

## McMASTER UNIVERSITY RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

**MINUTES** Minutes of the Council Meeting held on  
September 10, 1997 at 1:30 p.m. in GH B109

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**PRESENT:** J. Baby, J. Evans, D. Haisell, M. Hubley  
G. Keech, J. Maas, D. Matheson, V. Morrison,  
J. McCutcheon (Chair), G. Paul, A. Thompson,  
M. Welton, B. White

**REGRETS:** M. Maggs

### I Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was MOVED by B. White, seconded by J. Maas that the minutes of the June 11th meeting be approved.

CARRIED

### II President's Report

#### i) MUFF Committee

The Chair reported this committee had met two weeks ago and will meet again on September 17th. The Committee had received several proposals from various groups on campus for the use of MUFF funds. A total of \$484,000 is available for distribution. The MURA suggestion of beautification of the campus was appealing to most committee members with the result that an initial \$85,000 was approved for the purchase of benches, picnic tables and garbage receptacles. The Faculty Association had requested funds be allocated for research or development accounts, however Clinical Faculty were not adamant about which way funds were to be used. Further discussion will take place at the meeting of September 17th.

#### ii) Special Seminar on Tax and RRIF changes

The Chair advised that CIBC have offered to put on a generic seminar for retirees on the subject of RRIFs and other investment options. John had contacted Revenue Canada with a request for a speaker on tax changes at this Seminar, to which Revenue Canada had replied favourably. It was agreed that (a) such a Seminar would be most beneficial to retirees and that the Chair book the Council Chambers for this event, and (b) that a full mailing would be the best means of communicating with retirees.

It was MOVED by D. Haisell, seconded by J. Baby that the Chair proceed with details for this Seminar.

CARRIED

#### iii) Emeritus Association

A Professor Bramwell from Calgary had corresponded with MURA regarding setting up an association for retired Professors. This proposal was deemed to be of little interest to non-academic retirees. John will keep us informed.



#### IV Treasurer's Report

A financial statement was circulated by D. Haisell which showed a balance of \$3,972.44 as of September 9, 1997.

It was MOVED by D. Haisell, seconded by B. White that this statement be accepted.

CARRIED

#### V Portfolio Reports

##### - Visitation

J. Maas reported that several people had indicated a willingness to visit others, but, to date, no one has asked for any visits. G. Paul advised that Arthur Patrick had recently passed away.

##### - Trips/Special Events

J. Baby stated the Shaw Festival event, together with a visit to the Butterfly Museum had been most successful. The proposed trip to Akron Ohio has not, as yet, aroused much interest among our retirees.

The Xmas Lights trip is again being considered, and an invitation from Mohawk College had been received concerning events they are sponsoring which are as follows:

Sept. 24	-	Waterworks and Steam Museum
Oct. 16	-	A Day at Flamborough Downs
Nov. 5	-	Remembrance Day Dinner at RHLI Officers' Mess
Nov. 24	-	Dundas Sesquicentennial
Mar. 24	-	Molly Sweeney Performance

98

Joy also advised that Stage West is being considered for Jan./Feb. 1998. V. Morrison extended a vote of thanks to Joy and Mavis on behalf of Council for the Shaw Festival event.

##### - Benefits

Since Margaret Maggs was not present, there was no report.

##### - Courier

V. Morrison stated that an announcement of the Canterbury Hills Dinner was included in the recent issue of the Courier.

##### - Membership

G. Keech informed Council he has updated the material received from C. McMullen on our computer. Gerry had received envelopes from Canada Post marked "deceased" but will check these names for confirmation. A. Thompson agreed to go over the revised Constitution with Gerry following today's meeting.



- MURAL

A. Thompson requested Council consider the mail list for the Nov./Dec. issue of the MURAL. It was agreed that ACTIVE members will receive this issue with information to be given to Averil by October 8th, with a mailing date set for October 22nd. Averil also proposed that a note should be included in the next MURAL regarding the President's Newsletter to the effect that anyone wishing a copy should contact the President's Office directly.

- Xmas Lunch

Brian White has booked the Schwaben Inn for December 8th for the Xmas Luncheon. J. McCutcheon was asked to notify the President's Office as well as Scholarship Winners with an invitation to attend this event as our guests.

- Pension Working Groups

J. Evans advised that pension plan changes had been approved by the Board of Governors at the June 12th meeting.

- Pension Trust Committee

Amendments to the Pension Trust will have to be processed through By-law changes at the December, 1997 meeting of the Board. The proposed changes do not appear to present a problem with respect to the MURA project, Jack advised.

- University Centre

A \$16 million figure had been approved, with anticipation that the Board will approve the commencement of Construction. The September 23rd meeting of the Board of Governors will review the revised project material as proposed by the Architects, Moriyama Associates. Council thanked Jack for his attendance at Project meetings.

## VI Other Business

i) The United Way had contacted the Chair regarding pension deductions for donations to the United Way. It was agreed by Council that such a plan was not feasible since the University does not administer the pension plan. A letter had also been received from this organization requesting retirees' participation in the Market Place fund raiser to be held in December.

ii) The letter to new retirees from the Chair was presented to Council and the suggestion was made that in the second last paragraph, sentence two be revised to read as follows:

"However, members are encouraged to pay a voluntary annual fee of \$10 as this is the Association's major source of income for its activities.



iii) J. Evans quoted a recent article in the Globe and Mail outlining a Seniors Benefits and Pensions meeting to be held on September 25th at the Steelworkers Hall to hear a government representative speak on these issues.

**VIII The next meeting of Council will be held on October 8, 1997 at 1:30 p.m. in GH B109**

Secretary : Dorothy Matheson