

Saint Mary's University Retirees Association
Minutes of the *Annual General Meeting* June 23rd 2017
Boondocks restaurant, Eastern Passage, NS

Present: Ron Cospers (President), Geraldine Thomas (Past Pres.), John Young (VP), Shripad Pendse (Treasurer), Keith Vaughan (Secretary *pro tem*) and Marion Sensen, Paul Bowlby, Anne-Marie Dalton, Andy and Jane Seaman, Guy and Peggy Chauvin, Wally and Barbara Mills, Fred Young, Colin Howell and Sandy Gallaway, Pat Fitzgerald, Margot Schenk, Susanne Dansereau, Elaine and Archie McCulloch, Michael Herrick, Bert Hartnell, Arun Mukhopadhyay, Tony Farrell and Beverly d'Entremont, Rowland Marshall

Regrets: Wendy Katz, Susan Walter

1. Welcome and Call to Order at 1:45 pm
2. Adoption of the Agenda as circulated.
Moved by Paul Bowlby that the agenda be adopted , seconded by Shripad Pendse. Carried unanimously.
3. Appointment of Secretary : Keith Vaughan (*pro tem*)
4. Approval of minutes of 2016 Annual General Meeting as circulated. Moved by Guy Chauvin, seconded by Roland Marshall. Carried unanimously.
5. Treasurers Annual Report
Shripad Pendse presented a verbal report regarding the financial state of the SMURA account. The BMO account has a balance of \$2142.14 as of today. This is after deducting the \$500 payment to the President to off-set travel expenses incurred while attending the CURAC meeting. There are currently 30 members who have paid their \$25 fee for 2017, compared to 35 paid up members at the same date a year ago.

Adoption of the Treasurers Report was moved by Shripad Pendse, seconded by Keith Vaughan. Carried unanimously.
6. Presidents Annual Report

President Ron Cospier gave a verbal report highlighting the recent arrangements for Health Insurance of members via the Plan of the RTO and CURAC. Ron also summarized the recent activities of SMURA (talks and lunches) and reminded members of the provision by the University of room Burke 308 for the use of all paid-up members of SMURA. Ron also reminded members of the forthcoming annual meeting of CURAC to be held in Halifax in 2018.

7. Election of the Executive and Board for 2017-2018: Report of the Nominating Committee

Geraldine Thomas reported for the nominating committee (GT, RC & KV) with the presentation of a slate of officers to be nominated as follows:

President: Ron Cospier

Past President: Geraldine Thomas

Vice-President: Keith Vaughan

Treasurer: Shripad Pendse

Secretary: Susan Walter

Members at Large: Michael Herrick
Andrew Seaman
John Young
Elaine McCulloch
Wally Mills
Wendy Katz
Roland Marshall
Bert Hartnell
David Turner

A motion to approve the slate of officers was moved by Geraldine Thomas, seconded by Fred Young. Carried unanimously.

8, Appointment of the Auditor

As in previous years, it was suggested that Milt Chew be asked to Audit the books of SMURA. Moved by Shripad Pendse, seconded by Keith Vaughan. Carried unanimously.

9. Report of the Programme Committee (Bert Hartnell and Keith Vaughan)

SMURA has had a full programme of activities (talks and lunches) over the last academic year with the highlights as follows chronologically:

2016 September 18 th (Sun)	Pot Luck at home with Nicky and John Young
September 25 th (Sun)	“The Academic Novels of David Lodge”
November 6 th (Sun)	Talk by Richard Perkins “Walking the Appalachian Trail” Talk by Michael Herrick
December 9 th (Fri)	Xmas lunch at the Henry House on Barrington
2017 January 22 nd (Sun)	“Yellowstone National Park” Talk by Keith Vaughan and Marion Sensen
February 17 th (Fri)	Lunch at Le Bistro
March 31 st (Fri)	Lunch at Salty’s on the Waterfront
April 23 rd (Sun)	“Ticks” Talk by Andrew Hebda NSMNH
June 4 th (Sun)	“NS Wild Bees” Talk by Emily Walker SMU Ph.D. student
June 23 rd (Fri)	Lunch at Boondocks/ AGM

Future events

July TBA	Talk on Dialectology by Bill Davy
September TBA	Pot Luck at Home – location TBA
Date TBA	Presentation of historic photos of Budapest and Prague to be coordinated by Fred Young.
Date TBA	Talk by Michael Herrick on “Death and Dying”.

November TBA Talk/ slide show by Keith Vaughan & Marion Sensen
“ California 2016” – a Travelogue of their visit to many of the National Parks of Central and Northern California.

10. Other Business

10a. Change in the SMURA constitution.

The Chair introduced this item which basically proposes that SMURA open its membership to retired faculty from Nova Scotia universities that do not have their own retirees association. The following motion was made by Ron Cospers, seconded by Geraldine Thomas:

Change Article II of the Constitution -- Membership to read:

*1. **Eligibility for Membership.** Any person who has retired from Saint Mary's University, the spouse/partner of a deceased retiree from Saint Mary's University, and any person who is an employee of Saint Mary's University and is within six years of age sixty-five may become a Member of the Association on payment of the applicable dues and subscription to the Objects of the Association.*

Proposed changes:

“within six years of age sixty-five” replace with “at least 59 years old”

Add the sentence below:

“Membership shall also be open to retirees from other Maritime Universities, with the exclusion of universities already having retirees' associations.”

Rationale:

The change would give persons retired from universities without retiree associations, the opportunity to participate in retirees' activities and in CURAC. These are relatively small institutions and their numbers would not likely have a large impact on the size of SMURA. This proposal would also augment the visibility and usefulness of SMURA in the

community.

Advantages:

Larger pool of potential participants in events. More dues paid. Greater visibility and voice for SMURA.

The Motion carried unanimously.

10b. It was moved by Geraldine Thomas, seconded by Pat Fitzgerald, that SMURA make a contribution from its own funds towards the cost of the CURAC meeting scheduled for Halifax NS in 2018. The motion was carried with 1 opposed.

10c. Paul Bowlby moved a vote of thanks to the SMURA executive for its work during 2016-2017. Carried.

11. The meeting adjourned at ???? pm