McMASTER UNIVERSITY RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES of the Council Meeting held December 11, 1996 at 1:30 p.m. in GH-B110

PRESENT:

J. Baby, J. Evans (Chair), D. Haisell, S. Hambleton, M. Hubley,

J. Maas, M. Maggs, C. McMullen, V. Morrison, A. Thompson,

M. Welton, B. White

REGRETS:

D. Matheson, J. McCutcheon, J. Walker

I. Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was MOVED by Jack Maas, SECONDED by Stan Hambleton that the Minutes of the meeting of November 13, 1996 be approved with the following correction:

Page 2, last line to read, "...net balance in the account of \$2,143.82."

APPROVED

II. Business Arising

- a) Christmas Lunch The Chair congratulated members of Council who had made such of a success of the Christmas luncheon held on Monday December 10th. Although the scholarship winners were unable to be present, approximately 95 people attended.
- b) Correspondence A memo received by the Chair from Sheila Trainor-McCutcheon of COUSA regarding university retirement organizations was shared with Council. It was thought appropriate to invite John McCutcheon to follow up on this request.
- c) Computer
 A verbal commitment has been received from Sandy Darling to pay for the hookup.
 A used ethernet card has been promised by Carol Nelson, and Carm volunteered to install the data base.

III. President's Report

i) Pension Ad Hoc Working Group
The Chair noted that there have been no further developments in the above Group
to date, and circulated an E-mail message received from Les Robb of the Faculty
Association. He informed the committee that the Advisory Group consisting of
himself, Margaret Maggs, John McCutcheon and Carm McMullen had met on

December 2nd to discuss the contents of this message and arrived at the following conclusions. 1) That we be part of the discussion re use of the pension surplus prior to meeting with the Administration on this matter; 2) that the maintenance of existing benefits should be a number one priority; 3) that we should focus on maintenance of the spending power of all our benefits; and 4) that we should continue to press for much better and regular communication by the University with the retirees.

ii) MUFF

Mr. Evans informed committee that the MUFF report, along with the supplementary report has gone forward as anticipated in the Minutes of November 13th.

iii) Annual Report

There was nothing to report on the Annual Report, except to note that in years past the University had regularly issued an Annual Report.

iv) Nominating Committee
In the absence of Jim Walker there was nothing to report from the Nominating Committee.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Dora circulated the Finacial Review, noting a balance in the Credit Union of \$3,613.43 as of December 12, 1996. Outstanding bills for printing of MURAL total approximately \$1348.00, leaving a projected net balance of \$2,265.43.

V. Portfolio Assignments

--Visitations

Jack Maas reported that he has sent a get-well card to Andy Burghardt.

--Trips

Joy reported that the Festival of Lights trip was very successful, with one full busload of participants. To date, 21 people have signed up for the St. Lawrence Centre play on February 26th. A Casinorama trip is planned for April 23rd. Joy is awaiting news from the Shaw Festival and Stage West. Possibility of a trip to a Riverdance performance is being explored for June-July, and September 16th has been secured for the Canterbury Hills Dinner.

--Benefits Committee

Margaret brought the Committee up-to-date on her exchanges with Bob Tangney. After an extended discussion of the contents of his memo of November 25th, it was thought necessary to invite him to a meeting of Council, to clarify several phrases in that memo. Margaret will itemize these points in a letter to Mr. Tangney, and follow up with a verbal invitation for him to appear before Council at 2:00 p.m. on January 8th.

--Courier Contact

Veronica had nothing to report, except her disgust at the lack of cooperation from Courier staff.

--Membership

Carm circulated the most recent membership list, noting an active membership of 567 and 476 inactive members as of December 1996. With the significant increase in membership (especially "dues" paying), the President has arranged for Warren Mousley to carry out an audit of the books annually, so that an audited statement would be presented at Annual General meetings.

--MURAL

The Chair had been approached by Career Counselling who are looking for volunteers. If their material is received by December 11th he offered to find space for insertion in the MURAL. However, Averil will go ahead without it if the deadline is not met. Mailing date for the upcoming issue of MURAL is January 7, 1997.

Carm offered to explore the possibility of having MURA envelopes laser printed.

VI. Other Business

As there was no other business, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on January 8, 1997 at 1:30 p.m.

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!