



McMaster University Retirees Association

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Wayne Rouse, Secretary

Minutes for Council Meeting of McMaster University Retirees Association —Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013, 1:30 PM at McMaster Student Centre, Room 318.

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

1. Welcome & Regrets

Present: Cliff Andrews, Helen Barton, Dianne Coventry, Beth Csordas, Helen Dietsche, Linda Grocott, Mary Johnston, Joe Laposa, Shari Mercer, Janice Rischke, Wayne Rouse, Harold Siroonian, Marianne Walters (Chair), Bob West.

Regrets: Karin Hewlett, Kathy Heywood, Michele Leroux, Kathy Overholt, Marianne Van der Wel.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

2.1 Council Meeting –December 12, 2012 (for approval)

Moved by Shari Mercer, **seconded by** Mary Johnston
'That the minutes be adopted as corrected'

Carried

3. Human Resources Report (Michele Leroux)

No Report

4. Business Arising – updates on

4.1 Ad Hoc Committee Succession Report (Marianne Walters)

Marianne summarized Jack Evans report. The report noted that his conversations with recently retired or soon-to- retire potential nominees for Council indicated that a common concern was the number of meetings and how much time was involved.

4.2 CURAC Discussion Paper on Health Issues for Retirees- (Marianne Walters)

In response to the request from CURAC for feedback the report on *National Healthcare* the report was sent to MURA members via muramembs-l noting that their feedback should be sent to CURAC at the email address given, with a copy to MURA if they so wish. Two responses that were copied to MURA have been received. With respect to a MURA Council response, the following motion was proposed

Moved by Helen Barton, **seconded by** Mary Johnston

'That the Pension and Benefits Committee consider responding to the CURAC Report and report back to Council on their recommendation'

Carried **

4.3 MUFA Newsletter article on Pensions in Ontario (Cliff Andrews and Bob West)

The report to appear in the winter MURAnews combines a number of sources on the proposed amalgamation of the assets public and university pension plans in Ontario, with a summary of the history behind this initiative, the possible benefits and the inevitable difficulties in instituting the legislation. Right now, the legislation is in limbo, because the provincial government is in a state of prorogue. Bob West and Cliff Andrews utilized the Morneau report as the basis for their article in MURAnews... The initiative should allow a province-wide plan, with good investment dealers, to invest in attractive investments that no individual university fund is able to do. Such plans are now in operation in other provinces such as British Columbia and Alberta. The pooling of investment funding would not change the status of individual university plans in terms of shortfall in their pension plans. Thus, it is forward looking, but does not change responsibility of current pension shortfalls. To date, the consultant report has addressed only the concept of investment pooling and not the future cost-share arrangements of such a program. After government reconvenes the likely time line for legislation to ensue is two to three years.

5. Correspondence (Marianne Walters)

5.1 Correspondence with Economical Select

Their inserts will be available for stuffing (electronic and regular mail) with the winter MURAnews. Economical Select raised the possibility of sending snail mail brochures to the MURA electronic mailing list through the known MURA address list. They would provide sealed and stamped envelopes with the MURA return address. We would have to affix the address labels. Since this was only a casual inquiry, Council does not need to take action at this stage.

5.2 Report on CAW meeting between Matt Root and Janice Rischke (Janice Rischke)

Janice reported that Matt Root is aware of the potential consolidation of university pension plan assets. She also noted that there are currently no CAW university retirees who exceed 69 years of age so there are no issues with health benefits administered by Sun Life. Although CAW is forming their own retiree support program, they support and will continue to support MURA for the work they do on the retiree's behalf and Root even offered to pay for printing costs associated with the Christmas luncheon or other MURA events.

6. President's Report (Marianne Walters)

6.1 Moment of Silence to remember Lorraine Allan

6.2 MURAnews tribute to Lorraine Allan

Les King has written a tribute to Lorraine to appear in the winter MURAnews. This will acknowledge her important inputs as a MURA Councillor. **

6.3 Chairman of MURA Pension & Benefits Committee

Marianne Walter's announced that Jack Evan's wishes to assume the Chair of the Pension and Benefits for the remainder of the operating year.

Moved by Mary Johnston, seconded by Helen Barton
'That Jack Evans be appointed as Chair of the Pension and Benefits Committee until the end of May, 2013.'

Carried

7. Treasurer's Report (Beth Csordas)

7.1 Academic awards and endowment fund raising

No Report

7.2 Changes to MURA Banking arrangements

The consolidation of MURA accounts into the pre-existing account of the Bank of Nova Scotia as the main transactional account has been accomplished.

8. Information Reports from Committees

8.1 Christmas Party (Janice Rischke)

The Christmas luncheon expenses came in under budget.

8.2 AGM (Janice Rischke)

The AGM is booked for June 4. In response to Janice's enquiry for an appropriate speaker, two suggestions were made. After discussion the following potential speakers were agreed upon in the following order.

1. Mick Bhatia – 'Stem cell research findings'
2. Irene Turpin - 'Successful aging'

Janice will pursue Bhatia as a potential speaker and if he is not available she will inquire into a suitable substitute. (Helen Barton will help via a contact she knows, if needed)**

8.3 Cards (Helen Dietsche)

Deaths to January 9, 2013

Gerard Field	Mathematics	November 12 2012
Lorraine Allan	Psychology	December 16 2012

8.4 Constitution and By-Laws (Helen Barton)

No Report

8.5 Membership (Linda Grocott)

The current membership rests at 2166 which represents 9 more persons since the last report.

8.6 MURAnews (Kathy Overholt)

All components for the winter edition are on schedule.

8.7 Nominating (Joe Laposa)

Joe reported on his successful efforts to appoint a nominating committee pursuant the discussions in the Dec. 12 Council Meeting.

Moved by Linda Grocott, seconded by Shari Mercer

"That the Nominating Committee for 2013 consist of Joe Laposa(chair), Helen Dietsche, Les King, Jan Peer, and Janice Rischke".

Carried without discussion

8.8 Pensions and Benefits (Jack Evans)

No Report.

8.9 Trips (Kathy Heywood, Mary Johnston, Shari Mercer)

Shari announced the following trips through June 1 of this year as follows

- March 21, 2013 - a guided tour of the Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada plant in Cambridge, Ontario.
- April 4, 2013, the Dunfield Theatre in downtown Cambridge for a matinee performance of Mary Poppins.
- May 27 – 31, 2013. Quebec City is still open for bookings. June 7, 2013.
- A matinee performance of Fiddler on the Roof, in the Festival Theatre in Stratford.

8.10 Web Site (Marianne Van der Wel)

No Report

9. Information Reports from Liaisons

9.1 University Board of Governors (Marianne Walters)

Marianne Walters was the observer for MURA at the December meeting. She said that in the President's Report to the Board he stressed that while the duties of faculty of teaching, research and service has historically been understood to have ratios of 40-40-20, currently this is far less universal. He expressed the view that service is one of the means by which teaching and research is accomplished, and is thus the "heart of all academic activity"..

9.2 CURAC (Marianne Walters)

No Report

9.3 MUFA (Marianne Walters)

Marianne asked if any Council member's would serve in a liaison position with respect to MUFA since dealings sometimes needed more than one representative. Helen Barton and Wayne Rouse volunteered to be on call.

9.4 CAW (MUSA) (Janice Rischke)

No Report

9.5 Hourly Staff Liaison (Dianne Coventry)

No Report

9.6 Hourly Pension Committee (Cliff Andrews)

No Report

9.7 Salaried Pension Committee (Bob West)

No Report

10. Other Business

None

11. Date and Location of Next Meeting

Wed. Feb. 13, 1:30 PM in **MSU 318**.

12. Adjournment

Moved by Helen Dietsche at 2:40 PM

'That the meeting be adjourned'

Carried

21/01/2013