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JUNE 1998 MINUTES

Data entry by Dianne Bordeaux Lenti. Edited by Donna Holt Siemiatkoski

WE ARE OPEN TO ALL THOSE WHO PROVIDE GENEALOGY FOR OTHERS OR MANAGE COLLECTIONS OF RECORDS

S C H E D U L E D M E E T I N G S**JULY 2, 1998** - CPGC Meeting, Polish National Home, 60 Charter Oak Ave, Hartford, CT.

Speaker: Mark Jones, Archivist, CT State Library - New Archival Programs.

July 11, 1998 - CSG Bus trip to New England Historic Genealogical Society [NEHGS], Boston, MA.**July 17-18, 1998** - Summer Genealogical Conference, NEHGS, held at Marriott Hotel, Farmington, CT.**Sept 3, 1998** - Gary Waite of CHS will present "Quakers - Their records and movements."**October 21-25, 1998** - New England Regional Genealogical Conference - Portland, Maine.**CPGC MINUTES - THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1998.** **Attending:** Donna Siemiatkoski, Fred Hart, Jack Kuras, Dianne Lenti, Harlan Jessup, Kathryn Black, Robert Rafford, Gerald Cruthers, Judith Plummer, Ken Buckbee, Edward Ward, Audrey Ward and Lynn Newell of Information Services, CT State Library.**MEETING** was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by President, Donna Siemiatkoski.**Secretary's report** of April 2 and May 7, 1998 were read and accepted with corrections made as noted to the minutes of May 7; Fred Hart was also in attendance at the May 7 meeting in Middletown CT. (1) Kathryn Black (2) Jack Kuras.**Correspondence:** Corresponding Secretary unable to attend. No correspondence received.**Treasurer's report:** was read and placed on file for audit with cash on hand of \$1,323.19.**GOVERNMENT RELATIONS - STATE LIBRARY AND STATE ARCHIVES "SPACE CRISIS":**

Lynn Newell, Information Services, CT State Library spoke to us regarding the "space crisis" at the CT State Library and State Archives.

The State Library has been offered the majority of space in a building in Newington, currently occupied by another state agency. Although this is not a state-owned building, the State Library would be negotiating what would amount to a 10 year lease: an initial 5 year lease, with the option to renew for an additional 5 years. The State Library administration, with input from various units within the library, has explored three possible options for use of the proposed building.

1. Relocate the State Archives collections currently housed at 231 Capitol Avenue and State Archives collections currently stored off-site and all H&G Special Collections materials, and related collections including maps, atlases, city directories, and newspapers - in essence, the vast majority of materials currently housed on the first floor of the State Library building. The History and Genealogy staff and State Archives staff would be relocated to the Newington building. There is also a possibility that the Newspaper Project might be relocated there to be in close proximity to the newspapers. Part of the building would also be used for museum storage space.

2. Use the building for dead storage only. This would have to include many books from the State Library collections (since the stacks are currently nearly filled to capacity) as well as State Archives collections. It would mean that many materials in the collections would not be readily available to the public or the staff and necessitate periodic off-site retrievals.

3. Move the State Archives Collections and State Archives staff to Newington, leaving H&G staff and collections in Hartford. This would solve many of the State Archives' space problems but not necessarily solve the library's book/newspaper/microfilms collections space problems and would mean that many historical researchers would have to travel to two different locations.

The option which has generated the most enthusiasm and toward which the State Library's administration currently is leaning is Option 1, which would not only make the most efficient use of staff and collection resources but which is the most "user" friendly option as it would include adequate parking for patrons and the possibility of

service hours different than that of the main State Library building. For example, the new building might be closed all or parts of some weekdays but might be open some evenings and/or parts of Saturdays.

It should be made clear that any of the above options are considered to be "temporary" arrangements, and that even if Option 1 is approved by the library administration, DAS, etc., within 10 years both the existing State Library building and the Newington building will be full. All three of the options assume that the 10 year "grace period" will be used to plan and construct an addition to or new building in the proximity of 231 Capitol Ave.

Persons (listed below) at the CT State Library would appreciate hearing comments (pro and con) regarding any/all of the three options, along with ideas for an ideal historical/genealogical research facility, from members of CPGC and other genealogical/historical groups.

Please contact any of the following with your comments: Richard C. Roberts, Unit Head, History and Genealogy Unit, Connecticut State Library, RRoberts@csl.ctstateu.edu, Tel: (860)566-3692, Fax: (860) 566-2133; Pat Owens, Interim State Librarian, POwens@csl.ctstateu.edu; or Lynn Newell, Information Services, LNewell@csl.ctstateu.edu.

GENERAL NOTES: We observed a minute of silence in memory of member Neil Sundt who recently passed away. Our condolences to his family. Cards may be sent to Pauline Sundt, 27 Parkwood Drive, Windsor CT 06095-3143. Old Saybrook Connecticut has a new history and genealogy building thanks in part to Elaine Staplins and others of that town. A **PICNIC** is planned for July 12th at the home of member Robert Rafford. All members of CPGC and their families are encouraged to attend. We were very pleased to have member Edward Ward, and his wife Audrey, of Sonoma, California join us for today's meeting. Ed conducts research for Mayflower descendants, SAR, DAR, Connecticut and other New England areas. Although a California resident, Ed is a Connecticut native. He has ready access to the Sutro Library, Branch of California State Library. As a result of Betty Chapman's group working so hard on the Whitehall Cemetery issue in Stonington CT, the developer has altered his plans. Congratulations Betty for persevering!

MEMBER BROCHURE: Robert Rafford had new updated brochures and member list printed. Members present assembled the brochure and member list; taking copies for their area repositories. Anyone wishing to have additional copies for handout may e-mail cpgc@aol.com or may copy for distribution. (copy enclosed).

Adjourned: 12:00 p.m. *Dianne B. Lenti, Recording Secretary*

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**SPEAKER: FRED HART, C.G.,** gave a very informative presentation regarding the Connecticut Ancestry Society and Fairfield County Genealogical Resources. He should be awarded a gold star for giving his presentation in a much shorter time frame than originally planned... plus speaking above (and around) the flutter of papers as members busily stuffed brochures... Cheers to Fred for doing such a great job and giving us superb handout!! It is very much appreciated... Thanks Fred! (Copy enclosed.)

The POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF CONNECTICUT / THE NORTHEAST is open for research on Mondays 9:30-12:00 and 1:00-2:30. Call ahead for appointment or to be sure they are open. Archive & Resource Center is located on 278 Broad St, New Britain, CT. Mailing address: 8 Lyle Road, New Britain, CT 06053. Phone 860-223-5596. You may contact Connie Ochnio by e-mail at pgsconnie@aol.com. Dues: \$15.00 for one year, \$27.00 for two years. Fiscal year June 1st through May 31st. (Per D. Siemiatkoski.)

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**DIRECTIONS TO JULY 2 MEETING - POLISH NATIONAL HOME (Phone 860-247-1784):**

**From I-91, north or south.** Exit 29A, (Capitol area), onto the Conrland Highway, take the very first exit to Columbus Boulevard. At the end of the exit ramp, turn left onto Columbus Boulevard, at the second light, turn right onto Charter Oak Avenue. At the first light turn right into the Polish National Home parking lot.

**From I-84 West,** take Exit 54 (downtown Hartford), stay left. At the first light, turn left onto Columbus Boulevard. At the fifth light take a right onto Charter Oak Avenue. At the first light turn right into the Polish National Home parking lot.

**From I-84 East,** take Exit 48B (Capitol Avenue), at the end of the ramp, take a left onto Capitol Avenue, (pass the State Library). At the fourth light Capitol Avenue meets Main Street. Turn right onto Main Street, go one block and turn left onto Charter Oak Avenue (opposite South Congregational Church). At the second light turn left into the Polish National Home parking lot.