

MAINE FRANCO-AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
FALL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – OCTOBER 29, 2022
MINUTES

Twenty-five people were in attendance for the meeting [signed in] and for the presentation by Anna Faherty. [13 members, 4 guests, 8 un-identified]

President Father Parent called the meeting to order at 10:03 am greeting the attendees which included both members and guests. Father noted that October is Genealogy Month, and encouraged members to please sign-in.

Recording Secretary: Connie Hitchcock

Connie Hitchcock moved and Janet Dubois seconded to approve the minutes of the last general membership meeting held April 30, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer: Lucille Langelier

Lucille distributed copies of her report to the attendees. The balances as of September 30, 2022 are:

Checking:	\$ 644.02
Savings:	\$ 3,065.69
CD # 1	\$ 2,615.12
CD # 2	\$ 2,608.91

The report was placed on file for audit.

Corresponding Secretary: Connie Beliveau

No report

Nominations & Elections

At this point, Father handed the gavel to Richard Gamache, Committee Chair.

Richard presented the slate for officers and board members approved by the Board of Directors at its September 12, 2022 meeting.

OFFICERS:

President - Fr. Robert Parent
Vice-President - Arthur Allard
Treasurer - Ann Nadeau
Corresponding Secretary - Connie Beliveau
Recording Secretary - Connie Hitchcock

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Board Member - Richard Gamache
Board Member - Marie Murphy
Board Member - _____

Richard noted that there is one opening for a Board member, but that any person can also be nominated for any of the positions up for election. Richard asked for nominations from the floor.

Father Parent nominated Camden Martin for the open Board position and he accepted. Richard moved and Marie Murphy seconded Camden's nomination. The motion passed unanimously.

After asking if there were any other nominations from the floor and hearing none, Richard moved and Sue Beaulieu seconded that the nominations be closed. The motion passed unanimously.

Richard then separated Father Parent's nomination for President from the slate. Richard moved and Lucille Langelier seconded to elect Father Parent President for another term. The motion passed unanimously.

Richard then turned the gavel back to Father Parent.

Father Parent asked for a motion to elect the remaining slate. Richard moved and Janet Dubois seconded to elect the remaining slate, which now included Camden Martin.

Since there was only one candidate for each office, the President directed the Secretary to cast the ballot in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

Presentation to Lucille Langelier

Father Parent presented out-going Treasurer Lucille Langelier with a bouquet of flowers and a Thank You card with gift certificate. He commended Lucille for her 15 years of service to MFGS as she steps down from her position as Treasurer, and conveyed everyone's appreciation for her dedication and commitment to the demands of the position. Lucille then addressed the attendees, explaining some of the responsibilities of the position and stated that she has truly enjoyed her term as Treasurer. She will continue to help Arthur Allard with research projects.

Librarian: Fr. Parent

1. Father announced that we have some resources for sale on the back table.
Maps of Ile d'Orléans - \$3
Maps of Acadian settlements and some History of Acadians CD's for whatever donation attendees want to make.
2. MFGS still has a need for librarians to help members with their research. Father explained the training process and noted that the Franco Collection division of USM may have interns that would be able to help.
3. The list of new acquisitions, including the Gaspé, are in the recent Fall newsletter.
4. Father stated that he would be bringing some of our older volumes to Québec for rebinding.

Research Director: Arthur Allard sent in his request to remind members of the research services such as:

1. Direct ancestral line for one person for up to 13 generations back to France in the 1600's for a flat fee.
Neatly formatted results can be a gift for a special someone.
2. Research specific information [for example: a particular baptismal record or marriage record – generally pre-1940] for an hourly rate: members - \$ 10/hour; non-members - \$20/hour.

Webmaster: Simeon Breault

No new updates.

Technology & related topics:

Father Parent reminded people that we need a chair for the Obituary Project committee. There are still some glitches in the automated system that we are trying to correct.

Facebook: Joline Fortier

No report

Old Business:

Father distributed his General Outline for the Genealogy Research class that will start November 15, 2022. The time is flexible and can be determined by consensus of the enrollees. A signup sheet is on the back table. The Course Outline is appended at the end of these minutes.
Contact Father if you wish to take the course but were unable to attend this past meeting.

Class details:

Conducted by Father Parent

4 class sessions of 1-hour plus optional additional time for questions and help in each 1-hour session.

Free for members / \$30 for non-members

Limited to 10 people

Day: Tuesdays

Location: MFGS Library, 217 Turner St., Auburn, ME

Marie Murphy noted that it made more sense to become a member at \$20 and take the course for free than to pay \$30 as a non-member.

New Business:

Father noted that new window have been installed at the MFGS Library; this was done by Fortin's as the landlord.

In order to replace the windows, all the curtains had to be removed and were cleaned. Fortin's will supply new blinds for these windows, but Father is looking for a volunteer to create and sew valances from the old curtains.

Good of the Order:

1. The Auburn Public Library has a book sale every Saturday from 9:30 am – 1:00 pm.
2. The winner of the 50/50 was Lucy White.
3. Membership: \$20/year; \$10/year for each additional family member.

Board Meeting: November 7, 2022 at 5:30 pm at the MFGS Library.

Spring General Meeting: April 15, 2023 at 10 am with location TBA

[This is a tentative date depending on availability of the speaker and of the location.]

Jeanne Letourneau moved and Lucille Langelier seconded to adjourn to the Presentation on Fort Ticonderoga by Anna Faherty, Archivist at the Franco-American Collection at the University of Southern Maine in Lewiston. The motion was carried at 10:58 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Hitchcock
Recording Secretary

General Outline for Genealogy Course

Class limited to 10 people.

Planning on 4 class sessions of 1 hour (plus optional time for questions and help) each.

Meeting time: Tuesday – time ?

Place: MFGS library

Outline

What is genealogy?

Types of genealogical research.

Basic recording of your research:

- Types of trees

- Forms

- Computer programs

- Filing systems for paperwork

Note taking: Where above comes in.

- Record source

- Recording dates (D-3 letter M-YYYY). Why?

Difference between Primary Sources & Secondary Sources

- Primary Sources:

- Secondary Sources:

Using repertoires, genealogical dictionaries, databases, family histories.

Always double check, confirm; go to primary source or check multiple secondary sources. We will go over the most common primary sources, including notarial documents, and what information they contain.

We will also go over some of the history of the production of these documents.

Troublesome areas and 'brick walls': Name changes, 'dit' names, 'first' names and compound names, confusion of birth date and baptismal date (same for death) etc.

Going beyond the 'tree' to building up a biography of the ancestors.