

McMASTER UNIVERSITY RETIREES ASSOCIATION  
COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, May 11, 1994

**PRESENT:** Joy Baby, Charlie Cook, Jean Dushenko, Dorothy Matheson, Bill MacPherson, Carm McMullen, Averil Thompson, Jim Walker, Marion Welton

**REGRETS:** Dorothy Jacobs, Bill McMicking, Warren Mousley, Joan Wiley, John Williamson

Moved by Bill MacPherson, seconded by Charlie Cook that the Minutes of the March meeting be approved with the following amendment: The 'c' should be ommitted from the name Dushenko.

Joy Baby advised that the "active" membership as of May stands at 550.

A \$50 donation to the Telethon did not arrive in time to be recorded on TV but will be forwarded by the Treasurer.

Prescription Drugs

Retiree representatives had not agreed to details in the original letter written by Bob Tangney. Copies of the revised letter and other material pertaining to prescription drugs were distributed to those present.

Passings

Marian Grier and Hank Bitel

Coming Events

Dates for upcoming events have been finalized. The President agreed to contact Mr. J. Weaver re the Canterbury Hills Dinner.

Annual Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Recreation Area, (Lower Level) of the Divinity College and is booked from 6:30 p.m. to 10.p.m. Audio Visual will be asked to supply a microphone. Coffee, tea and small cakes or cookies will be served and Council members were asked to bring these refreshments. Dora Haisell volunteered to contact Food Services who will supply the Coffee and Tea, as well as paper napkins, cream, sugar, etc.



The Chairman will visit the Divinity College re set-up arrangements of 2 tables, and chairs and extra chairs for the use of guests. Joy Baby is to have a separate table at which she will receive any membership fees from guests at the meeting, as well as be available for enquiries on coming events.

Joy reported on the following future events:

Blue Jays - all seats taken

Oktoberfest - 8 vacancies

Bala - some members had already contacted Joy re this trip

Vermont - 5 Bookings so far

The treasurer, Joy Baby, stated that our bank balance is \$3,037.44 as of this date. A \$2,000 Term Certificate had come due April 28th and had been reinvested at 4.5% interest. One other Certificate comes due in June. The only outstanding debt is the \$50 donation to the Telethon. Joy agreed to prepare a financial statement for the Annual General Meeting

The Chairman thanked Charlie Cook, John Williamson, Jean Dushenko and Carm McMullen for their support this year. Each of these Council members, is eligible for nomination to Council for the coming year. Jean has declined because of her commitment to the Cancer Society, but has volunteered to assist with stuffing envelopes for MURA if requested.

Jim Walker noted that someone will be needed to Chair the Annual Meeting while the voting procedure takes place. Averil Thompson agreed to assist as temporary Chairman.

A discussion ensued regarding a proposed two-year term of office for the President and Vice-President. It was, however, the decision of Council to remain with the present rule of the Constitution that a one-year term of office with the possibility of re-election is perhaps best. It was suggested by Charlie Cook that the Constitution should be rewritten with amendments included and he volunteered to undertake this task.

The Chairman raised the question of whether 12 meetings per year of Council could be reduced and a consensus agreed that the July and August meetings could be deleted.



June 22nd was agreed on as the date for the June meeting at which the new Council will be present. The meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. in GH B109.

Some members felt that GH B109 was not of sufficient size to seat all Council members, however the Chairman viewed this not to be a problem since extra chairs could be made available and rarely do we have full attendance. Moving location to be discussed in June.

Carm McMullen advised that the revised membership lists will be given to Personnel for their records.

Jim Walker agreed to contact Gerry King re the Pension Report for the Annual General Meeting.

Averil Thompson will introduce Bill MacPherson as Chairman of the Nominating Committee at the AGM.

At the AGM Jim Walker will mention that the Benefits Committee has been meeting and that Averil Thompson, as our representative to this Committee, will be available to answer questions from MURA members.

The subject of hourly and salaried employees in connection with Benefits was raised and it was agreed that there may be discrepancies in regard to communication with hourly groups as well as excluding retired hourly workers from a choice of plan. Evidently the Employee Services International Union (SEIU) had voted against their members having a choice. Council members were of the opinion that all McMaster retirees should be treated alike, regardless of category. A written document outlining the benefits for each group should be sent to Council by Human Resources to be reviewed and discussed and if there are discrepancies, Council will appoint a committee to approach the appropriate University authority with any concerns. The Chairman will contact Bob Tangney, who had written the letter to Salaried Retirees, for clarification re the position of the hourly rated retirees.

The Parking Office has advised that free parking will be available for retirees on the main Campus May 1st to Aug.31st.

It was moved by Joy Baby and seconded by Jean Dushenko that the meeting adjourn.

The next meeting will be held on June 22nd at 1:30 p.m. GHB109