

McMaster University Retirees Association

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday January 8th, 2003, at 1 :30 pm, in University Hall Room 317

Present: Frank Drieman (chair), Helen Barton, Marju Drynan, Jessie Dunlop, Erica Giese, Mavis Hubley, Gerry Keech, Carro McMullen, Veronica Morrison, Helen Otrosina, Averil Thompson and Bonnie White

Regrets: Marilyn Elliot, Mildred McLaren and Anne Sinclair

1. Welcome

Frank Drieman welcomed everyone to this first meeting of the year 2003.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Under Section 5 - President's Remarks, line 3, add "in" after "calculated" so that the clause reads "if calculated in the generally accepted manner."

Motion: that, subject to the change above, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday December 11 th, 2002, be approved as previously circulated (Erica Giese/Carm McMullen carried)

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) AGM May 28th, 2003 Helen Otrosina and Helen Barton
After some discussion it was agreed to hold the meeting in Convocation Hall at 2pm. Retirees would be invited to come at 1pm for coffee and sandwiches at no charge. We would try to get an estimate of the number coming by various means, including leaving messages on our answering machine. A microphone and a lectern would be requested and would be used in front of the stage at floor level. Convocation Hall will be booked from 11 am to 5 pm by Helen Otrosina.

(b) Portfolio Descriptions
Averil Thompson said that there were still some descriptions outstanding. She had received some very helpful generic type descriptions from Helen Otrosina and will make use of these in drafting the complete set of portfolio descriptions for review by Council.

(c) MURA Web Site
After quite a long discussion it was agreed that we should get some professional (paid) help in designing our web site. Initially we would provide basic type of information such as the purpose and history of our Association, our constitution, the type of services we offer, the names of current Council members and the portfolios held. Helen Barton and Marju Drynan will work out the proposed initial content.

(d) Establishment of Nominations Committee for 2003

Gerry Keech is the chair of this committee. Carm McMullen and Helen Barton volunteered to be the two Council members on this committee and it was suggested that Colin Campbell and Margaret Maggs might be willing to serve as community retirees. Ideally nominees for election should have some skills which would be useful in relation to the regular publication of the MURA news and the establishment and maintenance of our proposed web site. Gerry plans to get his committee together and have a meeting soon.

Veronica Morrison and Mavis Hubley will each have completed two three year terms as councillors by May of 2003. Carm McMullen will have completed a one year term and Bonnie White will have completed one three year term.

Secretary's Note

It would seem from the discussion that the last sentence of Article 5.06 of our constitution dealing with "Election and Term of Elected Members of Council" is not crystal clear to all of us. Perhaps we should review it at our next meeting with a view to clarification of the intent and a possible change in the wording.

4. Correspondence

Frank Drieman reported that Professor M. Dooley will be providing a note about the Funeral Society of Hamilton to be published in the MURA news.

5. President's Remarks

Frank said the Dr. Bishop had withdrawn his appeal and consequently the distribution of the excess pension surplus can be expected fairly soon.

6. Treasurer's Report

A copy of Jessie Dunlop's Report for the eight months ending December 31st, 2002, showing \$1,085 in the Credit Union and \$12,669 with ING direct, was given to each member present and was accepted by the Council.

7. Portfolios

(a) Membership - Bonnie White reported that she had updated the membership information.

(b) Trips/ Special Events - Mavis Hubley said that "The Lion King" on January 22nd was fully booked and "Remember Me" on March 19th has only four seats left. "The Kings of Swing" on April 29th and "The King and I" on May 20th, are both being enthusiastically supported.

(c) Cards and Visits - Helen Otrosina read a note from Joy Baby thanking us for the

cyclamen plant and card. Recent deaths include Professor James Siddall on December 26th, Al Snaith on January 2nd and Dr. Ernest Gadamer on January 3rd.

(d) MURA news -Veronica Morrison said that she hoped to go to press in February and invited contributions.

(e) MUFA liaison - Carm reported that he was having a sticky time encouraging retired faculty to take an active interest in MURA.

(f) Pension Matters - Frank Drieman said that he had attended a recent meeting of the Pension Trust Sub-Committee, which is re-examining the contribution holiday for active members. Another meeting is scheduled for later this January.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday February 12th, 2003, at 1:30 pm, in University Hall, Room 317.

9. Adjournment

Marju Drynan moved the adjournment and the meeting ended at approximately 3 :30 pm.

Averil Thompson
Secretary

Frank Drieman
President

MURA Constitution

Article 5.06 Election and Term of Elected Members of Council

The President, Vice- President, and a minimum of two (2) Councillors shall be elected yearly by the regular members at the annual general meeting of the Association. The President and VicePresident shall hold office for a term of one (1) year or until their successors are elected or appointed. Councillors shall hold office for a term of three (3) years or until their successors are elected or appointed. The President, Vice-President and Councillors are eligible for re-election but no elected member of the Council shall hold the same office for more than two (2) consecutive terms.