



MCMaster UNIVERSITY RETIREES ASSOCIATION

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**The 31st Annual General Meeting
Of the McMaster University Retirees Association
Wednesday June 8, 2016, Celebration Hall, Kenneth Taylor Hall**

The meeting was preceded by a light lunch starting at noon.

BRIAN BAETZ, a professor of Civil Engineering at McMaster, gave a very entertaining and informative talk about the creation, history and current status of the **Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System**, subtitled "Bordering on the Magnificent".

Brian spends a lot of time on his bicycle commuting from Dundas to the Mac campus, through one of the nicest natural areas in Canada, the Cootes to Escarpment Ecopark System. As the speaker for this year's AGM, Brian gave us his perspectives on this emerging initiative and offered pictorial proof that McMaster truly does border on the magnificent!

As part of his involvement with this park, Brian wrote and directed a 42-minute film, which is posted on YouTube. The content of this film provided the basis of his address to attendees at the AGM. The web address for the film is:

<http://youtu.be/r570AvEpyrs>

BUSINESS MEETING

A head count established that we met the requirement for a quorum as specified in article 4.06 of MURA's constitution: "At any meeting of members thirty regular members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business."

1. Approval of minutes

Moved by Brian Beckberger, **seconded** by Betty Ann Levy

"that the 2015 AGM minutes be approved as distributed"

Carried.

2. President's Report (Les King)

Les said that there have been both highs and lows in the past year of his Presidency.

Among the highs was first, the appointment of Alvin Lee as the new honorary president of MURA, and it was a pleasure to welcome him here today. Second, was the receipt by MURA of a substantial bequest of more than \$30,000 from the estate of Paula and Stewart Winn. Stewart worked in various positions in Health Sciences from its early days; he was honoured as an Alumnus, and made an honorary member of MURA. Council is working on creating a student award in their honour. Look for an announcement in the fall.

Of the lows, the death of Pam Penny was a great loss. Pam had a long and successful career at McMaster and worked hard for MURA in a variety of roles. Council appointed Phyllis DeRosa Koetting to take her place on Council. Another low was the retirement of Kathy Overholt as Secretary after three years of dedicated service.

The past year also saw Council working to assist members in the replacement of their parking transponders, and in their changeover to the new MacMail system. Both changes were accomplished with a minimum of difficulty.

Les acknowledged the work on Council of Shari Mercer who is stepping down and of Brian Beckberger whose term on Council is ending but who has agreed to stand for re-election.

3. Treasurer's Report (Beth Csordas)

Treasurer Beth Csordas outlined the MURA financial statements for the year ending April 2016, as circulated to attendees. She pointed out that the excess of Income over Expenses for the 2015/2016 fiscal year was \$1,370.01 and Total Members' Equity at April 30, 2016 was \$85,985.80. Questions on the financial statement were solicited but there were none.

Moved by Nora Gaskin, **seconded** by Les Robb

“that the MURA Financial report be accepted as circulated”

Carried.

4. Auditor’s Report (Bob West’s written report)

The Auditor’s Report was circulated in the package given to the AGM attendees. For the year ending April 30, 2016, Bob West reports that he has examined MURA’s financial statements and all supporting documents that he deemed necessary. He finds everything gives a fair representation of our finances and is in order.

Les King requested a motion to accept the MURA Auditor’s report.

Moved by Brian Beckberger, **seconded** by Helen Barton

“that the MURA Auditor’s report be accepted as circulated”

Carried.

5. Reports on Pensions

5.1 Salaried Plan (Bob West)

As Bob was unable to join us today, no report was presented. Look for an update in a future issue of *MURAnews*.

5.2 Hourly Plan (Cliff Andrews)

Cliff was also unable to join us and no report was presented. Look for an update in a future issue of *MURAnews*.

6. Nominating Report (Mary Johnston)

Mary Johnston, chair of the 2016 Nominating Committee, presented the Nominating Report for 2016-2017, which was circulated to the members present. The members of the Nominating Committee were Eleanor Frank, Nora Gaskin, David Hitchcock, Betty Ann Levy and Mary Johnston (chair). Mary explained that the Nominating Committee report as included in the agenda package was approved by Council in April and published in the Spring *MURAnews*.

Our constitution permits new nominations to be made up to 7 days before the AGM. No further nominations were received. The nomination list as circulated is:

President:	Leslie King (One year term)
Vice-President:	Heather Grigg (One year term)
Councillors (until 2018):	Helen Barton

Brian Beckberger
Carolyn Rosenthal

Mary asked if there were additional nominations from the floor. There were none.

Moved by Diane Kennedy, **seconded** by Phyllis DeRosa Koetting

“that nominations be closed”

Carried without discussion

7. **Election of Executive and Council** (Mary Johnston)

Moved by Alvin Lee, **seconded** by Mike Hedden

“that the slate of nominees be elected”

Carried.

8. **Incoming President’s Address** (Les King)

Les welcomed Caroline Rosenthal to the MURA Council.

He noted that the MURA Volunteering Committee, chaired by Betty Ann Levy, does a wonderful job. The committee became involved with the Arts & Science program which has a sub-program called the Discovery Program. The Discovery Program brings to campus people who have never been to university. MURA gave modest support to the program in both labour and money.

There are many volunteer positions at the university. Les encouraged MURA members to look into these opportunities.

9. **Other Business**

None.

Moved by Brian Beckberger

“that the meeting be adjourned”

Carried at 2:31 pm