

MCMASTER UNIVERSITY RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on **Wednesday December 9, 1998**
at 1.30 pm in GH-204

Present: John McCutcheon (chair), Joy Baby, Jack Evans, Dora Haisell, Mavis Hubley, Jack Maas, Margaret Maggs, Veronica Morrison, George Paul, Averil Thompson and Brian White

Regrets: Stan Hambleton, Gerry Keech, Dorothy Matheson and Gordon Raymond

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

On page 1 item 2, the first motion should read "that the MURA Council recommends to the non-faculty members that they consider not changing to option #4 because of the inequality it introduces among our members".

Motion: that, subject to the above change, the minutes of the previous meeting held on November 11 be approved as printed (Veronica Morrison/Joy Baby Carried).

2. Update on Benefit Options

- a) The information session for non-teaching retirees held on Monday November 23 had been well attended and successful. An extra session will be held on Wednesday December 16, 1998 at 2pm in Convocation Hall.
- b) An information package for retirees who were unionized and hourly paid has been developed and will be explained at an information session for that group on Monday December 14, 1998 at 2 pm in Convocation Hall.
- c) The benefits situation for retirees who were hourly rated but not unionized is still under discussion. A meeting about this is due to take place on Thursday December 10.
- d) As agreed at the November 11 meeting, John McCutcheon had sent a letter to Sandy Darling regarding the importance of non-discrimination between faculty and staff retirees in benefits matters. Sandy Darling had replied in writing.

3. Treasurer's Report

Dora Haisell presented the November report and noted that the annual fees were coming in nicely. She suggested that, as we have relatively small financial commitments before mid March, it would be wise to get a better return on our money.

Motion: that MURA invest \$4,000 in a 90 day GIC at 3.25% interest at the Credit Union (Jack Evans/Joy Baby Carried)

Motion: that the Treasurer's Report for November 1998 be accepted (Dora Haisell/Jack Evans Carried)

4. Portfolio Reports

- a) Visitations- Jack Maas had sent sympathy cards to several people and will send one to Dr. Alvin Lee. He had also sent a "get well" card to Stan Hambleton.
- b) Events- Joy Baby reported that the Cullen Gardens outing had been a great success with a full coach and beautiful weather. She is working on some Spring events.
- c) Benefits- Margaret Maggs has fielded various 'phone calls.
- d) Courier/MURAL- Veronica Morrison will prepare for a January/February publication of THE MURAL to be sent to all retirees. Contributions for this edition would be greatly appreciated by January 13.
- e) Membership- in the absence of Gerry Keech there was no report.
- f) Christmas Lunch- Brian White reported that 88 people came - a decrease in attendance possibly influenced by the bus strike. Brian was congratulated on the success of the party.
- g) Retirement Matters- The ad hoc committee is meeting every two weeks with the hope that the work might be completed by the end of February (1999).

5. Other Business

- a) Margaret Maggs emphasised the importance of increasing the faculty representation on the Council. There was agreement that the 1999 nomination committee be encouraged to bear this in mind.
- b) It was agreed to put on the agenda for the next meeting the question of "social memberships". (Some people who are not McMaster University retirees may be interested in taking part in the social events and receiving the MURA.)

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 13 at 1.30 pm in the John Hodgins Engineering Building Room 265 (not Gilmour Hall Room 204).

7. Adjournment

Margaret Maggs moved the adjournment and the meeting ended at approximately 2.50 pm.

Averil Thompson
Understudy Secretary

John McCutcheon
President