

**Minutes for Council Meeting of McMaster University Retirees Association  
Wednesday, April 12, 2017, 1:30 PM in MUSC 230**

**1. Welcome & Regrets**

**Present:** Cliff Andrews, Brian Beckberger, Dianne Bird, Gail Britton,  
Dianne Coventry, Phyllis DeRosa-Koetting, Nora Gaskin, Heather Grigg,  
Mary Johnston, Les King (chair), Betty Ann Levy, Carolyn Rosenthal,  
Peter Sutherland

**Regrets:** Helen Barton, Beth Csordas, Anna Fleming, and Marianne Van Der Wel

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

2.1 Council Meeting, March 8, 2017 (for approval)

**Moved** by Brian Beckberger, **seconded** by Carolyn Rosenthal

*“that the minutes of March 8, 2017 be approved”*

**Carried.**

**3. Human Resources Report** (Anna Fleming) – no report

**4. President’s Report** (Les King)

An auditor has not yet been found, but an audit by-law has been drafted. See **7.4**

**5. Treasurer’s Report:** (Beth Csordas) – no report

**6. Reports on Special Projects**

**6.1** Academic Awards Endowment (via email)

The fund now stands at \$ 77,208.00, up by \$55 since the last meeting.

**6.2** Archives (Mary Johnston) – no report

**6.3** Fundraising – MURA Cards (Dianne Bird) – no report

## 7. Information Reports from Committees

### 7.1 AGM (Gail Britton)

Gail has written to Dr. Bouchier requesting a brief description of her speech but has had no response as of yet; Les will follow up.

### 7.2 Christmas Lunch (Gail Britton) – no report

### 7.3 Communications (Heather Grigg) -- proposed new MURA web site

Council discussed the Web Review Group report:

- the Wild Apricot trial period ends April 19<sup>th</sup>
- the Web Review Group believes that WA is a reasonably-priced and effective tool for creating and maintaining MURA's web site
- WA currently lacks the functionality required for membership management, so further investigation will be needed
- the plan is to launch the new web site in time for the June AGM
- the new web site will retain the domain name we currently have

**Moved** by Heather Grigg, **seconded** by Carolyn Rosenthal

*“that Council approve the use of Wild Apricot for the new MURA Web site at a cost of \$130 US per month effective April 12, 2017”*

**Carried.**

### 7.4 Constitution and By-Laws (Brian Beckberger) – proposed audit by-law

The MURA Constitution does not address how an auditor is appointed. Rather than amend the Constitution, a subgroup comprising Beth, Les, Helen and Brian decided that a bylaw should serve that purpose. Brian wrote the proposed by-law using the corresponding CURAC by-law as a template.

Proposed By-Law

By-Law 01

The Council, on the recommendation of the Executive, shall appoint an Auditor for each financial year. The Auditor may be a Professional Accountant currently or formerly licensed to practice in the province of Ontario, or another person deemed qualified by Council to review MURA's accounts and statements in accordance with the generally accepted auditing standards set out in the *Chartered Professional Accountants (CPA) Canada Handbook — Assurance*.

Effective Date: April 12, 2017

**Moved** by Brian Beckberger, **seconded** by Dianne Coventry

*“that Council approve proposed By-Law 01”*

**Carried.**

**7.5** Membership (Helen Barton) – report submitted via email

**7.6** *MURAnews* (Phyllis DeRosa-Koetting)

The submission deadline for the Spring edition is Friday April 14th; the stuffing date will be Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup>.

**7.7** Nominating (Mary Johnston)

The final Nominating Committee report will go forward to the AGM. John Horsman, from the Faculty of Health Sciences, has been added as a fourth councillor nominated for office until 2020.

**7.8** Pensions and Benefits (Peter Sutherland)

**7.8.1** There was an inquiry from a member who noticed that a supplier called Assure Health (AHP) was listed beside the dispensing fee on a prescription slip. Assure Health refers to a third party company that processes electronic drug claims for about 10 different insurance companies. This company is TELUS Health, a provider of claims and benefits management systems and other digital health technologies, which Sun Life refers to on their web site as their "pharmacy benefit manager"; so Sun Life is still managing the prescription drug plan, but Assure Health/TELUS Health is managing the electronic submission of claims in pharmacies.

**7.8.2** Parking: Council considered asking Parking Services to clarify whether or not the latest parking passes are to be renewed every year, even for retirees. Since there has been no news about the need to renew them, the consensus was to let sleeping dogs lie.

**7.9** Trips & Special Events (Mary Johnston)

Thirty-three people have signed up for the RBG Rock Garden tour on May 11<sup>th</sup>, and there is now a waiting list.

**7.10** Volunteering (Betty Ann Levy) – no report

**7.11** Web Site (Marianne Van der Wel) – no report

## 8. Information Reports from Liaisons

8.1 University Board of Governors (Betty Ann Levy) – no report

8.2 CURAC (Mary Johnston)

CURAC has a new web site. The web master Dave Swayne will be happy to take care of anything that needs correcting or updating. His contact information is at the bottom of each web page. There is a “Members Corner” at the site for news from member organizations. Members are encouraged to submit newsworthy items.

8.3 MUFA (Betty Ann Levy) – no report

8.4 Unifor (CAW/MUSA) (Dianne Bird)

The next meeting will take place after the next Unifor liaison is appointed.

8.5 Hourly Staff Liaison (Dianne Coventry) – no report

8.6 Hourly Pension Committee (Cliff Andrews) – no report

8.7 Salaried Pension Committee (Brian Beckberger)

The next meeting is scheduled for May 11<sup>th</sup>.

## 9. Other Business

The issue of the definition of a retiree may now become part of collective agreements. It was agreed that it would be a good idea to get in touch with other CURAC members to see what definitions, if any, they have and to ask them to share any documentation. Heather and Nora will raise the issue with the other delegates at the CURAC conference.

**Moved** by Brian Beckberger at 2:21 pm

*“that the meeting be adjourned”*

**Carried.**