

McMASTER UNIVERSITY RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, February 12, at 1.30 pm, in Gilmour Hall B109

Present: Jack Evans (chair), Dora Haisell, Mavis Hubley, Margaret Maggs, Veronica Morrison, John McCutcheon, Averil Thompson, Jim Walker and Brian White

Regrets: Joy Baby, Stan Hambleton, Dorothy Matheson, Carm McMullen and Marion Welton

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting on January 8, 1997 were approved with the following amendments:

Page 1 Stan Hambleton's name to be added to the list of those regretting that they were unable to attend Portfolio Assignments - Bob Tangney (not Tangey)

Pages 2 3 & 4 Attached notes on Bob Tangney's presentation replace relevant sections.

2. BUSINESS ARISING

a) Communication update

A cheque for \$10 had been made out to the faculty member who elected the buy-out retirement package. However, as the faculty member is continuing to receive benefits, he was deemed to qualify for membership and it raises the question of the definition of "retiree".

b) Computer

On behalf of MURA, Jack has applied for permission to be on E Mail

c) Phone support group

Due to the absence of Jack Mass, discussion was postponed until the March 12th meeting.

d) Retiree mailing list for United Appeal

Margaret Maggs read a copy of a letter from Bob Tangney to Sandy Darling explaining why the list provided last fall was inaccurate.

3. PRESIDENT' REPORT

a) Pension matters

A meeting was held on January 22 regarding the pension surplus. (Frank Hanta represented the Exempt group of staff.) Another meeting is planned for Monday Feb 17 with a view to negotiating the funding of the most recent retirement program with the University using 3.5 million dollars from the pension plan surplus. Hopefully such an agreement would be mutually advantageous and may also lead the way to faculty and staff renewal.

John McCutcheon was approved as a voting member, representing MURA, on the McMaster University Futures Fund Committee (MUFF).

- b) Nominating committee
Jim Walker reported some difficulties in finding willing nominees. However, the committee will meet next week, with Margaret Maggs acting as back-up should Marion Welton be unable to attend. The "slate" will be presented at the next MURA meeting on March 12th.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Dora Haisell circulated the financial report, which indicated a projected net balance of \$3,426.41

It was agreed that a term deposit due March 9, 1997 would be re-invested for 3 years at 4.25% with the McMaster Savings & Credit Union.

5. Portfolio Assignments

- a) Visitations - no report due to absence of Jack Mass.
- b) Trips - Mavis Hubley reported that the Feb 26 trip is fully booked, and that there is considerable interest in the Orillia outing to Casino Rama on April 3rd.
- c) Benefits - no report
- d) Courier - Veronica is not finding Courier staff very interested in retiree items.
- e) Membership - Jim will compose appropriate letters for mailing with the Mural to recent retirees who have not become active members and retirees whose "dues" have lapsed.
- f) Mural - It was agreed that the deadline for all copy (except names of nominees) would be Friday, February 28. This will be a full mailing with particular emphasis on the Annual General Meeting of May 21st.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Jim Walker spoke about a CARP meeting he had attended regarding the new "Seniors' Benefit" as proposed in the March 1996 federal budget. If this legislation is passed, it would not take effect until the year 2001. It was agreed that a seminar at McMaster with a speaker from Revenue Canada (possibly Doris Atkinson) would probably be of considerable interest to our retirees.

Citizenship hour

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 12, at 1.30 pm in Gilmour Hall B109.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting finished at 3.03 pm.

Averil Thompson
secretary pro tem