

McMaster University Retirees Association

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday May 8th, 2002, at 3pm, in the University Student Center

Present: Frank Drieman (chair), Helen Barton, Marju Drynan, Jessie Dunlop, Stan Hambleton, Mavis Hubley, Herb Jenkins, Mildred McLaren, Veronica Morrison, Helen Otrosina, Averil Thompson, and Bonnie White

Regrets: Marilyn Elliot, Gerry Keech and Anne Sinclair

1. Welcome

Frank Drieman welcomed everyone to the meeting in the new and beautiful University Student Center.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Motion: that the minutes of the previous meeting held on April 10th, 2002, be approved as previously circulated (Stan Hambleton/Helen Otrosina carried)

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) Indemnification of Council members - Helen Barton said that she had not yet been successful in contacting Ralph Neale about his concern over the proposed new wording in the constitution.

(b) E-mail account processing write-up

Helen Barton and Marju Drynan have been working on this with the relevant staff and it appears that the new policy will allow this benefit, on a five year renewable basis, for all retirees in receipt of pension payment, regardless of the pension plan to which they belong. Some loose ends still have to be tied up but Helen and Marju hope to have written information available in time for the AGM.

4. Excess Pension Surplus

Frank Drieman read a letter from Leslie Robb indicating that there will be some further delays in the distribution of the money. The deadline for decisions by retirees has been extended from April 30th, 2002 to (no date was specified.). In the meantime, the money awaiting distribution is accumulating interest at a reasonable rate.

5. Agenda for the AGM

The draft agenda submitted by Averil was amended. Frank will call Marilyn concerning the benefits review. Helen has kindly volunteered to put together a package containing the agenda, reports, the minutes of the previous AGM and the proposed changes to the

constitution and to do all the necessary photo copying for the hand-outs. The President's Report, the Pension Committee Report and the Excess Pension 'Surplus Report to be given at the AGM will be published in the first MURA Newsletter following the meeting.

Bonnie White will organize coloured cards/tickets to be given to eligible voters.

6. President's Remarks

Frank Drieman was happy to report that Gerry Keech is' in good spirits and out of Intensive Care following his operation.

7. Correspondence

- (a) Frank has invited Dr. Peter George and his wife Allison to the AGM.
- (b) Room 317 in University Hall is booked for our meetings for the coming season.
- (c) Frank read a letter he had written to Mr. Dophide assuring him that MURA represents the interests of all retirees, regardless of the pension plan to which they belong.
- (d) Frank had received a gracious note &om Mildred McLaren thanking the Council for the recent gift of a plant
- (e) Chip Inkster, formerly of Payroll, had sent a little note from Nova Scotia suggesting that distant retirees might be kept in the picture by e-mail rather than through the full Newsletter costing at least 48 cents in postage. (Council did not think that this was a very practical proposition.)
- (f)The Pension Trust Committee has asked the MORA Council to nominate a person to represent retirees.

Motion: that Frank Drieman be nominated (for a further term of office) as the retirees representative on the Pension Trust Committee (Mildred McLaren/Marju Drynan carried)

8. Treasurer's Report

Jessie Dunlop presented the MURA balance sheet for April 30th, 2002 which showed a balance of \$17, 620.76 and also a statement of income and expenses showing \$5,197.21 net income over expenses.

Motion: that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as printed (Jessie Dunlop/Mildred McClaren carried) -

Jessie will be meeting with the auditor, John McCutcheon, on Monday May 13th.

9. Portfolio Reports

- (a) Membership - Bonnie White reported a total of 151 new memberships and a total of 166 updates following Frank's membership drive letters. It was agreed that each March letters should be mailed to those who have not updated their active members donations

(b) AGM/ Annual Buffet - Stan Hambleton said that arrangements had been made to cater for 75 people. He would not be able to attend on May 29th. due to a hospital "visit". Members of the Council thanked him sincerely for his diligent work over his six year term of office which ends on May 31st this year.

(c) Trips and special events

Mavis Hubley said that the trips to Stage West and to My Fair Lady in Stratford were fully . booked. There were some problems with the Stanton House weekend and it may have to be cancelled due to lack of sufficient support.

Mavis will arrange through Anne Sinclair and Jessie Dunlop to have the necessary paperwork available for the auditor's meeting with Jessie on May 13th.

(d) Cards and Visits

Stan Hambleton said that he will continue with this work until his replacement takes over (hopefully in June).

(e) Courier/MURA Newsletter

Veronica Morrison said that she would like to have all copy for the next Newsletter no later than Monday June 10th.

10. Any Other Business

Veronica Morrison suggested that Jack Evans should be appointed as an honorary member of MURA as an acknowledgement of his invaluable service to retirees.

Motion: that Council confer honorary membership on Jack Evans in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Association over many years (Veronica Morrison/Mildred McLaren - carried unanimously).

11. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday June 12th, 2002, at 1:30 pm in University Hall, Room 317.

12. Adjournment

Jessie Dunlop moved the adjournment and the meeting ended at approximately 3:20 pm.

Averil Thompson
Secretary

Frank Drieman
President