

Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council

Thursday, 2 November 1995
Connecticut Historical Society

Attending: Bob Bamford, Kathryn S. Black, Warren Buchanan, Barbara Ferris, Jack Kuras, Dianne B. Lenti, Barbara J. Mathews, Bob Rafford, Donna Siemiatkoski, Niel Sundt, Helen Ullmann, Ted Wohlson.

Business Meeting:

The minutes were accepted without change on a motion by Jack Kuras seconded by Kathryn Black. Barbara Mathews presented the Secretary/Treasurer's Report. We had more envelopes printed last month. The treasury has \$211.22 plus 19 dues checks to be counted in next month. There are 53 members, including our honorary member, and four additional people receive mailings.

Ted Wohlson reported on current staffing changes at the Connecticut State Library. The search to fill Dick Roberts old position has ended. Current staff members of the History and Genealogy Unit are:

Richard Roberts, Unit Head
Carolyn Picciano, Library Specialist
open position, Librarian II
Mel Smith, Librarian I
Beverly Naylor, Librarian I
Kevin Johnson, Messenger-Supply Clerk
[Ted Wohlson, part-time staff]

Warren Buchanan showed a draft of the new Member List. It is spilling over a triple-folded legal sheet of paper and Warren will do some editing of earlier text to make it all fit.

Warren Buchanan also reported on the activities of the Legislative Committee. The current special session has been called to look at gambling only. During the upcoming February session, it is extremely unlikely that the Health Committee will have a chance to consider changes to the current state law regarding access to vital records, let alone that the legislature itself would have a chance to vote on it. Warren will continue to try to set up a meeting with the Chair of the Health Committee to discuss the confusion of the current statutes.

Donna Siemiatkoski reported on the New England Regional Conference which took place in Burlington, Vermont, in October. Roughly 350 people attended. The program was excellent. The place and date for the next New England Regional Conference have been determined. Co-Chairs will be Judy Fenner and Jonathan Galli. The conference will be April 25-27 at the Radisson Hotel in Cromwell, Connecticut.

Secretary Barbara Mathews read the proposed by-laws changes:

- Article 6, Officers, change first sentence to read: "The officers of the council shall consist of: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one Member-at-Large."
- Article 6, Duties of the Officers, change the first sentence of the last paragraph to: "The Secretary shall keep a careful record..." Change the second sentence to "The

Treasurer shall receive all money from dues and other sources, keep membership records, and disburse such sums as are directed by the Executive Committee.”

On a motion by Kathryn Black seconded by Warren Buchanan, they were unanimously adopted.

Donna Siemiatkoski brought us up-to-date on to microfilm records from this century. We talked about the microfilming and expressed an interest in having both John Boccaccio and the state archivist discuss the project. Warren Buchanan reported over 20 million names in the statewide index. There were some questions about the structure of the card index [which goes by the first and third letter of the name] and whether it might be alphabetized in a more common order before filming.

The Council took the opportunity of its Annual Meeting to recognize two individuals who have made significant contributions to genealogy in Connecticut this past year. They were:

John Boccaccio, MSM, was recognized for his support in opening a dialog between genealogists and town clerks, and for instituting a volunteer research program.

Donna Siemiatkoski was recognized for the important “firsts” of her first administration as our president, including speaking before the town clerks conference, writing a newsletter column directed to town clerks, and initiating important dialogues with the legislative and executive branches of state government.

Helen Ullmann brought to our attention a CD ROM published by Heritage Press on early records of Hartford. Several items are included. Its prepublication price to the end of November is \$48, afterwards it will be \$65.

Kathryn Black stated that the latest issue of the FGS Forum has arrived. It includes an article on the new addendum to the IGI.

Bob Bamford presented the slate on behalf of Nominating Committee:

President	Donna Siemiatkoski
Vice President	Warren Buchanan
Secretary	Dianne Lenti
Treasurer	Bob Bamford
Member-At-Large	Harlan Jessup

On a motion by Bob Rafford seconded by Niel Sundt, the slate was unanimously accepted. On a motion by Barbara Mathews seconded by Kathryn Black, we adjourned the business meeting.

Speaker: Bob Rafford presented a thorny case from his own pedigree. Members present brainstormed possible approaches from several points of view.

NEXT MEETING
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1995
TIME 11:30 A.M.

CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY
231 CAPITOL AVE, HARTFORD CT.

SPEAKER: EUNICE DiBELLA, ADMINISTRATOR OF PUBLIC RECORDS

JANUARY MEETING: THURS, JAN 4, 1995, 10 A.M. CT DEPT HEALTH