

McMaster University Association

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, April 10th, 2002, at 1:30 pm, in University Hall Room 317

Present: Frank Drieman (chair), Helen Barton, Marju Drynan, Jessie Dunlop, Jack Evans, Stan Hambleton, Mavis Hubley, Gerry Keech, Helen Otrosina, Anne Sinclair, Averil Thompson and Bonnie White.

Regrets: Marilyn Elliot, Herb Jenkins, Mildred McLaren and Veronica Morrison

1. Welcome

Frank Drieman welcomed everyone.

2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.

Item 6 - Treasurer's Report - the \$35.27 paid to Jack Evans was not just for the binders but also included the cost of a cell phone conference call regarding the pension surplus.

Motion: that, subject to the above clarification, the minutes of the meeting held on March 13th, 2002, be approved as previously circulated (Mavis Hubley/Helen Otrosina carried)

3. Pension Surplus

Jack Evans gave a brief and fairly encouraging update on the pension surplus scene and mentioned that (when the time comes) distribution of the money to the University and Pension Plan members would take place simultaneously. He recommended that we keep the Pension Surplus binders in the MURA office for four years.

Jack said that in the five years in which he had worked on this project he had become very aware of inequities in coverage and benefits for the various groups of employees and believes that MURA participation in relevant committees will continue to be a vital part of our work.

4. Business arising from the minutes

(a) Indemnification of Officers and members of Council

Helen Barton reported that a supporting letter had been received from Ron Angus, Assistant Director of Risk Management Services.

Averil Thompson said that she had received a phone call from Ralph Neale, who was perturbed by the proposed wording as published in the March/April Newsletter. " Every Officer of the Association and Member of Council.....shall be indemnified and saved harmless **out of the funds of the Association** from and against....." Helen said that she would give Ralph a telephone call.

(b) E-mail account processing write-up

Helen Barton reckoned that it was a can of worms full of inconsistencies with other relevant documents. It will require considerable clarification, which may or may not be accomplished by the date of the May AGM.

(c) Membership drive letters - Frank Drieman reported that the letters had been mailed on March 18th with most gratifying results.

5. Correspondence

(a) Frank Drieman had written a letter to the Pension Trust Committee on March 16 pointing out that active pension plan members are enjoying a reduced level of contribution to the Pension Plan, while the interests of retirees have been disregarded. On behalf of MURA he recommended that the PTC appoint a representative sub-committee to work out an equitable future arrangement. He also recommended consideration of the extension of the present arrangement, which ends on June 30th, 2002, in order to buy time for the sub-committee to do its work. The PTC met on March 21st and will be making a recommendation to the Board of Governors on April 25th, 2002. (Please see the attached letter from Bruce Frank, Secretary to the Board of Governors.)

(b) Ivor Wynne's widow had been in touch with Frank to see whether she might receive the Newsletter and possibly become an Associate member of MURA. (Apparently there was no Pension Plan at the time her husband worked at McMaster.) The general consensus was that her request could be accommodated but the details can wait until Frank meets with her at the AGM in May.

(c) Frank had received a letter of thanks for the \$600 Gerontology scholarship.

(d) In response to his membership drive letter, Frank had received a letter from an unhappy retiree who was a member of the Pension Plan for Hourly Rated Employees. His letter seemed to highlight what Jack Evans had been saying about the inequities in coverage and benefits between different groups of employees. Frank will write to Mr Dopheide assuring him that we are an Association for all retirees regardless of the pension plan to which they belong.

6. Treasurer's Report

Jessie Dunlop reported that, in response to Frank's letters, she has received over 200 cheques and has not had time to deal with them all yet. At the present time we have \$218.13 in the Credit Union, \$7,500 in a CIC and \$12,146 with ING at 2 1/2 %. Jessie needs to settle our account with Human Resources and Frank will try to facilitate this with Susan Mitchell (who replaced Carol Nelson).

7. Portfolios

- (a) Membership - Bonnie White reported 39 new retirees and 71 people who had updated their fees.
- (b) AGM/ Annual Buffet - Stan Hambleton said that since the last meeting the location for the buffet had been changed to Celebration Hall in Kenneth Taylor Hall. Mavis Hubley is arranging with Helen Barton to have the necessary number of chairs and tables available in . Chester New Hall B 107 for the AGM.
- (c) Trips/Special Events - Mavis and Anne reported that everything is in place for Stage West and My Fair Lady. Nineteen people have registered so far for Stanton House. It was agreed that, in the light of poor support last year, we would not have a Fall Dinner and speaker this year.
- (d) Cards and Visits - Stan Hambleton reported that he had sent several sympathy cards and also a gift to Mildred McLaren, who has not been well.
- (e) MURA Newsletter - Frank was concerned about the amount of space taken by the flyers in comparison with the very small print of the "news". It was pointed out that the flyers do serve a practical and useful purpose. No decision for change was made.

8. Any Other Business

As our booking of University Hall 317 ends on June 12th, 2002, Frank will try to re-book for 2002/2003.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday, May 8th, 2002, at 1:30 pm in University Hall Room 317.

10. Adjournment

Helen Otrrosina moved the adjournment and the meeting ended at approximately 3:15 pm.

Averil Thompson
Secretary

Frank Drieman
President

Excess Pension Surplus Documents
Held by J.P.Evans
10/04/02

1. Insurance Policy (effective 20 Sept.,2000)
2. Confidentiality Agreement with McMaster University re Personal Financial and non-Financial information.
3. Surplus Sharing Settlement Agreement dated 31 May,2000, and signed by all parties to the Agreement.
4. Generic letter to the "dissidents" from the McMaster University counsel and list of individuals receiving personal copy of same.
5. Superior Court of Ontario Documents:
 - A. Book of Authorities-McMaster University;
 - B. Supplementary Motion Record (includes Affidavit of Karen Belaire and letter of Alexander Darling);
 - C. Factum of McMaster University;
 - D. Affidavit of A. Leslie Robb;
 - E. Affidavit of John P. Evans;
 - F. Supplementary Affidavit of A. Leslie Robb;
 - G. Motion Endorsement by the Court (includes decision re Darling challenge).