

McMaster University Retirees' Association

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday November 14th, 2001 at 1:30 pm, in University Hall Room 317

Present: Frank Drieman (chair) Helen Barton, Marju Drynan, Jessie Dunlop, Marilyn Elliot, Jack Evans, Mavis Hubley, Herb Jenkins, Gerry Keech, Veronica Morrison, Averil Thompson and Bonnie White

Regrets: Stan Hambleton, Mildred McLaren, Helen Otrosina and Anne Sinclair

1. Welcome

Frank Drieman welcomed the Council members and Jack Evans, who was attending to report on the Pension Surplus.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Motion: that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday October 10th, 2001, be approved as previously circulated (Marju Drynan/Marilyn Elliot carried)

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) Indemnification of Council members - Helen Barton is working on suitable wording for consideration by the Council.

(b) Definition of regular member of MURA

Gerry Keech and Helen Barton had worked together to produce a working paper which was presented by Helen. There was a long discussion concerning the different types of retirees and which ones we wished to include as regular members. Helen will revise the working paper for further consideration by the Council.

(c) Mail Box - Frank Drieman said that the mail box will be in place shortly. He has ordered two keys - one to be kept beside the filing cabinet key in the office and the other to be a spare.

4. Correspondence

(a) Update on Pension Surplus

Jack Evans reported that progress is being made steadily but slowly and the letters regarding options, due to be mailed in November, may not go out until December. Money is unlikely to be received before late spring.

(b) Handling of incoming mail - Frank Drieman enquired about the current system. Various members of Council, including Jessie Dunlop, Mavis Hubley, Anne Sinclair and Bonnie White check the mail regularly. Since Helen Barton put a message on the answering machine about directing benefits questions in the first instance to Human Resources, the mail on this subject has diminished.

5. President's Remarks

(a) Access to University e-mail facilities for retired staff

Frank Drieman reported that he and Gerry Keech had met with Mark Haley from Human Resources and there seemed to be no problem in arranging access based on individual applications from retired staff. Information about these arrangements and how to apply will be published in the MURAL.

(b) Cost of AGM meeting in May 2001

It was agreed that it was too costly to use a room where chairs and a sound system had to be "imported". Helen Barton will try to identify a suitable classroom with raked seating and a good sound system for the next AGM. Ideally the location should be reasonably close to the location of the BBQ which normally follows the meeting.

(c) Announcement

Frank Drieman said that there will be an open house in Convocation Hall on Wednesday November 21st, from 11 :30 am to 1 :30 pm and from 5 to 7:30 pm to provide information about future expansion at the University.

6. Treasurer's Report

Jessie Dunlop provided each member with a copy of the balance sheet as at October 31st, 2001, and a statement of income and expenses for the six months ended October 31st. It was decided that the cash reserve will be deposited at ING in an open savings account at the going rate.

7. Portfolio Reports

(a) Christmas Lunch December 3rd, 2001 - Bonnie will get money from the Treasurer to buy small gifts.

(b) Trips/Special Events - Mabel reported that the October 18th colours trip had been very successful and all the upcoming events are being well supported. Mamma Mia is sold out.

(c) MURAL - Veronica Morrison would like to have all copy for the next edition on or before the date of our next meeting, December 12th, 2001.

(d) Benefits - Marilyn Elliot reported that her job had been made much easier by the fact that many questions were now going directly to Human Resources, as they should in the first instance.

8. Any Other Business

Thought that the office needed to be spring-cleaned.

Bonnie White and Jessie Dunlop ~~had cleaned out the office..~~ The old computer needed to go and Helen Barton said that she could arrange for its disposal if necessary. It would be very useful to have a legal size filing cabinet and a new desk. Bonnie needed help from Gerry Keech in entering membership data on the new computer.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday December 12th, 2001, at 1:30 pm in University Hall Room 317.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:15 pm.

Averil Thompson
Secretary

Frank Drieman
President