

Minutes
Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council
First Thursday

4 November 199~~8~~³ - Annual Meeting

Attendees: Dianne Lenti, Judy Plummer, Barbara Mathews, Helen Ullmann, Kathryn S. Black, Sylvia Guerin, Lorrie Hamblin, Warren D. Buchanan, Donna Siemiatkoski, and Mark Jones.

Upon a motion by Judith Plummer seconded by Kathryn Black, the group elected the following officers for the two-year period from Nov. 1993 to Oct. 1995: President, Donna Siemiatkoski; Vice President, Warren Buchanan; Secretary/Treasurer, Barbara Mathews; and Members at Large Dianne Lenti and Jack Kuras.

On a motion by Judith Plummer seconded by Dianne Lenti, the minutes of the last meeting were accepted with the following two amendments: (1) Helen Ullmann was added to the list of attendees; and (2) the motion to make Barbara Ferris a life member was made by Judith Plummer and seconded by Warren Buchanan (not the other way around).

Donna discussed the possibility of holding the February and March meetings at the Connecticut Historical Society. She has discussed this possibility with Dr. Everett Wilkie, Head Librarian of the Connecticut Historical Society and Judith Ellen Johnson, Reference Librarian and Genealogist. They are quite interested in hosting our meetings. They will present their collections and describe the volunteer program in which several of our members are interested.

Barbara Mathews stated that CPGC has 32 members including our honorary life member, Barbara Ferris, who has written a kind thank you note for her appointment.

The group gave Barbara Mathews consensus to obtain a post office box and to print stationery, which she will do at once. She also presented a first-draft brochure listing the purpose of CPGC and its members. The group reviewed this draft over and gave her consensus support to send out to members with the next minutes a query form requesting their special interest areas for putting such a brochure together.

Jack Kuras, who could not be at the meeting, has begun to build a mailing list of repositories and records offices. Donna Siemiatkoski explained that he had found that some vital records offices may not receive notices of policy from state administrations or societies because these offices come under City officers of vital records instead of under Town Clerks. He has located these often-missed offices and submitted their addresses to the group.

Donna Siemiatkoski presented to the group an invitation from the Connecticut Society of Genealogists for CPGC to become a subcommittee of CSG. This subcommittee would be created and its chairman appointed by the President of CSG. By moving our group under the auspices of CSG, we would obtain access to the CSG list of other members but we would not be able to use CSG funds to pay speakers or to pursue interests regarding professional reimbursements or other topics that were not held in common with amateur members of CSG. We had a brief discussion, then Judith Plummer moved and Kathryn Black seconded: "We

respectfully decline the invitation from CSG and hope to work with the Connecticut Society of Genealogists in the best interest of Connecticut genealogy." This motion was unanimously passed.

Dr. Mark Jones, State Archivist of the State of Connecticut, was our afternoon speaker. He handed out an information sheet he recently developed for the state legislature [enclosed]. This synopsis of the finding aid at CSL for information on Native Americans in Connecticut, including both the Trumbull papers and the Winthrop papers. When added to the General Assembly's own records, they provide a rich manuscript resource for historical research on early Connecticut.

Dr. Jones explained the history of records microfilming in Connecticut and described the close and supportive relationship between CSL and the Utah Genealogical Society whose members actually do the microfilming. He expressed appreciation for the work done by the volunteers and shared with us a letter he recently wrote to Alain Allard, regional director of microfilming of UGS, identifying additional collections in CSL to microfilm. Mark Jones requested that we alert either him or Alain Allard to any illegible frames in microfilms and that we communicate with them, as well, should we discover records that should be microfilmed again.

Mark Jones discussed the composition and purpose of the Historical Records Advisory Committee. The group helps to evaluate grant applications regarding the preservation of records and was set up to meet the needs of the National Archivist. Currently, HRAC is developing a strategic ten-year plan and is asking for written comments on this plan by December 1st. The plan sets goals in the areas of preservation, accessibility, documentation, advocacy, and public communications. Judith Plummer, CPGC's liaison to this committee, agreed to prepare a written response on behalf of the group.

On a motion by Barbara Mathews, seconded by Dianne Lenti, we appointed Warren Buchanan and Helen Ullmann to serve as group liaisons with Mark Jones. They will work with him as representatives of the library's users to advocate for accessibility of records and to have records of genealogical value microfilmed.

Member Bette Brad^{way}~~bury~~ of Niskayuna, NY, sent an information package on a planned cutback in hours at the National Archives in Washington, DC. On a motion by Barbara Mathews seconded by Judith Plummer, the group requested that Donna Siemiatkoski write to the NAA on behalf of CPGC requesting that these cutbacks not be made.