

McMASTER UNIVERSITY RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES of the Council Meeting held Wednesday, March 12, 1997 at 1:30 p.m. in Gilmour Hall B109

PRESENT: J. Baby, J. Evans (Chair), D. Haisell, S. Hambleton, M. Hubley, J. Maas, D. Matheson, J. McCutcheon, A. Thompson, J. Walker, M. Welton, B. White

REGRETS: M. Maggs, C. McMullen, V. Morrison

I. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting of February 12 were approved on a MOTION by J. McCutcheon, SECONDED by D. Haisell, with the following amendment:

Under Business Arising (e) J. Walker brought forward an invitation to hold a Citizenship Court at McMaster prior to September 30. It was agreed that as this is not in our mandate the invitation be refused.

II. Business Arising

a) J. Walker circulated the "Seniors Benefit" outline of the proposed legislation in the March 1966 Federal Budget.

b) The Chair reported that MURA is now on "E: mail with some details on accessibility to the system yet to be ironed out.

c) 'Phone Support Group
Jack Maas circulated a notice for discussion by Council. It was agreed that MURA participate in this venture under the direction of Jack Maas since this facility would operate within his Portfolio. Details will be outlined in the June/July issue of The MURAL.

III. President's Report

The Chair advised Council the President George's wife Gwen was at home near death, and that a memorial service would be held at the RBG. A telephone committee of three was formed to advise Council members with respect to the date and time of this service.

It was MOVED by Brian White, seconded by J. Walker that MURA donate \$100 toward the Gwen George Student Bursary Fund within the terms of the Student Opportunity Fund.

CARRIED

i) Pension Matters

The Chair circulated the Faculty Association Pension Plan Primer article by Les Robb. Jack suggested this could be copied for the AGM or published in a forthcoming issue of the MURAL. Council was advised that Les Robb would agree to attend a Council meeting to discuss the Plan.

A meeting of the Pension Plan Committee had been held recently at which time the Actuary made a presentation in which it was stated that the surplus in the Pension Plan as of December 31, 1996 was between \$118,000,000 and \$190,000,000. The University will meet with the Actuary in the near future to discuss the problem of the surplus and how this may be used to advantage by McMaster University under the guidelines of the DNR.

ii) Nominating Committee

J. Walker circulated the proposed 1997-8 slate of officers and terms. It was MOVED by Jim and seconded by Dora to adopt this slate for presentation at the AGM. While J. Evans commented favourably on his forthcoming title of 'Past-President', he expressed his and Council's regrets at losing Jim Walker from this body.

CARRIED

IV. Treasurer's Report

The financial review for March 1997 prepared by Dora Haisell was circulated to Council and showed a projected net balance of \$3,052.88. Dora also reported a letter of thanks for MURA donations had been received from Roger Trull.

V. Portfolio Assignments

- Visitation

Jack Maas had no report at this time. Members of Council had received word that RAN. McNaught's wife had been diagnosed with cancer and Hector Blanchard would be entering hospital for hip surgery. Appropriate action will be taken.

- Trips

Joy advised a successful outing to Toronto to view 13 Hands. A full bus load had attended and enjoyed both the play and a delicious lunch.

The Casino Rama event has attracted only 29 participants to date, whereas 44 will be the number required to make this trip viable.

The Shaw Festival brochure had arrived and may be considered as an event for next fall.

The Magician presentation at the Shaw Festival could be considered as a future event, along with performances at the Stratford Festival.

Stan Hambleton volunteered to obtain details on a show offered in Buffalo and will report back to Council.

The Oshawa Auto Museum was offered as another event for Council to consider.

John McCutcheon suggested that the Schilling Art Gallery in Orillia and located at Casino Rama might be an alternative for those not interested in the Casino.

- Benefits

Margaret Maggs was not present at today's meeting, but the Chair reported he had renewed MURA's offer to assist with mailings.

- Membership

Jim Walker reported that 210 members had not renewed in 1996 but 52 former members had become 'Active'. Jim also stated that there are a number of 'Inactive' spouses and that thought must be given with respect to the wording of any correspondence with this particular group.

- MURAL

Averil Thompson reported that the current issue of The MURAL will be available for mailing on March 19th in GH B109.

- Courier

Veronica Morrison was not present at today's meeting.

- AGM May 21, 1997 at 3:00 p.m. BBQ (4:30 pm.)

Brian White and Stan Hambleton stated that arrangements for the Annual General Meeting and BBQ are in order.

VI. Other Business

i) Previously read at today's meeting? *Communications*

ii) President's Newsletter

The President's Office has suggested that this publication be sent to all retirees. The Chair suggested it would be most acceptable to MURA if the President's budget would absorb the cost of all MURAL mailings.

Since there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

VII. The next meeting will be held on April 9 at 1:30 p.m. in GH B109.

Secretary Dorothy Matheson