



**McMaster University Retirees Association**  
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Wayne Rouse, Secretary

**AGENDA for COUNCIL MEETING of McMaster University Retirees Association –Wednesday, February 10, 2010, 1:30PM at Student Centre Room 224.**

**1. Welcome & Regrets**

**GOODBYE TO MARIANNE**

**2. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

- a) Council Meeting –January 13-for approval

**3. Business Arising**

- (a) **Update -academic awards and endowment fund raising campaign**  
(Beth Csordas)
- (b) **Update -2010 – 25<sup>th</sup> MURA Anniversary** (Mike Hedden)
- (c) **Update re Supplementary Pension Benefits for Clinical Faculty**  
(Helen Barton/Les Robb)
- (d) **Facilitating paid employment positions via MURAmembs-I**  
(Michelle Leroux)

**4. Correspondence** (Joan Parker)

Chip Inkster has been in touch and she will be sending some photographs of early MURA Council activities.

**5. President's Report** (Joan Parker)

**Items arising from executive meeting, Feb. 3, 2010.**

**a) Need for a policy for allowing retirees to use MURA as a vehicle for advertising "trips".**

The following recommendation was agreed upon. MURA generally does not support advertising of travel trips on its information outlets to members. If a trip is to be led by a McMaster retiree and if it has educational content, then the executive would make decisions in order to expedite matters. Where there was a 'grey' area then Council could be consulted.

**b) Back-up for strategic positions on Council.**

After discussion the executive agreed that we need documentation on all of our major portfolios with respect to the responsibilities of the portfolio and its ongoing activities. Such documentation should be incorporated a.s.a.p. on the MURA web site and updated regularly. It was further agreed that Joan Parker will select appropriate Council members and request that they act on the above agreement. Initially this can be simply a worksheet with point form about the duties and activities which can then be streamlined into an Activities Portfolio on the MURA web site. It is hoped that the leader will take responsibility for regular updating of the site and provide an initial format within the next month. This is seen as extremely important for back up of the portfolios so that, in case of need, a deputy member can step in and maintain continuity.

In terms of need for lead and back up positions, the following order of priority for MURA was determined.

- Web Site updating and maintenance
- MURANews
- MURAmembs-1
- Membership data base
- Treasurer
- Secretary

**c) Need of technical people for Council vacancies.**

With respect to nominations and renewal on Council there was discussion about the need for appointing Council members (or others) with specific skills and interests to maintain our capabilities to fulfill our obligations to our members. The need is particularly acute with respect to Marianne Van der Wel's resignation from MURA council. Until now, she has been maintaining and upgrading the MURA website, as well as undertaking

primary role in editing and publishing MURAnews. As is evident in b) above, these are the highest priority items for MURA and this need will probably accelerate over time.

**d) AGM.**

Helen Barton has enlisted Alvin Lee as the feature speaker at this year's AGM. Dr. Lee will be discussing changes in McMaster over the past 25 yrs to help celebrate MURA's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**e) Peter George's reception.**

It was agreed that we recommend to Council that Joe Laposa should represent MURA at Peter George's retirement reception. Helen Barton would be back up.

**f) Marianne's decision to resign and consequences.**

Marianne presented her many-faceted activities within MURA, how they interrelated and the difficulties she has faced, particularly in piecing together MURAnews. She emphasized that communications within organizations of this type are paramount to success. She suggested that a Communications Committee to coordinate all of the multi-faceted communication aspects of MURA activities might be a good move.

**g) Volunteering**

When MURA gets requests for volunteers and sends out the information on MURAmembs-1 and/or MURAnews, responses to these requests should be directed to Laura Escalante in the Alumni Development Office. The Alumni Development Office is positioned to screen the applicants and to put them in touch with the requesting departments (agencies).

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

**7. Information Reports from Committees**

**(a) Christmas Luncheon Report** (Pam Penny)

**(b) AGM** (Pam Penny/Joe Laposa)

**(c) Cards** (Helen Dietsche)

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

- (e) **Membership** (Pam Penny/Joe Laposa)
- (f) **MURAnews** (Kathy Overholt)
- (g) **Nominating** (Helen Barton)
- (h) **Pensions and Benefits** (Marianne Walters)
- (i) **Special Events**
- (j) **Trips** (Joan Parker/Ann Sinclair)
- (k) **Web Site**

## **8. Information Reports from Liaisons**

- (a) **University Board of Governors** (Lorraine Allan)
- (b) **College and University Retirees Assoc. of Canada (CURAC)** (Joan Parker)
- (c) **MUFA** (Lorraine Allan, Marianne Walters)
- (d) **CAW (MUSA)**
- (e) **Hourly Staff Liaison** (Al Fraser)
- (f) **Hourly Pension Committee** (Cliff Andrews)
- (g) **Salaried Pension Committee** (Les Robb)

## **9. Other Business**