

McMASTER UNIVERSITY RETIREES ASSOCIATION

COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, March 9, 1994

PRESENT: Joy Baby, Charlie Cook, Jean Duschenko, Dora Haisell, Bill MacPherson, Dorothy Matheson, Bill McMicking, Averil Thompson, Jim Walker, Marion Welton, Joan Wiley John Williamson

REGRETS; Dorothy Jacobs, Carm McMullen, Warren Mousley,

Two corrections were made to the Minutes of the February meeting.

- (1) Joy Baby advised the Secretary of the proper spelling for Jim Miyasaka's name
- (2) Stuart Winn and Paula will be joining the Ottawa tour

Bill MacPherson moved, and Dora Haisell seconded the approval of the February minutes with the above amendments.

Jim Walker advised that the June 8th date for the Annual Picnic has been confirmed. This event will take place at the Dundas Driving Park - Kitchenette No.5.

The Annual Dinner will be held September 8th, and the Xmas Lunch at the Schwaben Inn has been confirmed for December 12th. Confirmation has not yet been received with respect to the use of the President's House grounds for the Annual BBQ in August.

Joy reported that the Stage West event had been most enjoyable; so much so that another event has already been planned and booked. This is for the musical FOREVER PLAID and a trip is scheduled for Wednesday, April 6th. Only 4 spaces remain.

Tickets for the Blue Jay game on June 1st have been confirmed.

Jim stated that the MURAL is to be distributed on March 11th and volunteers were recruited for mail preparation.

Council members welcomed Bob Tangney to the meeting. Bob reported that the overall changes in the prescription drug plans do not affect retirees to the same extent as active staff members. Members were informed that retirees may ~~will~~ be offered the option to adopt the new drug plan or remain with the old plan. Various mail order delivery service pharmacies would serve different areas, e.g. business centres, residential areas or the University which could result in reduced dispensing fees. Bob advised that documentation will be distributed to individual retirees for their perusal and decision. He suggested that this Council might wish to assist in formulating the documents, or at least approve material prepared for mailing by Personnel.

Bob stated that anyone approaching 65 will be advised of changes in bridging, insurance coverage etc., two months prior to their reaching age 65.

Charlie Cook was of the opinion that Council should not advise Personnel on any University policies, to which Bob replied that the Benefits Department are not asking for advice but rather feedback from Retirees with their interests and opinions, providing they wish to do so.

Bob advised that the new system will likely be introduced by late 1994. There will be one data base which will be centered at the University and information will be supplied by the University to the Insurance Company as needed. All members of the plan will be asked to provide the necessary details.

Jim Walker stressed the fact that Council is here to provide suggestions on matters pertinent to retirees. Personnel has advised that they will 'touch base' with Council on upcoming matters. Marion Welton, Averil Thompson and Bill Mackpherson, together with the President volunteered to act as representatives of Council in communicating retirees' concerns or suggestions to Personnel.

The President thanked Bob for attending the meeting and helping to clarify the proposed new plan.

The Treasurer, Joy Baby reported a bank balance of \$2,692.29 with outstanding bills in the amount of \$38.15 and \$468.00. Joy was pleased to report that as of today's date MURA has 419 paid up members as compared to only 248 last year at this time.

UPCOMING EVENTS

An invitation had been received from Gemma re a Long Island Trip, March 22nd-26th inclusive for only \$220. per person. This sum would cover transportation, hotel and most meals.

Octoberfest in June

Forever Plaid - April

Tulip Time in Ottawa - June (fully booked)

Blue Jay Game - June

It was agreed that September 22nd or 23rd would be suitable dates for the Cranberry Festival, at which time the Autumn colours should be at their best.

Dates of October 7-11 were suggested for a Vermont Trip. Details of this event will be outlined in a flier when plans are finalized.

The President asked for volunteers to assist with upcoming MURA events and the following list was compiled:

Xmas Dinner - D. Jacobs, M. Welton and J. Baby

BBQ - J. Wiley, D. Haisell, D. Matheson

Picnic - C. Cook, W. MacPherson

Canterbury Hills - C. McMullen, W. Mousley

MURAL- J. Walker, A. Thompson, D. Matheson

The President was requested to ask John Weaver to be the Guest Speaker at Canterbury Hills.

Jim mentioned that Gil Murray has been looking after the MURAL publishing for some time and that his efforts have been greatly appreciated, however Gil does have other interests and Council agreed that we have imposed long enough on Gil's willingness to help. Dorothy Matheson volunteered to work on the MURAL, along with J. Walker and A. Thompson.

A nominating Committee to suggest names for Council, consisting of M. Welton, C. Cook and W. MacPherson were appointed. It was suggested that this Committee might also review the MURA Constitution. The President remarked that Carm McMullen, John Williamson, Jean Dushenko, Charlie Cook and Jim Walker have completed their term of office on Council but are eligible to have their names put forward for re-election. Jack Evans has indicated that he would be available as a candidate for Council.

A tentative date of May 18th has been suggested for The Annual Meeting, to be held in the Divinity College Recreation Room. Jim Miyasaka will be contacted regarding the Scund System.

Averil Thompson reported on the Benefits Meeting she had attended. Averil stated that only 1,096 out of 3,358 eligible had voted. Only 70 people had attended the three open session, 20 of whom were retirees or Human Resource people. Averil informed Council that retirees will have the option of going with the new plan or remaining with the old plan.

It was moved by W. MacPherson and seconded by Joy Baby that the meeting be adjourned.

Note:

*Next meeting: Wednesday, April 13, 1994
Room B109 Gilman Hall at 1:30pm.*

Secretary: Dorothy Matheson