

McMASTER UNIVERSITY RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday **March 8, 2000**, at 1.30 pm, in Gilmour Hall Room 204

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

Regrets: Frank Drieman, Stan Hambleton and Herb Jenkins

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Item 2 Correspondence - Change Donohue to Donoghue in (a) and (b)

3 Treasurer's Report - Change proposer of second motion from Dora Haisell to Jack Evans

4 Slate for new Council - Change last paragraph to read "Veronica Morrison, our current Vice President confirmed that she did not wish to continue as Vice President as she felt that it would be better to have an academic as President of MURA"

Motion: that, subject to the above corrections, the minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday, February 9, 2000, be approved as previously circulated (Margaret Maggs/John McCutcheon Carried)

2. Business arising from the Minutes - Slate for the New Council

The nominating committee consisted of John McCutcheon, chair, Jim Walker and Brian White (Council members), Gord Raymond and Mildred McClaren (members at large). On behalf of the nominating committee John McCutcheon presented the following slate:

Honorary President

Dr A.N. Bourns

Executive

Past President
President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary

John McCutcheon
Gerry Keech
Frank Drieman
Dora Haisell
Averil Thompson

Councillors to be elected

3 year term ending 2003

Bonnie White
Herb Jenkins
Veronica Morrison
Nan Matthews

2 year term ending 2002

Jessie Dunlop

Councillors continuing in office

2 year term ending 2002

Stan Hambleton
Anne Sinclair

1 year term ending 2001

Joy Baby
Margaret Maggs
Jack Evans

Motion: that the nominating committee's report be received
(John McCutcheon/Jack Evans Carried)

Motion: that Mavis Hubley be added to the list of Councillors for
election for a 3 year term (Joy Baby/Brian White Carried)

Motion: that Council accept the amended report
(Brian White/Dora Haisell Carried)

3. Correspondence

- a) Scholarship - Elizabeth Seymour, Manager of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships had sent a letter thanking MURA for its continuing support of students and enclosing a letter of thanks from the 1999 recipient of the MURA Scholarship, Ryan Van Lieshout.
- b) New VP
Dr Peter George announced the appointment of Karen Belaire as Vice President Administration effective April 1, 2000. Gerry Keech will write a welcoming letter.
- c) MURAL inserts
Two inserts are expected - one encouraging planned giving and one asking for volunteers to assist students with disabilities.
- d) Response to staff survey
An open letter to the McMaster Community from Peter George, President, Harvey Weingarten, Provost & Vice President Academic, and Paul Donoghue, (interim) Vice President Administration had been received. It outlines the plans to facilitate solutions to the four main areas of concern through the appointment of four work teams (one for each topic) under the general direction of Mary Williams, Associate Director, University Advancement, who will act as project manager. Recommendations from the work teams will be presented to the leadership team for consideration and this team will report back to the McMaster Community in a Town Hall session.

4. President's Remarks

- a) It is important to identify a person who will be able to take over the computer work he has been doing. Bonnie White might be a possibility.
- b) Gerry will have more information for us after the appointment with his cardiologist on March 21st.

5. Treasurer's Report

Dora Haisell presented her report and explained that, on the advice of the manager of the Credit Union, she had invested the \$2,500 in a GIC for 30 days at 2.75% interest. This is a temporary measure pending a better longer term investment.^{ake}

Motion: that the Treasurer's Report as previously circulated be accepted (Jack Evans/John McCutcheon Carried)

6. Portfolio Reports

- a) Membership - Gerry Keech gave each member a copy of his March 8, 2000 database analysis. One puzzling thing is that MURA records show 56 names which do not appear on Human Resources records. He hopes to get such discrepancies sorted out before handing this job over to a successor.
- b) Events - Joy reported that the Stage West outing on March 15 is sold out. Plans have been made to see *Fiddler on the Roof* at Stratford on May 19 and *The Doctor's Dilemma* at the Shaw Festival on September 26. Joy and Mavis had made enquiries in connection with the September 12 dinner and there was considerable discussion about their findings.

Motions: a) that in view of the liability involved, MURA will not serve liquor at any events, and
b) that Canterbury Hills be the location for the dinner this year at a cost of \$25 per person.
(Brian White /John McCutcheon Carried)

- c) MURAL/Courier - Veronica Morrison reported that Courier had let her down by failing to publish MURA information. The March-April issue of the MURAL will include the Report of the Nominating Committee, a letter to the editor by Margaret Maggs, and a performance review on the McMaster Pension given to her by Jack Evans.
^ and a review of the excess (pension surplus)
- d) Benefits
Margaret Maggs reported on conversations with Bob Tangney about concerns raised at the previous meeting.

- Confirmation of each retiree's choice of benefit plan.

Due to changes to Plan 4 for all non-teaching staff, retirees in that category will be having sent to them confirmation of their present plan, the changes to their plan 4 and another chance to change plans. Confirmation of the plans for other retiree groups will have to wait till later because of the volume of work in Human