

AMERIL

MCMASTER UNIVERSITY RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES of the Council Meeting of May 8th, 1996 at 1:30 p.m.
in GH B109

PRESENT: J. Baby, J. Evans (Chair), D. Haisell, M. Maggs,
D. Matheson, J. McCutcheon, W. McMicking,
A. Thompson, M. Welton, B. White

REGRETS; C. McMullen, V. Morrison, J. Walker

I. Minutes of Previous Meeting

MOVED by D. Haisell, SECONDED by J. Baby that the Minutes of the April 10th meeting be APPROVED with the following amendments:

Page 3 under AGM/BBQ. D. Haisell stated 30 to 35 had indicated their intention to attend, but that provisions will be made for approximately 50 guests.

Page 1. The date of the April minutes should read April 10th.

CARRIED

II. Business Arising

None at present.

III. President's Report

(i) Pension Ad Hoc Working Group

This group had agreed upon draft terms of reference and membership of a revised Pension Trust Committee. Chris Butcher of MUSSA had requested clarification of the term "faculty membership". Clarification was given and the draft will now be sent to all member associations and, if approved, will be taken to the Board of Governors for amendment to the By-laws. If approved, MURA will have voting membership on this Committee.

(ii) MUFF

The Chair stated this committee had now been signed off. The terms stipulated by MUFF will in all likelihood be approved which will also give MURA voting membership.

MUSSA

(iii) MUSSA and Pensions

An article in the April 22nd issue of the Courier indicated an agreement had been reached with the Staff Support Association which included the following items: Staff

- (a) splitting of Staff and Faculty Benefits Program. Each group would deal separately with the University administration.
- (b) Assets of the defined benefit pension plan would be divided among the University, Faculty, Staff and Retirees.

X A new pension plan would 'wind-up' the existing pension plan with the possible implementation of a 'defined contribution' pension plan. The Chair stressed that retirees need assurance that they are covered for any future inflationary costs. The Chair is presently attempting to build alliances and had met with Les Robb, President of the Faculty Association in the hope that all involved could agree on the manner in which the surplus is handled. Alliances with other groups would mean that MURA has access to the expertise and experience of such groups.

1 Margaret Maggs raised the question of MURA's relations with MUSSA. The Chair stated that he and Chris Butcher 'may not be on the same wave length' and therefore could not give a response, but was of the opinion that our ties with MUSSA are weak, even though many retirees were formerly employed as Support Staff or Professional Management. A suggestion was made that a representative from each of the Faculty, Clinical and Professional Librarians Associations be invited to the Annual General Meeting, and that a representative of MUSSA be invited to speak to the MURA Council.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Dora reported a fiscal year end bank balance of \$3,275. as of April 30/96 with all bills paid. Dora explained that while this balance shows an increase over 1995, there had been a term certificate deposited to the account, and that MURAL mailings had been reduced from six to four over the past year.

X It was MOVED by J. Baby and seconded by M. Welton that a donation of \$100. per person be forwarded to the annual Chedoke-McMaster Telethon in memory of Charlie Cook and Bill MacPherson.

CARRIED

Joy gave a report on Special Projects which had produced a year end balance of \$1,164.

86 The foregoing financial statements will be circulated at the A.G.M.

V. Portfolio Reports

- Visitations

Brian stated that Charlie Cook's funeral had been well attended by members of MURA, Church and friends. Flowers had been sent in the amount of \$62. which Council members agreed to absorb. Brian was requested to send a card to Ruth Seekings.

- Trips

- April 26 - Joy stated the Windsor Casino Trip had been highly successful, with one guest winning a considerable amount of money.
- June 13 - Joy had received several calls from those interested in the Warplane Heritage Museum event.
- Sept. 26 - The Bala Cruise/Leacock Museum. Joy advised that a cruise can be arranged from 11 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. followed by lunch and a tour of the Museum.

- Benefits

become Margaret Maggs had spoken with Bob Tangney on April 19th and he had indicated that the rationale for the \$5,000. in insurance was not tied to funeral expenses. He further stated that the University may elect to delete this item from Benefits since it *may* ~~is~~ taxable and does not provide a good return for the Benefit Fund.

Regarding the drug issue, Bob again had recommended use of the Card but warned that pharmacist fees may rise and the Card may not cover certain drugs.

Bob stated that with respect to the Benefits Committee Negotiating Groups, the Faculty Association is presently working on an agreement with the University on major medical issues.

Bob had indicated no definite dates for Benefits Review meetings had been set. However he added that negotiating group meetings will definitely include MURA representation. *he added that MURA*

- Courier *will be informed of ongoing negotiations* No report

- Membership

The Membership statement was circulated to Council indicating 479 active members with a total of just over 1,000 eligible for membership.

- MURAL

* Averil requested that all material for the June/July issue of MURAL be submitted to her by June 12th.

- AGM

John McCutcheon advised that the set-up for the Annual General Meeting has been arranged. The room in the Divinity College has been booked for 1:00 p.m. with the meeting to commence at 1:30 p.m. Cookies/squares, cream and sugar will be provided by Council members. It is expected approximately 50 members will attend.

The Chair stated that the agenda will include reports from the following:

President's Report

G. King - Pension Trust Committee

Treasurer's Report

Trips and Events

Benefits Committee

Membership Committee

Nominating Committee

One Constitutional change: The word "past" will appear in front of the word "President".

as chair of the nominating committee

- BBQ

Dora reported that 52 people had paid up to date. A figure of 55 will be submitted to Links for catering services. Dora also stated that in the event of inclement weather, Moulton Hall will be available to us, together with the covered patio. Guests have been requested to bring chairs, but Mr. Dawson of the Grounds Dept. has been asked to provide some additional chairs.

Jack Evans advised that he will invite Eleanor Ecclestone of the President's House to attend the BBQ.

VI Other Business

The Chair advised that the Senior Peer group had once again approached him regarding their services to MURA, which at this time were not required.

The Chair stated that although this will be the final meeting in their term on Council, he extended a warm vote of thanks on behalf of Council and MURA to Joan Wiley and Bill McMicking for their assistance and dedication to the Association.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

VII NEXT MEETING: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING May 15 at 1:30 p.m.

Council - June 12 at 1:30 p.m.