



McMaster University Retirees Association

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Wayne Rouse, Secretary

Minutes for Council Meeting of McMaster University Retirees Association –Wednesday, November 14, 2012, 2:00 PM at MSU, Room 220.

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

1. Welcome & Regrets

Present: Helen Barton, Dianne Coventry, Beth Csordas, Helen Dietsche, Linda Grocott, Kathy Heywood, Karin Hewlett, Mary Johnston, Joe Laposa, Shari Mercer, Kathy Overholt, Janice Rischke, Wayne Rouse, Harold Siroonian, Marianne Van der Wel, Marianne Walters (Chair).

Regrets: Lorraine Allan, Cliff Andrews, Michele Leroux, Bob West.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

2.1 Council Meeting –October 10, 2012 (for approval)

Moved by Kathy Heywood, **seconded by** Joe Laposa
'That the minutes be adopted as circulated'

Carried

3. Human Resources Report (Karin Hewlett)

3.1 Update on process to provide eligible dependents with their own ID number following the death of an active or retired McMaster employee.

Henceforth, eligible dependents will receive their own ID number. This cannot be applied retroactively.

3.2 Update on addressing with Sun Life representative the problems with Europ Assist customer care (i.e. providing serious misinformation or negation of legitimate health claims).

With respect to the last individual concern raised, the problem was a coding error by Sun Life. The coding error has been fixed, and it will be examined retroactively to ensure that if other claimants have been misinformed, corrections will be made. Also, Karin reported that Sun Life will be pursuing a public relations fix with EuroAssist, whereby the latter company gives more training to their staff. MURA should carefully monitor the ongoing problems that our retirees report to see if improvement in customer service actually occurs.

3.3 Termination of notification to MURA of passage of spousal survivors.

Michele Leroux has been handling this so no report at this time is available.

4. Business Arising – updates on

4.1 Academic awards and endowment fund raising (Beth Csordas)

The fund at \$ 48,964 a slight decrease since our October 10 report. The new pledge card requesting further support should be mailed by the week ending November 23.

4.2 MURA website information on out of Province/Country Emergency Travel Insurance (Lorraine Allan)

Marianne Walters reported that the revised document is now on the MURA web page. It contains advanced information on ways to handle claims which involve more than one insurance plan, as well as a printable travel card with a higher resolution

4.3 MURA trips policy and procedures update (distributed) approval of policy required (M. Walters)

Moved by Kathy Heywood, **seconded by** Beth Csordas

'that the distributed revised MURA Trips Policy be accepted as circulated'

Carried without discussion.

4.4 MURA draft response to Community Engagement Position Paper (Mary Johnston) circulated for information and comment

Comments on the response were all favourable. Any subsequent comments should be addressed to johnston@mcmaster.ca within a few days. Subsequently, Marianne Walters will forward our input to the appropriate party involved with the Community Engagement Position Paper.

4.5 Meeting with Parking re retiree parking (M. Walters)

Marianne met with a representative of Parking. Following this meeting, she agreed that the current arrangement should remain in place.

4.6 Ad Hoc Committee on Succession Planning (M. Walters)

A summary of the Ad Hoc Committee on Succession Planning will be presented to the December Council meeting.

5. Correspondence (Marianne Walters)

5.1 CURAC Membership Renewal

Moved by Helen Barton, **seconded by** Marianne Van der Wel

'that MURA's membership in CURAC be renewed for another year'

Carried without discussion.

5.2 Fall Convocation Dinner Nov 15 (Marianne W. and Mary Johnston)

The Fall Convocation Dinner on Nov 15. will be attended by Marianne Walters and Mary Johnston

5.3 Response to Christmas Luncheon invitations to guests of honour.

Most of the invited guests of honour have responded. At this time five guests have indicated that they will attend. There are still a few undecided or non-responding invitees.

6. President's Report (Marianne Walters)

6.1 Resignation of Jack Evans from Council and the position of Vice President

Jack has resigned from Council, and thus from his position as Vice President, but will maintain his role as vice-chair of the Pensions and Benefits committee.

6.2 Motion to appoint Mary Johnston as MURA Vice-President until the 2013 AGM

Moved by Joe Laposa, **seconded by** Shari Mercer

'That Mary Johnston be appointed Vice-President for the remainder of the 2012-13 term'

Carried unanimously

6.3 Reception for New Retirees by Patrick Deane

This event was not well-attended. This may have been due to short-notice and timing of the event, bad weather or other factors. MURA council members were active among the guests in promoting the organization.

6.4 Nominating Committee

Members of the nominating committee will be selected at the Dec. 12 Council meeting. The committee will be chaired by the MURA past-president and will comprise 2 non-MURA Council members and 2 MURA Council members. **

7. Treasurer's Report: (Beth Csordas)

Beth reported that liaison with the amalgamated credit union association is not going smoothly. She is investigating the possibility of shifting our transactions to an existing account held within the Scotia Bank.

8. Information Reports from Committees

8.1 Christmas Luncheon (Janice Rishke)

Events are proceeding as planned. A few changes in timing were agreed to. At this stage the number of attendees is less than last year.

8.2 AGM (Janice Rishke).

Moved by Helen Barton, **seconded by** Marianne Van der Wel

'that the AGM be held on Tuesday June 4'

Carried

8.3 Cards (Helen Dietsche) To Nov 14

Sarah (Sadie) McRoberts	StudentRecords	October 7 2012
L.David Pengelly	Medicine/Engineering Physics	October 23 2012

8.4 Constitution and By-Laws (Helen Barton)

No Report

8.5 Membership (Linda Grocott)

Current MURA membership is 2152

8.6 MURAnews (Kathy Overholt)

The planning committee meeting for the winter edition will be held in early December.

8.7 Nominating (Joe Laposa)
No Report

8.8 Pensions and Benefits (Lorraine Allan)

No specific report. However, Lorraine, Marianne Walters and Jack Evans will be meeting later this week with the MUFA President and the MUFA Chair of Remunerations to discuss the implications of currently employed faculty who are over 69 years of age and who thus fall under the retiree's 10K Out-of Province (Country) travel health benefit. The purpose of the meeting is two-fold. The first is to inform MUFA of what we have learned about the use of the 10K Policy and second, to encourage MUFA to pursue the issue of EuropAssist service providers providing misinformation to claimants with the joint MUFA-University committee negotiations toward the benefit of all who fall under this umbrella.

8.9 Trips (Shari Mercer)

All trip plans are going well. Shari reported that the insurance coverage of our major provider for bus trips is quite adequate.

8.10 Web Site (Marianne Van der Wel)

Marianne noted that after a few glitches the Pension & Benefits section of the MURA website is becoming successfully revised.

9. Information Reports from Liaisons

9.1 University Board of Governors (Lorraine Allan)
No Report

9.2 CURAC Ontario Regional Conference (Marianne Walters)

For a number of reasons beyond control none from MURA made it to the regional meeting. Marianne reported that a number of brief reports from the sessions are now available on the web.

9.3 MUFA (Lorraine Allan)

No specific report. However, Lorraine, Marianne Walters and Joe Laposa will be meeting next week with the MUFA President and the MUFA Chair of Finance to discuss the implications of working faculty are beyond normal retirement age and who thus fall under the retiree's 10K Out-of Province (Country) travel health benefit. The purpose of the meeting is two-fold. The first is to inform MUFA of the implications of the 10K Policy that we have learned, and second, to encourage MUFA to pursue this issue with the joint MUFA-University committee negotiations toward the benefit of all who fall under this umbrella.

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

The McMaster Alumni Association has arranged a couple of talks in Toronto with respect to 'volunteering in retirement'. Mary will investigate with the Alumni Association if similar talks are scheduled for Hamilton.**

11. Date and Location of Next Meeting

Wed. December 12, 2012, 1:30 PM in **MSU 318**. Please note change in room locale.

12. Adjournment

Moved by Helen Dietsche at 3:08 PM

'That the meeting be adjourned'

Carried

02/12/2012