

McMaster University Retirees' Association

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, February 14th, 2001, at 1:30 pm, in Gilmour Hall Room 204

Present: Gerry Keech (chair), Joy Baby, Frank Drieman, Jessie Dunlop, Jack Evans, Dora Haisell, Stan Hambleton, Mavis Hubley, Margaret Maggs, John McCutcheon, Anne Sinclair, Averil Thompson and Bonnie White

Regrets: Herb Jenkins and Veronica Morrison

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Page 2 section 4 line 1 - change to read Jack Evans reported that data information letters had been mailed.....

Page 3 line 4 - change March 19th, to March 9th.

Motion: that, subject to the above changes, the minutes of the meeting held on January 10th, 2001, be approved as previously circulated (Jack Evans/Dora Haisell carried)

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) Liability Disclaimer

John McCutcheon presented the following wording for consideration by the Council members:

Liability Disclaimer:

In consideration of McMaster University Retirees' Association and McMaster University accepting my application to participate in this event, I hereby and forever release, hold harmless, and discharge McMaster University Retirees' Association and McMaster University, their officers, directors, employees, volunteers and agents from any liability whatsoever arising out of my participation in this event, and I declare that this release is binding upon me, my heirs executors, administrators and assigns.

Motion: that this liability waiver be accepted and used on all the applications to participate in MURA events (John McCutcheon/Joy Baby carried)

(b) Letter to Karen Belaire and Mark Haley - Gerry reported that his e-mailing had been unsuccessful. He will check addresses and try again.

3. Correspondence

- (a) A letter of thanks had been received from Mildred McLaren thanking the Council for the flowers.
- (b) Gerry Keech reported on the somewhat disappointing response to the data confirmation letters.

4. President's Remarks

- (a) AGM Patio Barbecue

Following a letter from John Harvey complaining (tongue in cheek) about the \$10.95 charge, which had been advertized (in error) in the MURAL, Gerry began to wonder why we were subsidizing the AGM barbecue.

Motion: that Council reconsider the \$7.50 charge that had previously been agreed (Jack Evans/Anne Sinclair carried)

Motion: that henceforth the AGM barbecue be organized on a break-even basis (Jack Evans/Joy Baby carried)

The charge for this year's barbecue will therefore remain as advertized in the MURAL. Gerry will invite Dr. and Mrs Peter George to be our guests.

- (b) Frank Drieman gave a brief account of the Campus Planning Workshop which he attended recently on behalf of our President. The workshop was well attended and there was good representation from the various stakeholders. Consultants made presentations covering such concerns as building density, traffic flow, location and nature of the main entrance. The University is committed to planning in conjunction with the local community.

5. Pension Surplus Update

Jack Evans said that there would be a "dry run" information session on Thursday, February 15th, from 4-5:30pm in Hamilton Hall, Room 110 to which Council members are invited. Lawyers and actuaries will make presentations and questions are welcomed.

Jack informed us that the McMaster Employees' Pension surplus committee is covered by liability insurance for a period of two years.

6. Treasurer's Report

Dora said that there was little activity in January and therefore she had not prepared a report. We are however in good financial shape with annual donations coming in nicely.

7. Portfolio Reports

- (a) Membership - Gerry and Bonnie are still working on this together.
- (b) Visitations - Stan had sent some cards as well as flowers. Veronica Morrison sent her thanks for the lovely flowers, cards and phone calls she had received since her hip replacement operation.
- (c) Trips/Special Events
The Stage West Dinner Theatre had been advertized (in error) at \$51.50 and it was agreed to honour this price. The Shaw Festival outing to see The Millionairess is filling up well.
- (d) MURAL/Courier - It was agreed to have copy ready for the next issue by Wednesday March 14th.
- (e) AGM - It was agreed that we should set up for 100 people.
- (f) Benefits - Simon Oullette has replaced Bob Tangney.
- (g) Pension Trust Committee - Frank reported that he had attended a meeting recently - it appears to be a very active committee keeping a close watch on the performance of its portfolio managers. Frank Drieman will prepare a report for presentation at the AGM.
- (h) MUFF - John McCutcheon gave Gerry the name of Chris Sylvester in the Budget Office as the person who could release MUFF funds for purchase of a computer, printer and office furniture. Frank Drieman said that MUSA had paid approximately \$255 for their custom made wooden mailbox. It was agreed that a smaller one would be fine for us and that it would be acceptable to have it fixed on the wall to the right of the MURA office door. No action will be taken until Gerry has worked out the cost of the computer equipment.
- (i) MUSA liaison - Frank Drieman reported that MUSA had turned down the University's latest offer and the Union could be in a strike position by the end of February.

8. Other Business

- (a) Nominating Committee
Joy Baby, Jack Evans, and Margaret Maggs are elected members who will be leaving at the end of their term of office. In addition we need to replace Jessie Dunlop, who will be replacing Dora Haisell as Treasurer. John McCutcheon will chair the Nominating Committee and Joy and Dora volunteered to serve with him as current Council members. Two persons are needed to serve as members at large and some names were suggested.

(b) Annual Dinner

It was suggested that the annual dinner be held on Tuesday, September 11th, 2001, at the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce. A speaker from the Workers' Museum might be a possibility.

(c) Group Insurance

Gerry Keech had received information about the advantages of being covered by Liberty Mutual group insurance. After some discussion, it was agreed to insert leaflets about this in the next MURAL mailing.

9. Next meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday March 14th, 2001 at 1:30pm, in Gilmour Hall Room 204.

10. Adjournment

Joy Baby moved the adjournment and the meeting finished at approximately 3:15pm.

Averil Thompson
Secretary

Gerry Keech
President