



**McMaster University Retirees Association**

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Wayne Rouse, Secretary

**Minutes for Council Meeting of McMaster University Retirees Association –Wednesday, Nov 9, 2011, 2:00 PM at MSU, Room 220.**

Note. Any item marked with a \*\* denotes an action item.

**1. Welcome & Regrets**

**Present:** Lorraine Allan, Helen Barton, Beth Csordas, Helen Dietsche, Al Fraser, Kathy Heywood, Joe Laposa (Chair), Michele Leroux, Pam Penny, Kathy Overholt, Janice Rischke, Wayne Rouse, Harold Siroonian, Marianne Van der Wel, Marianne Walters.

**Regrets:** Cliff Andrews, Mary Johnston, Shari Mercer, Anne Sinclair.

**2. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

Council Meeting, Oct 12. (for approval).

**Moved by** Kathy Heywood, **seconded by** Al Fraser

*'That the minutes be adopted as corrected'*

**Carried unanimously**

**3. Human Resources Report (Michele Leroux)**

**3.1 Update on HR and MURA database comparison**

Michele has the OK to move ahead with sending out a letter to retirees missing from our data base as soon as possible. She will need help from an attorney in drafting it. This letter will be circulated through MURA before it is sent to our missing retirees. Since Michele is going on holidays shortly, nothing is likely to happen before the New Year.

**3.2 Sun Life Website and \$10K Information**

In a new twist on the out-of-province health insurance Sun Life will present us with a product they are designing. Michele says that she will schedule a meeting time for Sun Life to present their wares, sometime in January. Michele also reported that HR has had a lot of phone inquiries about this coverage since MURA has been informing retirees about it.

**4. Business Arising – updates on**

**4.1 Academic awards and endowment fund raising (Beth Csordas)**

The endowment fund total = \$45,636 which is up \$220 over the last month. Beth will correspond with Barry Bartlett re: his query on how to donate through the web link. \*\*

#### **4.2 TD Group Insurance (Joe Laposa)**

The availability of the plan has been sent to members through ListServe.

#### **4.3 \$10K Out of Province Emergency Medical Coverage (Marianne Walters)**

The Toronto-Star link for Snow Birds has been sent to members through ListServe.

#### **4.4 Speaker and Topic for AGM (Joe Laposa)**

Patrick Deane has accepted MURA's request to be the guest speaker for the AGM, May 30, 2012. The executive suggests that he speak to 'MAC outreach to the community' which is a topic that excites his enthusiasm.

#### **4.5 New Retirees Reception (Joe Laposa)**

The reception was attended by about 50 new retirees and their guests. President Deane and MURA President Laposa gave brief welcomes and addresses to the attendees.

### **5. Correspondence (Joe Laposa)**

#### **5.1 Autumn Graduation Dinner on November 17**

Marianne Walters and Beth Csordas will attend the invitational graduation dinner.

#### **5.2 Discounted CARP Membership**

The president of CURAC is working on a renewal of discounted membership in CARP.

### **6. President's Report (Joe Laposa)**

#### **6.1 Meeting with President Patrick Deane**

Just prior to our MURA Council meeting, Joe Laposa and Marianne Walters had a meeting with President Patrick Deane. The following topics were discussed.

- The need to upgrade MURA's data base on retirees with help from Human Resources.
- The need for MURA to be kept informed of cost-sharing agreements for future retirees' benefits since disagreements or problems on these arrangements may well need to be dealt with or clarified by MURA. This will start in 2012 with faculty retirees. However, in the future it will expand to other university-employee negotiated agreements.
- Volunteering. Deane was brought up to date on MURA's involvement in volunteer activities. The question of contemporary student involvement in 'open circles' was raised with the question of whether or not MURA should be involved in this or similar ventures.
- The question of a retirees centre on campus was raised. Deane was involved at Queens University with an embryonic venture of similar ilk but he departed before it got off the ground.

In general, the meeting was assumed to be a successful exchange of information.

#### **6.2 Meeting with Waterloo Insurance**

Joe met with WI on Oct. 21. WI will provide prizes for the Christmas lunch and some of their brochures will be tabled for those interested. This brochure may be suitable for mailing with the Spring MURAnews as well.

**6.3 Photo Session on December 14**

This will take place at the next Council Meeting (Dec. 14) at 1:15 PM.

**6.4 Co-Chairs for Christmas Lunch and AGM Committees**

Council agreed with an executive recommendation that Al Fraser and Janice Rishke should work with Pam Penny on the Christmas Lunch and AGM committee. If this works out to everybody's satisfaction they will likely take on co-chairing the committee starting in June next when Pam's term on Council is finished.

**7. Treasurer's Report: (Beth Csordas)**

Beth reported that all financial systems are operating within projected budgets.

**8. Information Reports from Committees**

**8.1 Christmas Party (Pam Penny)**

To date the signed participants number 104. Their names have been forwarded to Joe and Helen. Donated gifts (about 20) and chocolates donated by the president's office are organized. Pam is organizing and will circulate a duties roster. Helen will send out a registration reminder on ListServe. Chancellor Red Wilson will bring greetings from the university.

**8.2 AGM (Joe Lapos, Pam Penny)**

The AGM is confirmed for Wednesday May 30, 2012, and as usual will take place at Celebration Hall.

**8.3 Cards (Helen Dietsche)**

Deaths to Nov. 9, 2011

Dan Pugliese	School of Nursing	July 7
Jean Smith Howard	Admissions	September 26
Ronald Gary Waterfield	Faculty of Business	October 21

**8.4 Constitution and By-Laws (Helen Barton)**

No Report

**8.5 Membership (Pam Penny)**

The current membership totals 2077.

**8.6 MURAnews (Kathy Overholt)**

No Report

**8.7 Nominating (Helen Barton)**

No Report

**8.8 Pensions and Benefits (Marianne Walters)**

No Report

**8.9 Trips-Special Events** (Anne Sinclair, Mary Johnston, Shari Mercer, Kathy Heywood.  
No Report.

**8.10 Web Site** (Marianne Van der Wel)

Marianne will shortly be meeting with Patricia Chang who wants to be more involved in the web sites. One of the things she could do is to help set up a 'Benefits' page that would outline in convenient format the perks that are available to retirees. Also ongoing is an update on committee structures and memberships such as involved in the merge of 'Special Events with Trips.

**9. Information Reports from Liaisons**

**9.1 University Board of Governors** (Lorraine Allan)

The President's report to the Board on October 20 can be found on the President's Page which is linked to the MURA website. It was a short meeting, the main item being the Audited Financial Report. The President also spoke about his goal to strengthen relationships with all levels of government which has led to two new university appointments.

**9.2 CURAC** (Joe Laposa)

Joe received a query on MURA's interest in a possible one-day regional conference to be held probably in Toronto and to be modeled on the recent Atlantic regional conference. MURA responded positively to this and suggested that topics that would be of interest to MURA would be  
Pensions & Benefits  
Volunteering  
Community Outreach

**9.3 MUFA** (Lorraine Allan, Marianne Walters)

No Report.

**9.4 CAW (MUSA)** (Janice Rischke)

The President of CAW will attend the MURA Christmas lunch. The CAW contract is up for negotiation in 2012.

**9.5 Hourly Staff Liaison** (Al Fraser)

No Report.

**9.6 Hourly Pension Committee** (Cliff Andrews)

No Report.

**9.7 Salaried Pension Committee** (Les Robb)

No Report.

**10. Other Business**

None

**11. Date and Location of Next Meeting**

Wed. Dec. 14, 1:30 PM in MSU 220.

**Note: Council will meet at 1:15 PM for our annual Photo Shoot.**

**12. Adjournment**

**Moved by** Helen Dietsche at 3:45 PM

*'That the meeting be adjourned'*

**Carried**

29/11/11