

McMASTER UNIVERSITY RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday October, 13, 1999,
at 1.30 pm, in Gilmour Hall Room 204

Present: Gerry Keech (chair), Joy Baby, Jack Evans, Dora Haisell,
Herb Jenkins, Margaret Maggs, Veronica Morrison, Anne
Sinclair, Averil Thompson and Brian White

Regrets: Frank Drieman, Stan Hambleton, Mavis Hubley, John
McCutcheon, and Jim Walker

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Page 1 point 2(b) Change Major Medical benefits to
medical benefits

Page 2

point 6(e) change \$700 to \$425

point 6(h) delete last sentence and substitute the following: Jack Evans said that he is a member of the Board of Directors of the Faculty Club, which is a major tenant of the Alumni Memorial Building, and consequently would be in a conflict of interest position at any Council meeting discussion regarding improving access to the building.

Motion: that, subject to the changes above, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, September 8, 1999, be accepted as previously circulated. (Brian White/Joy Baby Carried)

2. Business arising from the Minutes

On behalf of MURA, Gerry Keech had made a submission to the McMaster University Futures Fund Committee (MUFF) and had received a letter of thanks, dated September 29, from Sandy Darling. The MURA submission had been considered at a meeting on September 17 and, in due course, specific recommendations will be made to the Finance Committee of the Board of Governors.

3. Correspondence

a) Gerry Keech had written to the Faculty Association (MUFA) and the Staff Association (MUSA) regarding liaison through Herb Jenkins and Frank Drieman respectively. The exact way in which this might be accomplished has not yet been determined.

b) Gerry Keech had been assured by John Farrell that the MURA office in Gilmour Hall B108 would not be affected by reconstruction.

c) Paul Donohue has been appointed Acting Vice-President Administration for the period ending June 30, 2000.

4. President's Remarks

Stan Hambleton is making good progress and is due to have his second (pre-planned) operation soon.

5. Treasurer's Report

Dora Haisell provided her usual monthly report, as well as a review of the annual BBQ/Buffer giving a useful comparison of costs and attendance from 1995-1999 inclusive.

Motion: that the Treasurer's Report for September 1999 be accepted as printed (Dora Haisell/Anne Sinclair Carried)

6. Portfolio Reports

a) Membership - Gerry had just received a listing of retirees and spouse survivors from Human Resources. This will enable him to update his data base.

b) Visitation - Gerry had sent two sympathy cards and will mail a card to Jim and Fumi Miyasaki congratulating them on their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

c) Events - Weather co-operated for the Bracebridge day trip. Joy thought that any person with needs which could not be appropriately met by the organizers should be accompanied by a personal caregiver. The Council agreed wholeheartedly and decided that such caregivers would not be charged for the event. Gerry will seek some advice re human rights before he tries to draft a brief policy.

d) MURAL/Courier - A decision was made to maintain control over the mailing of the newsletters rather than have them sent with fund raising material by the Development Office. However the Council is willing to provide the Development Office with mailing labels for letters to retirees and to publish an article about the current fund raising project submitted by the Development Office.

Copy for the November/December MURAL is required by October 27, 1999. Gerry Keech plans to include a reference to CARP in his contribution. Herb Jenkins will work on a contribution about the designation and preservation of the "heritage core" of the campus. It was suggested that a letters to the editor section might provide a useful forum for members' concerns relating to MURA, the University, pension matters, etc.

e) Christmas Lunch - There was nothing further to report at this time.

f) Benefits - Several people had thanked Margaret Maggs for her part in resolving the Ivor Wynne fee situation for retirees.

g) Pension Matters - Jack Evans reported that an emergency meeting of the Council had been held on September 24 at approximately 1.15pm in Sandy Darling's retirement party tent, with the following people in attendance: Gerry Keech (chair), Joy Baby, Frank Drieman, Jack Evans, Dora Haisell, Margaret Maggs, John McCutcheon, Averil Thompson and Jim Walker. Jack Evans explained that, although

agreement had been reached by the various representatives regarding the recommendations, there were further hurdles ahead regarding voting and various levels of subsequent approval. Legal, actuarial and tax advice would be required and it was agreed that MURA should share this cost with the other campus constituencies. Since the emergency meeting, the Pension Committee has met with such professionals and discussions are ongoing regarding the best course of action.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday, November 10, 1999 at 1.30 pm in Gilmour Hall, Room 204.

8. Adjournment

Jack Evans moved the adjournment and the meeting ended at approximately 3.45 pm.

Averil Thompson
Secretary

Gerry Keech
President