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**McMaster University Retirees Association**

**COUNCIL MINUTES**

Tuesday, August 15, 1989, 1:00 p.m.  
Fyfe Room, Divinity College

Present: Charles Cook, Winn Cramm, Bill MacPherson, Fumi Miyasaka, Fred Carson, Gil Murray

Regrets: Dorothy Jacobs, - Blythe Williams,  
Stuart Winn

The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated. It was moved by Bill MacPherson and seconded by Fred Carson that the Minutes be approved. Carried.

Business arising:

1. Charlie Cook reported upon the meeting held between McMaster University President Dr. Lee; Vice President, Administration, Mr. A.L. Darling; Director of Personnel Fred Hopkinson; himself; Bill MacPherson; and Les Prince, on July 11.

Subjects discussed included campus parking for retirees, the Pension Trust Committee, better communications between the President's and MURA's offices and also Personnel, and how to accomplish it. Dr. Lee expressed regret that the Board of Governors' approval of a MURA observer on the Pension Trust Committee had not been communicated to MURA more promptly and in a more formal fashion; and that no response had come from the University parking committee to MURA's communications.

Charlie Cook reported that the parking question remains in limbo for the present, the University committee not yet knowing themselves what the overall parking situation is going to be as a result of campus construction. They promised to let MURA know the eventual solution in ample time. Charlie said it was not known whether or not all retirees' parking will have to be on the west campus only.

The MURA group pointed out to Dr. Lee that retirees are not on campus often and therefore do not occupy many parking spaces at one time. The response was that a very large percentage of overselling of spaces and the ebb and flow of parking traffic during the day alleviates overcrowding. MURA pressed the issue further, and Mr. Darling promised to continue reviewing the question and will again respond. Charlie Cook commented that MURA must wait but keep pressure on to resolve the problem.

2. Dr. Lee expressed concern that word of the approval of a MURA observer on the Pension Trust Committee had not been communicated through the proper channels. Bill MacPherson commented to Dr. Lee on the manner of the telephone call received regarding the approval. Mr. Cook noted that the day after the meeting a letter arrived from Board Secretary J.P. Evans giving the Board's decision together with a copy of the committee bylaws.

Mr. Cook has since written to Mr. Evans, giving the name of Dr. Gerry King as MURA's appointee as observer, expressing appreciation for the appointment, and requesting that Dr. King receive regular notice of committee meetings. The observer will have no committee vote. Mr. Cook remarked that this at least gives MURA a foothold on pension matters.

Fred Carson asked if this meant that the observer will only attend meetings and just listen, and Mr. Cook replied that the committee bylaws don't give this information.

3. Mr. Cook went on to report that the meeting discussed new office space for MURA. Mr. Hopkinson said he was sympathetic with the matter, as the present GH 317 is also used for personnel business. But space is short on campus. Mr. Darling asked if space in the Commons Building might be acceptable, and Mr. Cook indicated this was possible.

Fred Carson asked if space in the new Campus Centre wouldn't be the best location. Bill MacPherson said MURA has requested this, but the building will probably not be ready for five to six years yet, and space is needed sooner.

Mr. Cook reported that he had received a letter from Wilf Ward, of Mr. Darling's staff, saying that the inventory of physical space is being updated, and that he would help to find a solution. Mr. Cook observed to the council that the meeting with Dr. Lee had helped to get this process started. He also told the University group that McMaster retirees wish to maintain a relationship with the University.

4. On communications, Mr. Cook agreed to keep the University posted on MURA affairs, through means such as sending the MURA Newsletter and minutes of Council to the offices of Dr. Lee, Mr. Darling and Mr. Hopkinson. Copies of the August/September Newsletter have already been sent, along with copies of Mr. Cook's letter to Mr. Evans. The MURA group said they expected the University will also communicate with them. Bill MacPherson commented at Council that he had been pleased with the reception of MURA's views, and hoped that lines of communication will be kept open.

5. Charlie Cook also reported that the plaques for the backs of the wheelchairs are not yet ready, but thought that Stuart Winn's return should be awaited anyway so that he may take part in the official dedication.
6. The August 31 barbecue at the President's House presents no problems, and Food Service head Tom Bonney would like to know by August 28 how many are coming and if seating is needed. Mr. Cook noted that people had been asked to bring lawn chairs, but Physical Plant would also be asked to drop off some extra chairs also.

Fred Carson asked if there would be an accounting of the amount of food used. Bill MacPherson thought there would not be such but that the Food Service can be relied upon to make a fair billing. Charlie Cook suggested that food tickets be issued as a means of keeping track. Bill also suggested that a detailed bill be requested from Food Services afterwards.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held in the Fyfe Room on September 12 at 1:00 p.m.