

McMASTER UNIVERSITY RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES of the Council Meeting held Wednesday March 13, 1996 at 1:30 p.m. in GH-B109.

Present: J. Baby, J. Evans (Chair), D. Haisell, M. Maggs, J. McCutcheon, V. Morrison, A. Thompson, J. Walker, M. Welton

Regrets: D. Matheson, C. McMullen, W. Mousley, B. White, J. Wiley

Absent: W. McMicking

I. Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was **MOVED** by J. Baby, **SECONDED** by D. Haisell that the Minutes of the meeting of February 14, 1996 be approved with the following corrections:

Page 1, item I, line 1 should read "It was **MOVED** by **J. Walker**....."

Page 2, para 1, line 6 should read "details....."

Page 2, under President's Report, line 3 ".....surplus.....", and line 6, "....Dr. **E. Szathmary**....."

Page 3, under Nominating Committee, Terms on Council to read, "1996"

Page 5, under Other Business, line 1 should read ".....a MURA....."

CARRIED AS AMENDED

II. Business Arising

i. Nominating Committee Report

Council approved the replacement of Mavis Hubley by Sue Flight to serve on the Nominating Committee. The Report of the Nominating Committee submitted by Jim Walker was received and endorsed prior to circulation to members in time for the Annual General Meeting.

A minor "housekeeping" change to the wording of Article 8.02 of the Constitution was discussed and agreed upon. Article 8.02 to read as follows:

"NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee shall consist of the **immediate Past** President of the Association, who shall act as chair, and four (4) other regular active members of the Association appointed by Council, two of whom shall not be members of the Council. **In the event that the Past President is unable to serve, Council shall designate the chair of the Nominating Committee.**

APPROVED

III. President's Report

i. Pension Ad Hoc Working Group

The Chair stated that meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group are still in abeyance. However, two meetings of the proposal committee of MUFF (McMaster University Futures Fund) have taken place, dealing with the excess surplus as defined by National Revenue, and although at present there is nothing firm to report, he was optimistic that a recommendation would go forward to the Board of Governors who have two more meetings before the end of June. One positive aspect, he noted, was that some headway has been made in recognition of the Retirees Group, with proposed voting representation on both the Pension Trust Committee and the MUFF Management Committee.

ii. Federal Budget

In discussing the Budget statement, the Chair noted that all the implications for seniors were not obvious, but he was of the opinion that the first analysis of what the government says will be a reality into the 21st Century. He thought that when the budget pronouncements are translated into regulations we may want to meet again with Bob Tangney.

It was suggested that working more closely with other retiree groups such as CARP and Stelco, would strengthen our position and might prove beneficial. Jim Walker will be making contact with Kent Jenson who is the local CARP representative.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

Dora Haisell reported a balance in the bank of \$4,630 with outstanding debts totalling \$3,300. to cover costs of printing of four newsletters and \$100. for duplicating costs, leaving a balance of \$1,330. McMaster Credit Union has given her a cheque for \$75. towards postage costs. Dora noted that the term deposit certificate has been rolled over for one year until March 9, 1997, but as yet the interest rate is unknown. A financial statement will be prepared for the next Council meeting.

V. PORTFOLIO REPORTS

-Visitations

Joy reported on behalf of Brian White that he has sent a sympathy card to Mrs. McPherson, he had made enquiries about Charlie Cooke, and has spoken to Mrs. Nelson who is finding things difficult. Jim Walker visited with Charlie last week, who remains cheerful in spite of his health problems. The Chair suggested sending humorous cards to Charlie.

-Trips

Joy Baby reported full bookings for the Stage West trip on March 20th. The two-day

Casino trip has been converted to a one-day trip on April 25th. Mohawk Retirees' Association has extended an invitation for MURA members to join in some of their scheduled events, namely:

Wednesday May 29, Sesquicentennial Celebration, "Hamilton Then and Now" at the Hamilton Club, \$20.00 per person including lunch.

Thursday June 13, 12:30 - 4:00 p.m. "Flights of Fancy" at the Warplane Heritage Museum, \$20.00 per person including lunch.

This information will appear in the upcoming issue of MURAL.

Joy indicated that she is exploring the feasibility of a fall trip/cruise to Orillia on September 26th.

Concern was expressed at the drop in numbers to 30 people attending the Annual Dinner event held at Canterbury Hills last October 3rd. It was suggested that a stimulating speaker and an earlier date might improve attendance.

It was proposed that the Chair invite John Weaver to speak on a topic to tie in with the Sesquicentennial celebrations. Suggested dates for the Annual Dinner were September 10th or 17th, depending upon the availability of the speaker and the Canterbury Hills facility.

-Benefits Committee

Margaret Maggs indicated that there was nothing to report.

-Courier Contact

Veronica Morrison commented that *The Courier* office staff member she had dealt with had not been too cooperative. They will only list events and activities for free if space allows. If we are prepared to pay \$27.00 for a "business card size ad", they will miraculously find space.

-Membership Packages ?

In the absence of Carm, Jim Walker reviewed the membership figures, noting that 294 memberships have been processed to date, which puts us a bit ahead of where we were this time last year. Human Resources have requested pages for retirees from MURA for insertion in their package to new retirees.

MTG March 13 - original deadline

-MURAL

Averil informed Council that submissions for publication in the next issue of MURAL should be in her hands by March 22nd. She will notify Council members when a date has been selected for stuffing the envelopes for mailing.

STUFFING TUES MARCH 26

March 18

-AGM/BBQ

Room B136 in Divinity College has been booked from 1:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. on May 15th for the Annual General Meeting. Cold drinks and cookies will be provided.

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The grounds at the President's House have been booked for the barbecue following the Meeting. Dora has prepared an announcement for insertion in MURAL.

VI Other Business

There being no other business other than the acknowledgement of receipt of President George's Newsletter and the "Directions" publication, the meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

VII NEXT MEETING:

APRIL 10, 1996 AT 1:30 P.M.