

McMASTER UNIVERSITY RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES of the Council Meeting of November 13, 1996 at 1:30 p.m. in GH-B109

PRESENT: J. Baby, J. Evans (Chair), D. Haisell, M. Hubley, J. Maas,
M. Maggs, J. McCutcheon, C. McMullen, V. Morrison,
A. Thompson, J. Walker, M. Welton, B. White

REGRETS: S. Hambleton, D. Matheson

I. Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was MOVED by Joy Baby SECONDED by Marion Welton that the Minutes of the meeting of October 9, 1996 be approved with the following corrections:

Page 2, Treasurer's Report should read: "D. Haisell reported a bank balance of \$3323.14, with a projected balance of \$1931.14.

Page 3, Portfolio Assignments, Xmas Luncheon, line 3 to read: "the event".

Page 4, Other Business, line 3 should read: "delivery of the computer...".

APPROVED

II. Business Arising

a) MUSA Agreement

The Chair distributed copies of a summary of the MUSA Agreement on Salaries and Benefits for 1996-97, noting that this agreement has been approved by a significant margin by the Support Staff.

b) Correspondence

Mr. Evans received letters of thanks for MURA's pledge to the Student Opportunity Trust Fund from Director of Development Lorna Somers and President Peter George. He informed Council that he had attended the reception to launch this event, noting that \$1.6 million has already been pledged to the Fund which is open until the end of next March for pledges or contributions.

A letter of thanks from President George for MURA's contribution to the United Way was also received by the Chair.

Arrangements to hook up the donated computer and acquire a network card are under way.

III. President's Report

i. Pension Ad Hoc Working Group

The Chair reported that there has not been a meeting of the Pension Ad Hoc Working Group.

ii. MUFF

It appears that no changes will be made to the MUFF report, but a supplementary report incorporating three points of concern will be issued. (1) Emphasis on the research-intensive nature of the University per the "Directions" document. (2) MUFF, it was thought, should request and receive expenditure proposals from the University at large, the Faculty, Staff, Retirees' and Clinical Faculty Associations. (3) It was suggested that when the President appoints his four representatives to the MUFF committee, the Vice-President Research and International Affairs should be among them. As "Directions" makes reference to students, Jack had recommended that reference to students should be added to the MUFF supplementary report. The Clinical Faculty Association continue to voice opposition to parts of the Report and had expressed a desire to reopen discussion. However, it is anticipated that the report will go ahead with or without the signature of the Clinical Faculty Association.

iii. AGM/BBQ Date and Venue

It was agreed to hold the next Annual General Meeting on Wednesday May 21st at 3:00 p.m. in the Eleanor McKay Room of Moulton Hall. Brian White will check on the availability of this facility. The Annual Barbeque will follow at 4:30 p.m. in the President's grounds weather permitting, or Moulton Hall in the case of rain. MURA will subsidize the event with a nominal charge of \$5.00 per person. A map indicating the location of Moulton Hall and the President's House will be included in MURAL.

iv. Nominating Committee

Following a brief discussion the names of Marion Welton and Margaret Maggs were agreed upon as Council representatives to serve on the Nominating Committee. Jim Walker, Committee Chair will contact the following in a search for the two external representatives:

Marshall Goldstein

Les Shemilt

Chuck Johnston

Harry Turner.

IV Treasurers Report

Dora circulated copies of the Financial Review which indicates a balance in the Credit Union of \$3491.82 as of November 13, with bills yet to be paid for the July/August and October/November Newsletter totalling approximately \$1348, leaving a projected net balance in the account is \$1,143.82. It was agreed that the

\$ 2,143.82

Term Deposit of \$1,000. due December 12, 1996 be rolled over for a further two years. It was suggested that the second installment of MURA's pledge to the Student Opportunity Fund be made prior to the next AGM.

V. Portfolio Assignments

--Visitations

Jack Maas noted that he had mailed a get well card to Madelaine Cooke and will be sending one to Andy Burghardt.

--Trips

Joy indicated that there were still seven seats available on the Christmas Lights tour on November 28th, and fourteen people have already signed up for the St. Lawrence Centre event on February 26, 1997. It was suggested that a reservation be made for the Canterbury Hills Dinner, with a proposed date of September 16, 1997. Discussion centered around ways to improve attendance, such as car pooling. A tentative date of October 2nd was put forward for a possible "Fall Colours" trip. Joy noted that Mohawk College have cancelled all three of their planned events due to insufficient interest.

--Benefits Committee

In her numerous telephone conversations with Bob Tangney, Margaret posed a number of questions of relevance to retirees about their benefits. Mr. Tangney indicated the need to await the outcome of discussions and to see what problems arise. She reminded him that MURAL was available for the insertion of his announcement when it was ready.

--Courier Contact

Veronica hoped that Susan Welstead would find space in *McMaster Courier* for publication of the "News from MURA", which she submitted on October 17th.

--Membership

In distributing the updated Membership List, Carm noted the increase in membership by 108 since November 1995. Active membership now stands at 562.

--MURAL

Averil requires copy for the next issue of MURAL by December 11th. The issue is to rerun the Student Opportunity Fund material. The date for printing is December 18th. As the University is closed from December 25th to January 2nd, mailings need to be done on Tuesday January 7th. *1st inclusive*

--Christmas Dinner

It was indicated that the Schwaben Inn has been booked from 12 noon to 3 p.m. on December 9th for the Christmas Luncheon. Transportation for members in need was discussed. Confirmed attendance to date is 65. Guests of honour will be President

winners, whose names will be provided by John Edwards.

It was thought that it might be preferable to collect the tips in a basket instead of adding to the individual luncheon bills. A request was made for some order of proceedings to be established for this event.

VI Other Business

As there was no other business the meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

VII Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on December 11, 1996 at 1:30 p.m.