

Minutes
Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council
First Thursday Meeting

7 October 1993

Attendees: Dick Roberts, Sylvia Guerin, Donna Siemiatkoski, Warren Buchanan, Ted Little, Jack Kuras, Lorrie Hamblin, Judith Plummer, Barbara Ferris, and Barbara Mathews. *Helen Ullman*

Upon a motion by Judith Plummer seconded by Warren Buchanan, the group voted that Donna Siemiatkoski chair the meeting and Barbara Mathews take notes.

Lorrie Hamblin, attending for the first time, explained that she has been doing genealogy for 15 years, beginning with her family and moving on to professional work. She specializes in Connecticut and Massachusetts, particularly Yankees, and has extensive experience in British and Irish genealogy.

Barbara Ferris provided background information on the methods she and Grace Knox used to produce the two volumes of Connecticut divorce information. Stored in Record Group 3, the proceedings of the county Superior Courts have been categorized according to type of case, although this may not be true for Middlesex Co. Superior Court. Divorce proceedings for New Haven Co. alone occupy over 43 feet of shelf space. The two published volumes cover Windham, Tolland, New London, Litchfield and Hartford counties. It took over five years to abstract, proof, and publish the two volumes.

Twentieth century divorce proceedings are stored with Superior Court records in one of two places, Willimantic or Enfield. In response to a question, Dick Roberts explained that it is necessary to get a docket and box number from the court clerk to retrieve a record from either facility. Then, if the Superior Court is one whose files are stored in the Willimantic state archives facility, the CSL staff can order the case sent to Hartford by van. To copy an entire file costs 25 cents per page or the file can be accessed in Hartford. Records of some of the county Superior Courts are stored in the judicial archives in Enfield; those must be accessed through the court system.

Members of the Steering Committee presented the proposed bylaws, including a proposed group name and purpose. After a brief discussion, Jack Kuras moved to accept these bylaws and Sylvia Guerin seconded. The bylaws were accepted unanimously.

Judith Plummer presented the Nominating Committee's slate: President, Donna Siemiatkoski; Vice President, Warren Buchanan; Secretary/-Treasurer, Barbara Mathews; Members-at-Large, Jack Kuras and Dianne Lenti. This slate was unanimously accepted.

Judith Plummer was appointed CPGC's Liaison to the Connecticut State Historical Records Advisory Board.

Upon a motion by ~~Warren Buchanan~~ ^{Judith Plummer} seconded by ~~Judith Plummer~~ ^{Warren Buchanan}, the group named Barbara Ferris the first honorary life member of the council in recognition of her lifelong contribution to Connecticut genealogy.