

# McMaster University Retirees Association

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday January 11th. 2006, at 1:30 pm in the Student Centre. Room 220

**Present:** Brian Ives (chair), Helen Barton. Jeff Chuchman, Beth Csordas, Gabriele Erasmi. Geoff Evans, Margaret Jenkins. Roman March, Mildred McLaren, Joan Morris, Veronica Morrison, Joan Parker. Rod Phillips. Anne Sinclair, Averil Thompson and Bonnie White

## 1. Welcome

Brian welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 2. Minutes of the previous meeting

**Motion:** that the minutes of the previous meeting, held on Wednesday December 14, 2005 be approved as previously circulated ( Mildred McLaren/Roman March - Carried)

## 3. Business arising from the minutes

(a) Mariana Brown - Averil had written a note of sympathy to Mariana's husband David and family.

(b) Nominating Committee - Averil had written letters to Helen Barton. Roman March, Helen Otrrosina and Murlis Pope confirming their appointments to this committee.

(c) Hourly Pension Plan Representation - Brian read a letter from Mark Haley dated January 10th, in which MURA is asked to present its proposal directly to the Hourly Pension Plan Retirement Committee on Wednesday February 15th. 2006 and to discuss four issues. It was agreed that Brian and Rod would attend this first meeting.

## 4. Correspondence

(a) CURAC is doing a survey on "Non-Medical Retiree Benefits". It was agreed that the Benefits Committee would complete the questionnaire, which is to be returned to CURAC no later than February 28th.

(b) A letter had been received from Joan Morris notifying us of her new e-mail address as follows: [morris72@sympatico.ca](mailto:morris72@sympatico.ca)

## 5. President's Report

(a) Brian hoped that we had all had good holidays and reminded us of the seasonable greeting picture on the website.

(b) Brian had received a letter from Averil saying that she planned to end her ten years as Secretary effective May 31st, 2006.

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

(a) Beth outlined the financial situation as at December 31st, 2005.

(b) Beth also presented the revised draft budget for 2006-2007. Money from the McMaster University Futures Fund, which had previously been recorded as a liability, is now recorded as a form of equity to be used for capital expenses as needed.

## **7. Detailed Reports from Scheduled Committees**

(a) Benefits - Geoff and Rod presented their written report, which had been distributed to everyone. They wanted direction on which of many possible subjects should be addressed first.

**Motion:** that priority be given to studying and reporting on the situation regarding hiring of hourly rated staff with no benefits upon retirement (Roman March/ Rod Phillips Carried)

(b) MURA News - Joan Parker presented the report which covered focus, objectives, publications, mailing and stuffing. Following some discussion, the Council received the report.

## **8. Discussion on upcoming scheduled committee studies**

(a) Trips - Anne outlined some of the upcoming activities and expressed her willingness to receive suggestions for future trips. Lunch, followed by attendance at the Geritol Follies in Hamilton, seemed to be a very popular idea. Anne was congratulated on doing an excellent job and fulfilling an important aspect of MURA 's mandate.

(b) Cards - Joan Morris briefly described what she did. There was some discussion on whether it would be desirable to develop a special MURA card and also whether we might make use of computer generated cards.

(c) Nominating Committee - Mildred reported that her committee would be meeting on Wednesday February 1st at her home. Several possible nominees had already been suggested and she invited Council members to contact her if they had other candidates in mind. Veronica will put a note in the next newsletter inviting nominations.

## **9. Information Reports**

(a) Cards - Joan Morris had sent several sympathy cards.

(b) Special Events - Margaret Jenkins distributed an information sheet concerning the McMaster Museum of Art, the McMaster University Club, McMaster Student Liaison

Office and Paradise Catering, which operates from the Student Centre. She plans to organize lunch and a visit to the McMaster Museum of Art on Wednesday March 29th and possibly attendance at the Valene Tryon/Suzanne Schulman midday concert followed (or preceded) by lunch.

(c) University Board of Governors - Mildred presented a report on the meeting held on December 15th, 2005 which had been distributed to those present.

(d) Annual General Meeting - Joan Morris

It was agreed to hold the AGM on Thursday May 18th, or Tuesday May 23m depending upon when Convocation Hall would be available.

(e) CURAC - Helen Barton

The annual general meeting is to be held at the University of Guelph from May 24th to 26th and sponsors are needed. Helen had approached Peter George to invite him to the opening reception and to ask for financial support from the University. \$900 was quickly given and Helen thought it would be fitting if MURA could match this contribution.

**Motion:** that MURA donate \$900 to CURAC for named sponsorship of a function or segment of the CURAC AGM in May (Helen/Geoff Carried)

## **10. Next meeting**

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday Feb.8th, 2006, at 1:30 pm, in the Student Centre, **Motorola Foundation Room # 203 (not # 208 as stated in the Agenda for the January 11th meeting)**.

## **11. Adjournment**

Geoff moved the adjournment and the meeting finished at approximately 3:35pm.

Averil Thompson  
Secretary

Brian Ives  
President