

McMaster University Retirees Association

COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, September 8, 1993 at 1:00 p.m.

Bilmour Hall, Room 306A

Present: Joy Baby, Charlie Cook, Jean Duschenko, Dora Haisell, Dorothy Jacobs, Bill MacPherson, Bill McMicking, Warren Mousley, Averil Thompson, Jim Walker, Joan Wiley and John Williamson

Regrets: Dorothy Matheson, Carm McMullen, Marion Welton

The minutes recorded by Dora Haisell.

Moved by Bill MacPherson and seconded by Joy Baby that the minutes be approved - carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes

1. The Health/Travel Information Seminar has been arranged for Tuesday, October 5. MURA has the use of the Council Chambers from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and it is anticipated that the seminar will run from 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Coffee should be made available from 1:15 p.m.

Mr. Doug Smeall, Director, Group Contacts (Toronto) will represent Sun Life, and Ms Maryann Russell, Client Relations Consultant, will represent the Ministry of Health (O.H.I.P.). Their equipment needs will be met. It is essential that we get a good attendance since the participants have put themselves out to be of assistance to us.

An announcement will be made on the coach trip to Muskoka on September 22. Jim Walker will try to get the October/November Mural out in time to publicise the seminar. There may be need for a *phone blitz.

2. Concern regarding MURA mailing lists. Some addresses have been corrected, and the work is ongoing by Personnel staff. The main problem seems to be due to many retirees informing Canada Trust directly, leaving a period of time before this information is made available to Personnel Services.
3. Jim Walker, Charlie Cook and Warren Mousley had an informative meeting with Fred Hopkinson regarding the updated versions of our Medical Benefits.

3. (Cont'd.)

In fact the Health Cards and relevant information were mailed "post haste" and many were received within 48 hours. Regular monthly meetings with Mr. Hopkinson were arranged. Jim Walker missed the first meeting, but Charlie Cook had an informal meeting with Mr. Hopkinson and the following comments arose during their conversation:

- a) Health cards for hourly paid retirees should be issued by the end of September.
- b) Work on the Social Contract had caused Personnel staff to delay work in other matters.
- c) Canada Trust Questionnaire concerning tax information - Mr. Hopkinson hoped that all retirees had received and returned them.
- d) A suggestion had been made that the Faculty Association intended to create a separate Retirees Association. Research into their memoranda proved that this was a misunderstanding and completely incorrect.
- e) In an effort to improve communication within the McMaster Community, a publication "Personnel Matters" is issued on a regular basis and MURA has been invited to provide an article re the Association. Jim Walker to contact Heather Larmour for the publication date.
- f) Personnel have a concern re the Seminar. What if the Sun Life representative makes statements which may not be covered by the McMaster Contract, and would possibly give an untrue position regarding the retiree. Jim Walker stated that he would meet with Mr. Hopkinson/Mr. Tangney with regard to having someone being able to clarify any position it was felt was being misrepresented. Although this was a concern, it was hoped that no problems would arise. While on the subject of the seminar, Jim said that he would open the seminar and introduce the participants, but would require someone to act as moderator. After some discussion it was decided to leave Jim to appoint a moderator.
- g) A question arose concerning Health Science Clinical Staff retirees who do not appear on any Retiree listings. Jim Walker will check to find a contact person in Health Sciences and then meet with Mr. Hopkinson. Dorothy Jacobs pointed out that this may call for an amendment to our Constitution, however this can be looked at when the Clinical retiree situation is clarified.

(cont'd. 3/)

4. Jim Walker has arranged a speaker for the Canterbury Hills annual dinner. The speaker will be Jack Evans who has kindly accepted our invitation.
5. Dorothy Matheson has agreed to be Secretary for MURA. She has been busy touring, but should be available for our October meeting. 1993
6. Bill MacPherson suggested that the presenters at the Seminar should be given a token in thanks. After some discussion, it was decided that Mac mugs would be suitable. Joy Baby was asked to purchase them and to arrange for the refreshments for the Seminar: coffee, tea and cookies.
7. The Barbecue worked out well. Links of Dundas was the best choice and Mary Keyes agreed. Since a location was made available to us in case of rain, Jim wrote a letter to Mary Keyes to thank her. We did not need the room this year, but since it was suitable, being large and containing a kitchen, he indicated in his letter that we would appreciate the same offer being available for future Barbecues.
8. The Wentworth Lodge presentation has not been made. However, Janet Fawcett has now returned and the presentation should be made within the next two weeks.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Treasurer's Report.
Outstanding Account: Links \$816.50 + \$40. (gratuity)
The bill for mailing and May through August printing/photocopying \$1349.12

Bank Bal. \$1271.29
BIC's \$3,000.
The rate on the B.I.C. is 3.6% and it is invested for 90 days.
2. Joy Baby reported that 104 people were going on the Muskoka Lakes Tour. There is room for 8 more. She is working on a Christmas Outing. One suggestion is a luncheon cruise on the Niagara Clipper including shopping stops and the Christmas Lights.
Another idea is a trip to Simcoe to view their Christmas decorations with dinner in Port Dover, possibly at the Erie Beach Hotel.
Details will follow when plans are formalized.

3. Bill MacPherson moved that MURA invite the two scholarship students from Gerontology to the Christmas Luncheon; their tabs to be paid by MURA.
John Williamson seconded that motion. CARRIED
4. Stuffers will be needed for the next Newsletter - September 23rd or 24th. Jim Walker will call to recruit workers.
5. Gemma Allan of Maxim Tours will make a presentation re travel at the next scheduled meeting of MURA- October 13th at 1:00 p.m. in Gilmour Hall, Room 306A.

John Williamson moved the adjournment at 1:54 p.m. Jean Duschenko seconded the motion.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 13th at 1:00 p.m. in Room 306A, Gilmour Hall.

Dora Haisell
acted as recording secretary