



**UMRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 19, 2014
543-544 University Centre**

Present: Members: Gunter Baureiss, R. Bose, Ernie Bridges, Lois Brockman, Marjorie Doyle, Jay Goldstein, S. Holborn, Stella Hryniuk, Bruce Johnston, J. LaRonde, Doug MacEwan, Brian Macpherson, Janice Mann, P. Newman, Jean Paterson, David. Punter, M. Struthers, Ed Unrau, Gene Walz, Jean Zushman.

Associate Members: C. Goldstein, B. Unrau

Guest: J. Newman

Regrets: D. Cooley, D. Sitar

Ed Unrau called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Motion (Mann/Doyle) that the agenda be approved.

Carried

2. Approval of the Minutes, 2013 AGM

Motion (Macpherson/Paterson) that the minutes be approved.

Carried

3. Business Arising

There was no business arising.

4. Reports

a. President: (Ed Unrau) The University of Manitoba Retirees Endowment Fund (UMREF) is now in place. A meeting with Greg Juliano, Associate Vice-President (Human Resources) was held in August. Issues raised were the high priority placed by the UMRA executive on the concept of a "retirement centre" and whether retirees, both support and academic, can be engaged as volunteers to enhance student experience and the educational mission of the university. The meeting ended with the suggestion that at least one brainstorming session be convened to explore the possibilities. Ed welcomed ideas from those in attendance which he could take forward. He attended the 12th Annual conference of the College and University Retiree Association of Canada. All shared the challenge of reminding their administrations that retiree associations in general, and retirees in particular are an important constituency with potential. He thanked every member of the executive committee was always helpful.

b. Vice-President: (Dan Sitar) Jay Goldstein presented on behalf of Dan Sitar. The vice-president monitors the UMRA phone and passes on calls for computer assistance, membership and address changes to the appropriate executive chair. One day turnaround service for computers should not be expected.

c. Treasurer – (Marjorie Doyle) The investments did well. Eventually a decision on what to do

with the funds will have to be made. More retirees are getting lifetime memberships. Two years in a row the costs to attend CURAC have been shared with administration. Also, they pay our membership dues which are based on the number of members we have. Ed thanked Marjorie for serving as treasurer as she is stepping down. He asked if anyone cared to volunteer to take over the position. Marjorie has agreed to help out.

d. Membership: (Jean A. Paterson) UMRA has 630 members (208 – lifetime; 94 – annual; 328 – associate). New members since Sept. 2013 – 25 lifetime; 27 annual; 20 associate. Associate members do not pay a fee. Our website is excellent and provides a great deal of information for retirees in general. Jay was thanked for keeping the list of members updated. Linda Rzeszutek was added to the membership committee. Ed pointed out that the lifetime membership fees are locked in and we depend on the annual fees to operate. The executive will have to consider a modest fee increase in the dues.

e. Communications: (Bruce Johnston) Responsible for the Retiree News, web site, mailing list. The guideline followed for adding outside links requires that they be of general interest and not area specific e.g. Fort Richmond only.

f. Benefits and Pension Committee: Members have not met as their chair, Betty Johns passed away. The committee will be meeting later this week with an interim chair.

g. Interest Groups: Ed Unrau reported that there has been no activity in this area and we may have to rethink its purpose.

h. ad hoc Retiree Centre Committee: (Lois Brockman) There has been no progress to report but the committee remains active. Lois provided a brief history of events from June 4, 2012 to February 2014. The last item is a decision by January 2015 about the Phase II Rapid Transit route.

i. Endowment Fund Committee: (Doug MacEwan) A \$15,000 bursary matched by the Government of Manitoba is now available. Information can be found on the UMRA web site.

j. Nominating Committee: (Jay Goldstein) Jean Zushman was thanked for serving two terms as secretary. Vacant positions are secretary and treasurer. If a treasurer is not nominated at this meeting, the executive could appoint someone. Marjorie has agreed to help them out. The nominating committee moved (Goldstein/Walz) that Dennis Cooley be elected for a two-year term as Secretary. Moved (Goldstein/Paterson) that Marjorie Doyle be elected for a two-year term as a Member-at-Large. Carried

5. By-Law Amendment: Re Nominating Committee: for information only. That By-Law 1.3.1 read: The Nominating Committee shall consist of the Past President of the Association, who shall act as chair, and two other members-at-large of the Executive Committee elected by the Executive Committee.

6. New Business – There was no new business.

7.Adjournment – Moved (Goldstein/Walz) that the meeting be adjourned at 1:30 p.m.