

# McMaster University Retirees' Association

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2000, at 1.30pm, in Gilmour Hall Room 204

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

Regrets: Frank Drieman, Herb Jenkins, Margaret Maggs and Veronica Morrison

Absent: Stan Hambleton

## 1. Minutes of the previous meeting

Page 2 Portfolio Reports (c) - delete last sentence and add the following new paragraph:

Jack Evans suggested that there are two issues that Council should consider:

- should the Council seek incorporation as a non-profit corporation in order to reduce the potential liability faced by any member of Council and;

- should the Association purchase E&O (Errors and Omissions) insurance in order to protect its members from potential liability.

He recommended proceeding with the first immediately. John McCutcheon volunteered to speak with Jimmy Simpson (University lawyer) to get some advice on incorporation and other options available to us.

Page 3 (j) Delete last sentence and substitute the following:

Jack Evans suggested that in the future (after the 2001 AGM) we look for a new location and Frank Drieman suggested that LaSalle Park might be worth considering.

Motion: that, subject to the above changes, the minutes of the meeting held on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2000 be approved as previously circulated (Jack Evans/Dora Haisell carried).

## 2. Business Arising from the Previous Meeting

John McCutcheon reported that he had met with Mr Simpson and his partner, Mr Watson, who advised that the total one-time cost of incorporation might be approximately \$1,000 (\$500 for lawyer + \$175 for government + \$125 to \$175 for re-writes and photocopying + \$150 for miscellaneous). A few changes in the constitution may be necessary. Insurance (an ongoing cost) would be advisable, and in the lawyers' opinion incorporation



might reduce the cost of premiums. Jessie Dunlop had received advice from an insurance broker who indicated that incorporation would not affect the cost of premiums. It was agreed that further enquiries would be helpful: Jessie will try to get another legal opinion and further insurance information; Joy will enquire about the insurance carried by Mohawk College Retirees' Association and Maxima Tours; John will enquire about the insurance carried by his own church and by Ryerson.

### **3 Correspondence**

Gerry Keech had received an e-mail from Rachel Richard of the Development Office indicating that \$48,000 had been contributed by the retirees' group to the Changing Tomorrow Today Campaign.

### **4. Budget Proposal (May 1<sup>st</sup> 2000 to April 30 2001)**

Jessie Dunlop and Dora Haisell had worked together on this. Jessie presented the proposal, which did not include the cost of incorporation, insurance or any auditing fees. The projected loss amounted to \$1,314 and there was a lively discussion on how to decrease expenses and/or increase revenue.

#### **Motions:**

- that the AGM buffet charge be raised from \$5 to \$10 per person
- that the membership fee be raised from \$10 to \$15 per person per calendar year effective January 1<sup>st</sup> 2001 (with exceptions for those who have already paid for future years)
- that projected Council expenses be reduced from \$125 to zero
- that through the economical use of paper, postage for the MURAL be limited to the regular charge (currently 46 cents plus tax)

These motions were proposed by John McCutcheon, seconded by Joy Baby and carried.

It was agreed that in future we would aim to limit the number of pages so that only the regular postage would be charged. This might mean, for example, reducing the size of flyers so that two instead of one could be put on one page.

In situations where non-MURA material, such as brochures, caused the postage to exceed the regular amount, the extra cost would be charged to the party concerned.

Motion: that the charge (for non-MURA material) published in



the MURAL be \$75 for a quarter page, \$100 for half a page and \$150 for a whole page (plus extra postage if the whole page increases the cost). John McCutcheon /Dora Haisell carried.

## **5. Pension Surplus Sharing Proposal**

Jack Evans distributed copies of the proposal dated September 28<sup>th</sup> 2000, which tidied up the language of the previous document dated August 31<sup>st</sup> 2000. He said that the latest document had been signed on behalf of the five constituencies (McMaster University Faculty Association, the Management Group, McMaster University Staff Association, McMaster Clinical Faculty Association and McMaster University Retirees' Association). The proposal goes for approval to the Board of Governors meeting on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2000.

Motion: that Council endorse the text of the communication of September 28<sup>th</sup> and, if the Board of Governors approves, authorize Jack Evans and Gerry Keech to engage in the formulation of a memorandum of agreement regarding (the Contributory Pension Plan for Salaried Employees of McMaster University) Pension Surplus Sharing Proposal. (Jack Evans/Dora Haisell - carried),

## **6. Fall Dinner**

Mavis Hubley reported that 39 people attended the dinner at the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce on September 12<sup>th</sup>. After paying all the expenses there was a "profit" of \$126.

## **7. Benefits**

Due to shortage of time, Jack Evans asked that the secretary mail a copy of Margaret Maggs' report, along with the minutes, to each member of Council.

## **8. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, at 1.30pm in Gilmour Hall Room 204. It was agreed that we would invite Karen Belaire, VP Administration, and the newly appointed Mark Haley, Assistant VP Human Resources to attend this meeting. (Secretary's note: Karen and Mark have accepted our invitation and will come at about 2pm.)

## **9. Adjournment**

Dora Haisell moved the adjournment and the meeting ended about 3pm.

Averil Thompson  
Secretary

Gerry Keech  
President