

McMaster University Retirees Association

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, March 12th, 2003, at 1:30 pm in University Hall, Room 317

Present: Frank Drieman (chair), Marju Drynan, Jessie Dunlop, Gerry Keech, Mildred McLaren, Veronica Morrison, Helen Otrrosina, Averil Thompson and Bonnie White

Regrets: Helen Barton, Marilyn Elliot, Erica Giese, Mavis Hubley, Carm McMullen and Anne Sinclair

1. Welcome

Frank Drieman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Motion: that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday February 12, 2003 be accepted as previously circulated (Mildred McLaren/Helen Otrrosina - Carried)

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) AGM May 28th, 2003

Helen Otrrosina reported that she had ordered a microphone, a lectern and a six foot table (to be put in front of the stage). She had also arranged for six rows at the back of Convocation Hall to be cleared of chairs to provide room for refreshments and sociability. There will be one table in the hall for registration. It was decided to order several "assorted sandwich platters", one "cheese and fruit platter", coffee, tea and fruit juices. A note will be put in the March MURA news advertising the free lunch at 1 pm and the AGM starting at 2 pm. Retirees will be encouraged to phone Helen Otrrosina if they are planning to come for the lunch.

(b) Positions and Portfolio Descriptions

Averil said that nobody had asked her for any more changes and she had therefore compiled a booklet of the MURA positions and portfolios to be kept in the office. She gave one copy to Frank Drieman as President and one copy to Gerry Keech in his capacity as Chair of the Nominating Committee. Averil emphasized that positions and portfolios change over the years and it is important to update this document from time to time.

(c) Nominating Committee

Gerry Keech with Margaret Maggs, Jack Evans, Helen Barton and Carm McMullen have completed their work. Dr. Brian Ives has agreed to be nominated for the position of Vice President; Bonnie White has agreed to be nominated for a second three year term of office as a councillor and Gerry himself has agreed to be nominated as a councillor for a three year term. In addition, Jessie Dunlop and Averil Thompson are willing to continue in their respective jobs as Treasurer and Secretary. Veronica Morrison's two three year terms of office as a councillor have come to an end, but fortunately she is willing to

continue as editor of the MURA news and to attend Council meetings as a non-voting member. The "Slate" includes Dr. AN. Bourns, who has agreed to continue as Honorary President, Mildred McLaren as President and Frank Drieman as Past President.

(d) Review of MURA's annual scholarships and prizes

There was general consensus that, in view of rising costs for students, we should increase the value of our annual scholarship and prize.

(May 2002 ?)

Motion: that (commencing in the fiscal year ending April 2003) the annual MURA scholarship be increased from \$600 to \$1,000 and that the annual prize be increased from \$200 to \$250 (Gerry Keech/Jessie- Carried)

(e) MURA web site

Marju Drynan said that she and Helen Barton had been working on this project studying retirees web sites from other universities and doing a "mock up". Marju gave us each a copy of a document from Queen's University Retirees web site giving the various headings and a succinct little piece entitled "Welcome" (the first often sections). Those interested in discussing simple headings for our web site are invited to come 45 minutes 'early (at 12:45pm) immediately prior to our regular April meeting on Wednesday April 9th.) **Secretary's note: Both meetings are to held in the McMaster Student Centre Room 303.**

4. President's Remarks

(a) Frank had attended a very enjoyable McMaster University Staff Association party, in Celebration Hall, in honour of Barry Diacon, who was retiring as President after completing his final two year term.

(b) Frank had attended the wind-up meeting of the Pension Trust sub-committee on the contribution holiday matter. The Committee will recommend that the holiday end on July 1st, 2003.

5. Correspondance

Frank had been invited to a dinner in honor of McMaster sponsors to be held on Tuesday March 18th.

6. Treasurer's Report

Jessie gave each member present a copy of the Statement of Income and Expense for the ten months ending February 28th, 2003, and a copy of the Balance Sheet as at February 28th, 2003. She is concerned that the "Active Membership Fees" are coming in very slowly. Both Bonnie and Jessie suggested strongly that a reminder about the annual fees needs to be published in the MURA news each year **before Christmas.**