

McMaster University Retirees Association

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday November 13th, 2002, at 1:30 pm in UH Room 317

Present: Frank Drieman (chair) Jack Evans, Marju Drynan, Jessie Dunlop, Marilyn Elliot, Mavis Hubley, Gerry Keech, Mildred McLaren, Carm McMullen, Veronica Morrison, Helen Otrosina, Anne Sinclair, Averil Thompson and Bonnie White

Regrets: Helen Barton and Erica Giese

1. Welcome

Frank Drieman welcomed Council members and Jack Evans to the meeting.

2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

Motion: that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday October 9th be approved as previously circulated (Mildred McLaren/Marilyn Elliot - carried)

3. Pension Related Matters - Jack Evans

(a) The CCRA had approved the distribution of the excess pension surplus. However, two people have decided to appeal the court decision regarding their eligibility to share in the surplus and this may cause a significant delay in the distribution of the money.

(b) Jack Evans spoke about pension law changes in Bill 198, which could adversely affect pensions in Ontario, and gave each person present a draft letter to the Honourable Ernie Eves on this subject. After much discussion a decision was made as follows:

Motion: that Council accept Jack Evans' recommendation to work on a letter to Ernie Eves about the proposed Bill 198 and that the letter then be distributed to all Ontario members of MURA, with the suggestion that they may wish to use the text in pursuit of opposition to Bill 198 (Marju Drynan /Veronica Morrison - carried)

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) AGM May 28th, 2003 - No progress at this point.

(b) Christmas Lunch - Frank Drieman and Bonnie White will meet the owner of the Schwaben Inn shortly regarding the limitation of the menu and other ideas to encourage speedier service. Bonnie White accepted the offer of \$100 from the Trips and Special Events account for the purchase of many small prizes.

(c) MURA web site

Marju Drynan had produced much food for thought and members were asked to study the attached document and come to the next meeting prepared to do some brain-storming regarding the development of a helpful and practical web-site.

(d) Portfolio Descriptions - Carm McMullen and Averil Thompson had each prepared a brief description of their own jobs. The rest of the Council was asked to do likewise.

5. Treasurer's Report

Jessie Dunlop gave each member present a copy of her report for the six months ending October 31st 2002, which showed a balance of \$12,611.85 in our ING Direct Account and \$460.53 in our Credit Union account. It was noted that we had been charged \$11.40 for the removal of a desk which was still sitting in the MURA office.

6. Portfolios

(a) Trips and Special Events - Anne Sinclair

The Octoberfest trip had been a great success. There will be two busloads going to the Festival of Northern Lights on Wednesday November 27th. Thirty people are already booked for "The Lion King" on January 22nd, 2003.

Council agreed with Anne's recommendation that the Trips and Special Events account be moved from the Credit Union to the Bank of Nova Scotia at the University Plaza in Dundas. The four signing authorities will be Anne Sinclair, Mildred McLaren, Frank Drieman and Averil Thompson. Any two of these four may authorize a cheque.

(b) Cards - Helen Orosina had sent one sympathy card.

(c) Benefits - Marilyn had received one call from a retiree who was upset because a letter, sent by his lawyer, had not been acknowledged by Simon Ouellet. Marilyn is planning to meet with Simon shortly and will make enquiries about this.

(d) Pension Trust Committee - Frank Drieman reported that the PTC sub-committee chaired by Mark Haley now has terms of reference and hopefully will be ready to report to the Board of Governors by February of 2003 concerning the "pension holiday" and how it might relate to retirees.

7. Any Other Business

Mildred McLaren said that the Service of Remembrance on November 11th was well done and she was very impressed to see so many students there.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday December 11th, at 1:30 pm in UH Room 317.

9. Adjournment

On a motion by Anne Sinclair, the meeting finished at approximately 3:15 pm.

Averil Thompson, Secretary

Frank Drieman, President