

MINUTES of the Council Meeting held Wednesday, April 9th at 1:30 p.m. in Gilmour Hall B109

PRESENT: J. Baby, J. Evans (Chair), S. Hambleton, M. Hubley, J. Maas, M. Maggs, C. McMullen, A. Thompson, M. Welton, B. White

REGRETS: D. Haisell, D. Matheson, J. Walker

ABSENT John Mc Cutcheon

I. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting of March 12th were approved with the following amendments:

- Page 2, para. 3 (1) AGM
- Page 2, V. R. A. McNaught

II. Business Arising

a) Computer/E.Mail: The Chair noted that Council needs to decide who is to have access to the computer and who will need training. The E. mail address is at present EVANSJ but is to be changed to MURA. Council should decide this at the next meeting.

b) Thode Memorial: The President noted that the Memorial Service for Dr. Thode would be on Tuesday, April 15th at 2:00 p.m. in Convocation Hall. He advised those attending to come at 1:00 p.m.

Dr. Thode was Honorary President of the Association, and the President, with the agreement of Council, will be approaching Dr. Bourns to take over this position.

c) Gwen George Memorial: The President thanked Council members for attending.

III. President's Report

i) Pension Matters

A revised Pension Trust Committee has been agreed to in principle re revised terms of reference and the payment of legitimate administrative costs out of the pension fund. Details of base costs are still to be determined.

On the matter of use of the pension fund surplus for buyout costs, there have been meetings with the University Actuary. It is agreed that more than the surplus/buyout issue needs to be discussed. The surplus is at a dangerous level and may well attract the attention of the Department of National Revenue. The University is therefore taking "pension" holidays. The Faculty Association is supportive of this move.

Pension Matters (cont'd)

The President reiterated the priorities of the retirees - use of the surplus for total compensation for inflation, and for maintenance and possible increase of benefits.

The Actuary reported that any increase in benefits would be a taxable benefit. There are limits to what can be done to increase benefits which must be adhered to so as to avoid decentrification of the plan. Any change needs to be approved by the D.N.R.

Carm McMullen brought up the matter of those who have pensions based on the old "best five years" as opposed to the current "best three years". Could the surplus be used to upgrade the members under the five year rule? Jack Evans will check this with the University Actuary. He noted the increased scrutiny by government officials.

With the approval of Council, Jack Evans will approach Gerry King to stay on the Pension Trust Committee.

ii) MUFF Committee

There has been at least one meeting recently but in the absence of John McCutcheon, the report was deferred.

IV. Treasurer's Report

In the absence of Dora Haisell, Joy Baby gave a brief report. The current balance is \$3,321.02.

The possibilities of printing the MURAL on plain paper and of using the bulk mailing rate were raised as cost savers. Averil Thompson will look into this. If bulk mailing is cheaper it may be possible to send all MURAL's to all retirees. There was some discussion as to whether that would discourage "active" membership, but it was noted that "active" membership would still carry rights to vote and nominate members of Council.

V. Portfolio Assignments

- Visitations

Jack Maas reported that cards had been sent to Ann McNaught and Hector Blanchard and sympathy cards sent to Mrs. Thode and Dr. George. The death of Fergie Cook was noted.

- Trips

The Casino trip was a great success. Two thirds of those participating were from off-campus. Mohawk's "Camelot" trip is sold out. The Shaw brochure is being considered.

- Benefits

Nothing to report from Margaret Maggs. Jack Evans reported that no work was at present underway in Human Resources on communications on benefit matters.

- Courier

No report in the absence of Veronica Morrison.

- Membership

Carm McMullen distributed the latest figures and noted that about 50% of the membership was "active". He confirmed that there will be a list of "active" members available for the AGM. He asked about his successor in the Membership portfolio. He is willing to help within his travel constraints. Jack Evans will pursue this matter, possibly calling on some member outside Council to assist.

The President remarked on the good note on membership by Jim Walker in the MURAL. The President believes that the number of retirees will be relatively stable from now on for a few years with the cessation of the special offers.

- MURAL

It was agreed that the next MURAL should go out in the latter part of June. This will be a full mailing and will include information on the new Executive, the new President's write up on the AGM, the September 16th Dinner and the tentative Shaw trip on September 4th.

- AGM:BBQ

Arrangements underway. Jack Evans will confirm the use of the President's lawn.

VI. Other Business

i) Communications:

Letters were received from T. Wetton regarding a note on membership; from the University of Waterloo requesting a copy of our constitution; from D. Fitzgerald with information for possible inclusion in the MURAL; from B. Donst requesting help with the University's Open House - volunteers should contact individual Faculty Offices, and from Mrs. Prince wishing us well.

ii) President's Newsletter

Jack Evans will pursue the matter of the mailing of the University President's Newsletter.

Council has acquired a free printer.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

VII. The next meeting will be held on May 14th at 1:30 p.m., in Gilmour Hall B109

M. Maggs
Acting Secretary