

McMaster University Retirees Association

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, March 13th, 2002, at 1:30 pm, in University Hall, Room 317

Present: Frank Drieman(chair) Helen Barton, Marju Drynan, Jessie Dunlop, Marilyn Elliot, Stan Hambleton, Mavis Hubley, Gerry Keech, Veronica Morrison, Helen Otrosfua, Averil Thompson and Bonnie White

Regrets: Herb Jenkins, Mildred McLaren and Anne Sinclair

1. Welcome

Frank Drieman welcomed the Council members.

2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

Motion: that the minutes of the meeting held on February 13th, 2002 be approved as previously circulated (Helen Otrosina/Marilyn Elliot - carried)
Secretary's note: please refer to Business arising from the minutes item 3(c).

3. Business arising from the minutes

(a) Indemnification of Council members

Helen Barton said that she had not yet asked the Risk Manager for a stronger letter to back up the wording proposed for the constitutional amendment. After considerable discussion, it was decided to ask Veronica to publish the same proposed wording as was presented and rejected at the AGM last May. However, at this year's meeting it was agreed to explain the rationale for the wording which would be strongly supported by the letter Helen plans to obtain from the Risk Manager.

(b) Constitutional Review - please refer to minutes of February 13th. meeting

ARTICLE THREE-This article remains as printed in the minutes, except that 3.05 should be in **bold** and 305(a) should be changed to read "Any member who pays the annual fee shall be designated as Active for that calendar year."

ARTICLE NINE - Official Publication

This article remains as ~~printed~~ in Helen's proposal except that the beginning 9.01 shall read as follows: "The MURA News shall be" *The official publication of the Association. It shall be published from time to time and copy of each issue shall be mailed to each Active member...*

(c) The MURAL

Frank Drieman and Veronica Morrison proposed a new name (MURA News), format and paper colour (pale green) for the news letter.

Motion: that the new name, format and paper colour be accepted (Veronica Morrison/Marju Drynan - carried)

(d) Priority for Active Members on trips?

After some discussion it was decided that it was not a practical proposition to give Active membership priority nor was it helpful to charge non-active members an extra \$5. It would appear that there had been very few complaints and it would be best to continue with our present system.

4. New Business

(a) Membership Drive

Frank Drieman presented two draft letters - one a reminder to Active members and one an encouragement to those who had not yet become Active. Subject to a few changes, these letters were approved and Frank will organize the printing and mailing.

(b) Announcements by Frank Drieman

- The reception for new retirees planned for April 22nd, has now been re-scheduled for September 17th, 2002, when two sets of retirees will be recognized.

- The AGM will be held in Chester New Hall Room B107, which has raked seating and a microphone. There will be no charge.

- e-mail account - Frank read the "rules", which have already been put into effect through Human Resources, and cover various points including purpose, eligibility and procedures. Helen Barton and Marju Drynan will seek some clarification and will provide Veronica with a write-up for the MURA News to be published after the AGM.

5. Nominating Committee

Gerry Keech reported that Erica Giese had agreed to be nominated to take the place of Stan Hambleton, who comes to the end of his second term of office in May. Helen Otrosina has kindly agreed to be nominated for a second term of office (this time for three years). Anne Sinclair has agreed to serve for a second term of three years. Gerry has been assisted in his work as chair of the committee by Frank Drieman, Mildred McLaren, Joy baby and Kurt Schipper.

6. Treasurer's Report - Jessie Dunlop

Since January 31st we have taken in \$1245.00 in 83 memberships and \$35.00 in miscellaneous income. Five cheques had to be returned to members as the date was wrong and four of those have been returned.

In March we transferred \$2,500.00 to ING Direct and we now have a total of \$9,800.00 plus \$26.92 in interest on deposit with ING

We have paid out \$600.00 to the Bursary fund and \$35.27 to reimburse Jack Evans for a couple of binders *and a cell phone conference call regarding the pension surplus.*

We have \$393.03 on deposit with the Credit Union.

We have not yet been invoiced by the University for any expenses to date.

7. Portfolio Reports

(a) Membership – Bonnie White reported that the computer is working and she now has "Access 2000". She will be doing her membership work in the MURA office rather than on her home computer.

(b) AGM/Buffer - Stan Hambleton said that the cost per head for the buffet supplied by Hospitality Services would be \$10.95. After some discussion it was agreed that individual retirees would be charged \$10.00 and the balance would be paid from MURA funds. It was also agreed that some tables (with umbrellas) and chairs should be hired for the patio behind the Refectory at the Association's expense.

(c) Trips/Special Events - Mavis Hubley reported that there are two seats left for the Stage West outing and twelve left for "My Fair Lady".

(d) Cards and Visits - Stan Hambleton said that he had sent six cards. He appreciated receiving information about retirees from Council members.

(e) MURA News/Courier - Veronica Morrison needs copy for the March/April issue by March 15th with a view to mailing on the following Friday March 22nd. The Development Office was keen to make use of our March mailing to solicit funds but the size of the enclosure made it impractical. Veronica will advise the Development Office.

(f) Pension Trust Committee – Frank Drieman is pursuing his ideas on compensation for retirees in connection with the pension holiday enjoyed by those still in employment. He is doing some preliminary work in anticipation of raising the matter with the Pension Trust Committee.

8. Any Other Business

Frank Drieman said that Liberty Mutual Insurance would pay to make use of one of our mailings to advertize their services. After some discussion it was decided to turn down their offer, which involved mailing a magazine to each retiree.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday, April 10th, 2002, at 1:30 pm in University Hall Room 317.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:40 pm.

Averil Thompson, Secretary

Frank Drieman, President