

McMaster University Retirees Association

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday June 9th, 2004, at 1:30 pm, in the Student Centre, Room 230

Present: Mildred McLaren (chair) Helen Barton, Mariana Brown, Jessie Dunlop, Gabriele Erasmi, Erica Giese, Brian Ives, Michele Leroux, Helen Otrosina, Rod Phillips, Anne Sinclair, Averil Thompson and Bonnie White

Regrets: Frank Drieman, Gerry Keech and Veronica Morrison

1. Welcome

Mildred welcomed everyone and especially our new members of Council Mariana Brown, Gabriele Erasmi and Rod Phillips.

2. Minutes of the Previous Council Meeting

Page I, 3(c) MURA Funding - sentence beginning on line 3 should read "Only six of the retired employees were not part of the SEIU group.

Motion: that, subject to the above change, the minutes of the meeting held on May 12, 2004, be approved as printed (Helen Otrosina/Erica Giese Carried)

3. Minutes of the AGM

Change McMaster news to MURA news in items 3, 11 and 12
Under item 7 Pension Trust Committee delete the last sentence.

Motion: that subject to the corrections above, the minutes of the AGM on May 31st, 2004 be approved for presentation to the AGM in 2005 (Anne Sinclair/Erica Giese Carried)

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) It was agreed that the death of Sue Flight be listed under "Passings" (without an apology) in the next edition of the MURA news.

(b) As a follow-up to his report on "A new approach to MORA funding" Brian Ives said that the Service Employees International Union might initially be against contributing to MURA funding. However, Council members supported him in his determination to "soldier on." In this connection he said that there is a need to work on a realistic new operating budget and it was agreed that at the September meeting the appropriate Council members should be ready to submit information concerning anticipated expenses (eg. for the MURA news).

5. AGM

It was felt that the meeting had gone well and that the refreshments were very good. It would have been even better with more retirees - the attendance was less than usual (possibly influenced by the cold rainy weather).

6. Assignment of Portfolios

It was agreed that:

Mariana Brown would assist Helen Barton Otrosina in her work and would also be the backup secretary;

Gabriele Erasmi would look after liaison with the McMaster University Faculty Association; Rod Phillips would look after liaison with retirees in the Pension Plan for Hourly Rated Employees

Brian Ives would be responsible for the MURA website

Helen Barton would assist Les Robb by being a "pipeline" for information regarding the Pension Trust Committee.

7. President's Remarks

(a) Mildred reported that, as a representative of MURA, she had attended a convocation dinner for recipients of honorary degrees and students who had won scholarships and awards.

(b) She was still working to find a suitable computer course for Bonnie and it seemed that CIS might be able to provide this.

(c) Mildred and Helen plan to write a joint report on the CURAC Conference in Winnipeg for publication in the next edition of the MURA news. They also plan to give their report to MUFA. They thought that the conference was a wonderful experience and recommended that we send two delegates to the 2005 conference to be held in Vancouver (? President and one other).

8. Treasurer's Report

Jessie Dunlop presented her report and said that there was a need for an additional signing authority for cheques. She also needed input regarding the proposed budget for the year.

Motion: that Brian Ives be given signing authority (Helen Otrosina/Helen Barton Carried)

Motion: that the budget be on the agenda for the September meeting and that, prior to the meeting, she receive information regarding projected expenses from the appropriate Council members (Jessie Dunlop/Erica Giese Carried)

9. Portfolios

(a) Membership - Bonnie said that we now had 714 paid up members including one person who had not retired yet.

Motion: that the membership report be accepted (Bonnie White/Gabriele Erasmi)

(b) Trips Special Events - Anne Sinclair said that the September 14th cruise through Georgian Bay is sold out. The trip on May 8th was a great success despite some totally unforeseen difficulties.

(c) Pension Matters - Helen Barton spoke about the brief report from Les Robb which she had distributed to each person present. She will be a "pipeline" for Les Robb, our appointee to the Pension Trust Committee. Averil will write a letter to him, saying that he would be most welcome to attend any of our Council meetings as a non-voting member and will be sent the minutes of each meeting.

(d) Benefits - Michele Leroux said that she plans to have a note published in the MURA news reminding retirees that the benefit year ends on June 30th, 2004 and that any outstanding claims must be submitted within 60 days of this date.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday, September 8th, 2004, at 1:30 pm in the Student Centre, Room 230.

11. Adjournment

On a motion to adjourn by Helen Otrosina, the meeting ended at approximately 3:10 pm.

Averil Thompson	Mildred McLaren
Secretary	President

Regular meetings for the 2004-2005 year are planned as follows for the second Wednesday of each month from September to June inclusive:

2004 - September 8th, October 13th, November 10th and December 8th

2005 - January 12th, February 9th, March 9th, April 13th, May 11 th and June 8th