

McMaster University Retirees Association

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, June 8th, 2005 at the home of Mildred McLaren 208 - 980 Golf Links Road, Ancaster

Present: Brian Ives (chair), Helen Barton, Mariana Brown, Jeff Chuchman, Beth Csordas, Gabriele Erasmi, Geoffrey Evans, Margaret Jenkins, Roman March, Mildred McLaren, Joan Morris, Veronica Morrison, Averil Thompson and Bonnie White

Regrets: Joan Parker, Rod Phillips and Anne Sinclair

1. Welcome

Brian welcomed Council members and invited everybody to introduce themselves. He spoke about the death of Gerry Keech on June 3rd and, on a motion by Mildred seconded by Geoff, it was agreed that Averil should send a note of sympathy to his daughter, GERALYNNE and family.

2. Minutes of previous meetings

(a) Minutes of the Council meeting on May 11 th, 2005

On page 2 last line, change "will publish it" to " will publish a précis of it"

Motion: that subject to the change above, the minutes of the meeting held on May 11 th, 2005, be approved as previously circulated (Gabriele Erasmi/GeoffEvans - carried)

(b) Minutes of the AGM held on May 25th, 2005

Motion: that the minutes of the AGM held on May 25th, 2005 be approved for ratification at the next AGM in May 2006 (Gabriele Erasmi/GeoffEvans - carried)

3. Business arising from the minutes

MURA representative on the McMaster University United Way Steering Committee We have yet to receive an official request and will wait until this comes before responding.

4. Old business

(a) General discussion of the AGM

There was consensus that the speaker, Eric Vengroff, was better without his technical aids than with them. Some people thought that he should have been scheduled to start a little earlier than 2 pm.

(b) Draft Agreement MURA/MUFA/MUSA funding 2006 - 2008

Motion: that the Draft Agreement circulated to those present be approved (Geoff Evans/Helen Barton - carried)

It was noted that there are many matters which will need to be addressed once the agreement has been signed by the parties concerned.

5. Treasurers' Report (Jessie Dunlop and Beth Csordas)

(a) Transfer of treasurership activities

Arrangements have been made for Beth, Jessie, Mildred, Brian and Averil to meet at the McMaster Savings and Credit Union at 1005 King Street West in Westdale on Tuesday June 14th, at 10 am to accomplish the changeover. The signing authorities are to be Brian Ives as President, Beth Csordas as Treasurer and Mildred McLaren as the Past President and third signing authority.

Motion: that Mildred McLaren be the third signing authority on the MURA account. (Helen BartoniGeoff Evans - carried)

(b) Financial report for May 2005

Jessie said that May had been a very quiet month with nothing special to report.

6. CURAC Annual General Meeting

Helen Barton, who had attended the conference in Vancouver, distributed information to those present and gave us some highlights of the theme - "Continuing a Professional Life after Retirement". She felt that the conference, which stimulated thought about various broad issues, was very worthwhile.

7. President's Report

(a) Council communications (minutes, agendas, e-mails)

Brian stressed the importance of using e-mail and said that, in future, the minutes of the previous meeting and the agenda for the forthcoming meeting would be sent out together, hopefully by e-mail with attachments for those able to receive them (and by snail mail for those who can't.)

(b) Portfolio Studies "Mini Royal Commissions"

Brian indicated his wish that the Council be more pro-active in the coming year, and that each Standing Committee (see following item) should undertake to investigate aspects of its specific area of interest where more clarity and understanding might be obtained. He proposes to schedule frequent in-depth reports, possibly at three-monthly intervals, from each Standing Committee, on topics of the Committee's choosing. He also noted that it will be necessary to update the job descriptions and, with this in mind, he asked each person to take a copy of the booklet entitled "MURA Positions and Portfolios" dated March 8th, 2003 and try to review it during the summer months.

(c) Assignment of Portfolios for 2005 - 2006

It had been brought to Brian's attention that the word portfolios sounded too grand and suggested we use the words "standing committees" as described in the MURA Constitution. He provided a document for each person present, which listed the standing committees and those whom he suggested should serve on them. It is still a draft document in the sense that members were invited to contact him regarding their preferred assignments and possible

changes. Beginning in September he expects each committee to give an in-depth report on a rotating basis.

8. Correspondence

(a) CARP membership proposal

Following the AGM, CARP sent us a proposal with three main options for encouraging membership in CARP and promoting the sale of their magazine for the Over Fifties. The three options are: Option A - Bulk discounted membership, B - Access to t1te Membership and C - Access to the membership with a discounted promotion. Bonnie was asked to study the options, précis them and report to the Council at the September meeting with a recommendation for action.

(b) CARP is one of the sponsors of Police "Drive Wise Seminars" which might form the basis for a MURA Special Event. Margaret will consider this as a possible topic for a Special Meeting at an appropriate date.

9. Portfolio Reports (from ongoing activities)

(a) Membership - Bonnie reported a quiet time and an opportunity to do some housecleaning of the data files.

(b) MURA News - Veronica said that she hopes to mail the next edition during the last week in June, and is waiting for input from various members, including a report from the President. Mildred indicated she would not contribute to this edition.

(c) Benefits - Jeff reported that progress is being made with the publication of the remaining benefit booklets. He agreed to forward to Geoff, for information purposes, copies of those already published.

(d) Web site - Brian said that there is now a feedback form available for use on the website.

10. Any other business

On behalf of those present, Roman March thanked Mildred most warmly for hosting this first meeting of the new Council.

11. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday September 14th, 2005, at 1:30 pm in the Student Centre Room 220.

12. Adjournment

Mildred moved the adjournment and the meeting ended at approximately 3:35 pm.

Averil Thompson	Brian Ives
Secretary	President