, 2000 and the Fall Conference will be September 22-23-24, 2000.

There is a question of who will chair the conference, Richard Fortin does not want to do it again next year.

There was discussion about paying for meals of the spouse and children of a guest speaker. The guidelines state that ACGS will pay for the expenses of the speaker only. A suggestion was made that a letter be sent to indicate that ACGS would be paying for the guest speaker only. However, if a situation arises where a spouse or child is present, for example at a meal with ACGS members, ACGS should gracefully pay.

Craig Donais stated that he will not do Nominations again.

There was discussion of having only a Fall Conference. Roger suggested having a monthly mini-conference possibly with a beginners course.

Anne-Marie Perrault made a motion to plan monthly meetings beginning January 2000. Motion seconded by Donald Chaput. Motion carried.

Library - Mary-Jean Chaput

No report presented as there had been no meeting in September

Editorial - Anne-Marie Perrault

A written report was submitted.

There was discussion on re-editing of the old family histories and indexing them. Cindy Godbout is currently doing an index for Moncton, she may be willing to help index the old family histories as well.

Acquisitions- Craig Donais

Craig Donais has taken on the position of Chairman of the Acquisitions Committee.

The books donated by Mr. Laurie Ebacher will be ~~gone through~~^{indexed inventoried} by Pauly Labbe and Anne-Marie Perrault. Mary-Jean Chaput will have book plates put into each book and the books will be interspersed with the rest of the library collection.

Sam Harris suggested sending letters of thanks and appreciation be sent to Mr. Ebacher from various people. It was suggested that this will put too much pressure on Mr. Ebacher.

Membership - Judy Arseneault

A written report was submitted.

Julie Smith is replacing Judy Arseneault and will be taking over within a few weeks. Bob Neveu has been entering a new membership program into the computer.

Publicity

Roger will be speaking to Al Hamel about the possibility of his continuing to do publicity. Someone is needed to send notices to radio, television and newspapers.

Publications - Pauline G. Cote

A written report was submitted.

David has 5 more parishes waiting. He is working on 4 - 5 parishes now, all at various stages. There are about 25 parishes completed.

Research - Constance Hebert

A written report was submitted.

Only \$300. has been raised from the Parchemin. Discussion of allowing other organizations to use it and giving them a percentage of 20% was discussed. Discussed were ways to make people more aware of what the Parchemin is and how it can be used, suggested was putting a sampling of notarial acts of a very common ancestor in the AC Genealogist, also marketing it as a primary records source.

Roger says that a decision whether or not to continue with the Parchemin will need to be made by February 2000.

Roger Lawrence made a motion to allow other societies to use the Parchemin. Gerry Lalonde made an addition to the motion to offer other societies 20% of the income generated from that use. Motion seconded by Craig Donais. Motion carried.

Gerry will contact other societies.

Internet

Anne-Marie has discussed with Ron Niquette methods of making the ACGS website more interesting and adding a translation of the site into French. The translation has been done by Melvin Surette. Ron will continue to up date the site. He will be adding links to other genealogical sites.

Gerry has seen a large increase in orders coming in on the new order forms from the website. Sam Harris suggested making the website secure in order to do credit card sales.

Gerry is going to speak with the Bank of NH about credit card sales and find out if they can help in securing the website.

There was discussion about having our own Net Server to allow people to have their e-mail through ACGS. Al Hamel owns the domain names .net and .org. he is willing to donate them, but ACGS would have to pay for the maintenance. It is a possibility that if ACGS could not pay for the maintenance that Al would continue to pay for it.

Two new lists are now at the website, ACGS News and Announcements and ACGS Talk where people can talk on-line. The ACGS Board list is restricted to Board members only, old board members will have their access removed.

A total of \$1500. has been paid to Internet Authority to create the website.

Inventory - Bud Paquin

No report submitted.

There was discussion on how the Inventory is done and if it is duplicated through the Treasurer's report. Removing Inventory and Obituaries as committees was suggested.

Obituaries - Anne-Marie Perrault

There was discussion of the legal issues involved with putting the obituaries on CD-Rom. Craig is in contact with a person at Franklin Pierce College who is doing research on the legal issues.

Governance

There was discussion of the importance of the Governance Committee and what its function should be. Formation of an Ad-Hoc Committee was suggested to review the Governance Committee.

Old Business

Robert Quintin has asked about having his catalog available at ACGS and having ACGS take orders and he would give a percentage of sales to ACGS. This had been previously discussed and Mr. Quintin had agreed not to sell anything from Canada. There would be no inventory at ACGS. There is a question of keeping track of sales through ACGS and the percentage that would be owed to us.

Ms. Perrault suggested a stipulation that we would only be selling publications of Mr. Quintin's.

President Roger Lawrence will be getting more information.

The Board decided not to lend the ACGS name to sponsor Bingo.

New Business

There was discussion on using absentee ballots for the annual elections, how they would be implemented and security surrounding returned ballots.

Gerry suggested that the ^{By Law's} Governance Committee review the pros and cons of absentee ballots and present their findings to the Board.

A motion was made by Mary-Jean Chaput to have the Governance Committee investigate different ways that absentee ballots can be used in determining elections. Motion seconded by Sam Harris. Motion carried. Gerry Lalonde opposed.

Gerry informed the Board that he had been approached by a company that prints church bulletins in the area offering ACGS the opportunity to put an advertisement in a church bulletin. It would cost \$495. per year for one parish. He says that our membership numbers are not really increasing, as new members join older members are not renewing their membership.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by President Roger Lawrence. The motion was seconded by Donald Chaput and Anne-Marie Perrault. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,



Lynne Swenson
Recording Secretary