

# **McMaster University Retirees Association**

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday September 8th, 2004 at 1:30 pm in the Student Centre, Room 220

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

**Regrets:** Gerry Keech

## **1. Welcome**

Mildred welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Fall.

## **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

On page 2, item 6 line 2 change Helen Barton to Helen Otrrosina.

**Motion:** that, subject to the change above, the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday June 9th, 2004 be approved as previously circulated (Mariana Brown/ Anne Sinclair - Carried)

## **3. Correspondence**

(a) Mildred has received a membership renewal form from CURAC. Averil will look after this with the aid of a \$300 cheque from Jessie Dunlop.

(b) Mildred has received a letter from Kelly Sodtka, , Senior Development Officer, asking for permission to make a presentation to the MURA Council on the Bequest Campaign. Kelly would be joined in this presentation by Dr. Margaret Lyons, a McMaster alumnus.

There was general agreement that this was acceptable and Mildred will contact Kelly regarding a suitable date.

## **4. Reception for New Retirees**

Mildred encouraged us all to come this reception on September 14th from 4 - 6 pm in the Great Hall and to **minge with people we don't know**.

## **5. President's Remarks**

(a) Stuart Winn's eightieth birthday

The special day was on Friday September 3rd and several people from the Council had sent birthday greetings following a timely little nudge from Helen Otrrosina. It was agreed that it would be fitting to have a brief write-up and a recent picture in the newsletter.

(b) Entering the modern age

Mildred is planning to get into the e-mail business by acquiring a modem. Helen Barton and Veronica Morrison will be movers and shakers in making this project a reality at an affordable price.

(c) Ideas on how to increase AGM attendance

Various thoughts were floated and we were all encouraged to think more about this in preparation for the next Council meeting.

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

Jessie Dunlop presented the cash statement to September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

**Motion:** that the cash statement to September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2004 be accepted as circulated to the Council members (Jessie Dunlop/Gabriele Erasmus - carried)

## **7. Development of realistic expense budget for MURA funding - Brian Ives**

After considerable discussion, it was agreed that projected expenses for the 2004/2005 and the 2005/2006 fiscal year would be needed. Various budget "lines" were assigned as follows so that, with some assistance from our Treasurer, realistic budgets could be developed.

(a) Newsletter (printing, postage, stationery)	Helen Barton and Veronica Morrison
(b) Scholarships	Frank Drieman
(c) Meetings including Christmas lunch and AGM	Helen Otrrosina
(d) Office and Administration including computing, envelopes, paper and postage	Bonnie White
(e) Memberships (CURA etc)	Averil Thompson
(f) Travel expenses including conferences	Brian Ives
(g) Website	Brian Ives
(h) Miscellaneous including cards and postage	Helen Otrrosina

No change in the fiscal year, currently May 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>, is contemplated at the present time.

## **8. Portfolios**

(a) Membership - Bonnie reported that there was no backlog - everything was up to date.

(b) Trips/Special Events - Anne reported that her Alaska cruise is sold out.

(c) Cards/Christmas Lunch and AGM

Helen Otrrosina said that we are not locked into Mondays for the Christmas lunches. It was

agreed that this year we would ask for Tuesday December 7th and, failing that, Monday December 6th. To accommodate the Alaska Cruise retirees it was suggested that we have the AGM on Monday June 13th. Helen will try to book Convocation Hall for that day.

(d) MURA news - Veronica said that she hoped to deliver copy to Printing early in the week beginning Monday September 6th. It was agreed on the importance of advertising the Christmas Lunch in this edition to avoid a single sheet mailing down the road.

(e) Pension Matters - Helen Barton said that the Pension Trust Committee is due to meet on Thursday September 9th and Les Robb is likely to report to the Council at our next meeting on October 13th.

(f) Benefits - Michele Leroux said that some staff groups had received their booklets and the remainder should be receiving theirs in the near future.

(g) Liaison with Hourly Rated Retirees - Rod Phillips showed us a free booklet produced by the government listing facilities and services available to all retirees.

(g) Website - Brian Ives reported that he had worked out with Nick Solntseff a mutually acceptable modus operandi. He had also received a very helpful offer from Pam Penny to work on the website.

## **9. Room Bookings**

Averil said that our meeting on October 13th will be held in the Student Centre Room 230 and subsequently in Room 220 from November to May inclusive. On June 8th 2005 no room the Student Centre will be available and Council members very happily accepted Mildred's generous offer to have a pot luck lunch and meeting at her place (Apartment 208, 980 Golf Links Road, Ancaster).

## **10. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday October 13th, 2004, at 1 :30 pm, in the Student Centre Room 230 (not 220).

## **11. Adjournment**

On a motion by Helen Otrosina the meeting adjourned at approximately 3 :20 pm.

Averil Thompson  
Secretary

Mildred McLaren  
President