

UVIC RETIREES ASSOCIATION
23rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
JUNE 1st 2016

The 23rd Annual General Meeting of the UVRA was held on June 1st 2016 in room A116 of the MacLaurin Building. Approximately 20 members attended with President Peter Liddell in the chair.

Peter Liddell opened the meeting by welcoming members and requesting a moment of silence in memory of those members who had died.

1. **Approval of the Agenda** The agenda was approved as circulated.
Scarfe/Whittington
2. **Minutes of the 2015 AGM**
Motion: That the minutes of the 2015 AGM be accepted as circulated.
Pearce/Whittington Approved
3. **Business Arising** There was no business arising from the minutes.
4. **Committee Reports**

4.1 President's Report - Peter Liddell. In addressing the highlights of his report Peter noted the following:

- thanks were due to the Institute for Aging and Lifelong Health (formerly COAG) for their assistance and co-operation, particularly with the co-sponsoring of the highly successful end-of-the-year party;
- thanks were also due to Jane Milliken for her excellent organisation of social events during the year, and to Geri van Gyn for her very successful coordination of the MasterMinds lecture series;
- the Tri-Universities Retirees Association had met in Victoria and it was interesting to note from the discussions that UVRA had the lowest fees and the healthiest budget; and
thanks were due to Board Members and to all UVRA volunteers.

4.2 Treasurer's Report - Dick Chappell. The treasurer outlined the current financial situation and the fact that our current balance is significantly higher than last year.

4.3 Benefits - Winona Pugh. Winona noted that the Johnson medical policy continues to be an important factor in attracting retirees to the UVRA.

4.4 Communications - Melvin Klassen. Mel told the meeting that there is still work to be done refreshing the UVRA website and that volunteers are needed to help.

4.5 Membership - Zulette Gordon. Zulette told the meeting that the transfer of membership information to the UVic centralized file-servers, which is necessary for ready access, is not yet complete. She reported that our current membership stands at 636 of which 510 are life or honorary members and the remaining 126 are annual members.

4.6 Social Events - Jane Milliken. Jane reported that she felt it had been a successful year culminating in an extremely interesting tour of the CRD watershed. She noted that she will be stepping down from the Board this year and encouraged other members to get involved with the organization of the much-appreciated events.

4.7 Elder Academy - David Docherty was unable to attend the AGM. Members raised questions concerning the future relationship of the Elder Academy with the University. This issue will be brought forward for discussion when the Memorandum of Understanding is discussed with the University Administration.

4.8 Masterminds Lectures - Geri van Gyn was unable to attend the AGM and was represented by Lois Holizki. Lois reported that there were issues with both venue and scheduling of the lecture series and efforts were being made to overcome these. Geri van Gyn will be stepping down as organizer of these lectures but the planning for the coming year is already in place. Board member, Beverly Timmons has agreed to become chair of this committee.

4.9 Newsletter - Lois Holizki - Lois offered her thanks to Mel Klassen for his assistance and support during the year. She noted the need for photographs, articles, and assistance with proof-reading.

4.10 UVRA Office. Peter Liddell reported that Lou Schmidt and Sandra Thiboudeau have generously agreed to organize the office and to jointly have responsibility for the ongoing management of the work to be carried out by volunteers. He noted that organizing work was already underway and that it was hoped to have the new regime in place by September. The office will be closed in July and August.

4.11 United Way. Grant Hughes. Grant noted that, as before, the UVRA functioned as a distinct component of the UVIC campaign and in 2015 had exceeded the sums previously raised which had contributed to the UVic campaign exceeding its goal. He thanked those members who had contributed and noted that this year's campaign will start in September.

4.12 University Club. David Leeming, the UVRA'S representative on the board of the University Club, noted that the UVRA Christmas buffet lunch had been held at the Club. He informed the meeting that the Club Board would be considering the UVRA Board's proposal that UVRA members be granted a free one-year associate membership in the University Club.

Members discussed the fact that there appear to be reciprocal relationships between the UVic University Club and other similar clubs in the city. The two mentioned were the Victoria Yacht Club and the Union Club. Enquiries will be made to ascertain if there are other such arrangements.

Members also sought information on the formal relationship between the Club and the University. It was stated that they are independent entities and that the Club has to be self-sustaining. It was agreed that a letter would be written to David Leeming asking for verification of that status.

Motion: That the committee reports be accepted. Timmons/Gerald

Approved

5. Amendments to Constitution and By-laws

Peter informed the meeting that changes to the BC *Societies Act* make it necessary to present motions to amend the constitution and by-laws at this time. The new Act will come into effect in November 2016 and societies are given two years to be in compliance. However, it will be easier for UVRA to bring itself into compliance if the proposed changes are approved now. A committee will be formed which will examine the new statute in detail, learn as much as possible about the government's recommendations, and bring forward proposals for other required changes to a further meeting of members.

It was agreed to move acceptance of all four motions in one vote.

Motion 1) That Part 1: Constitution of UVic Retirees Association, Section 2 be amended by adding sub-section "f) to be a member based society."

Motion 2) That Part 2: By-laws, Section 2.1 Categories of Membership be amended by re-wording to read:

- a) Full Member - Employees of the University of Victoria who have officially retired from that institution and present employees who are planning to retire from the University of Victoria in the near future and have reached pensionable age (55+) are eligible to apply to become Members of the Association. On acceptance by the Association's Membership Committee and on payment of the required Membership dues, an eligible person becomes a Member in good standing of the UVic Retirees Association.

- b) Honorary Member - A person is appointed as an Honorary Member on the recommendation of the Executive Board and the approval of the membership in recognition of exceptional service to the UVic Retirees Association or to the University of Victoria. On approval by the membership the person becomes an Honorary Member in good standing of the UVic Retirees Association.
- c) Associate Member - Employees of other universities and of University of Victoria affiliated institutions, organizations and entities who have reached pensionable age (55+) and who are officially retired or are planning to retire in the near future from that institution are eligible to apply to become Associate Members of the Association. On acceptance by the Association's Membership Committee and on payment of the required Associate Membership dues, an eligible person becomes and Associate Member in good standing of the UVic Retirees Association. The number of Associate Members shall not exceed fifteen percent (15%) of the total number of Members entitled to vote.
- d) Spousal Members - The spouse of a Full Member, Associate Member or Honorary Member who has reached pensionable age (55+) is eligible to apply to become a Spousal Member of the Association. On application to the Association's Membership Committee that person becomes a Spousal Member in good standing of the UVic Retirees Association. Spousal Members are not required to pay dues, are not entitled to vote and do not have direct access to any other benefits. If a spouse wishes to be entitled to vote, he or she may apply to become an Associate Member or a Full Member, if eligible. Spouses of deceased Full, Honorary or Associate Members who have reached pensionable age (55+) are eligible to apply to become Associate Members with the same term category (may assume Lifetime membership or assume Annual membership with related membership dues) as the deceased member.

Consequential wording amendments are required to Sections 1.1 b) and 2.2 a)

- Motion 3) That Part 2 - By-laws Section 1.1 Terms be amended by adding:
Sub-section j) Official Retiree of the University means the individual is 55 or older and has formally declared his/her retirement through Human Resources.

- Motion 4) That Part 2 - By-laws, Section 2.4 Membership Period shall be amended to read:

The annual membership period shall run from April 1 to March 31. The first year of membership shall be divided into half and the membership fee shall be prorated according to the beginning of the half in which the member joins. The prepaid membership period shall be for the full specified prepaid term. Annual and prepaid membership fees are not refundable. Annual fees shall be due and payable April 1 of each year.

Pearce/Gordon

Approved

6. **Nominating Committee** - Barbara Whittington for David Docherty

It was noted that there are two Board positions to be filled. Sandra Rifat and Grant Hughes were nominated from the floor.

Motion: That the list of names provided by the Nominating Committee, plus the names of Sandra Rifat and Grant Hughes, be accepted to serve as members of the UVRA Board for 2016/17 .

Whittington/Neufeldt

Approved

7. **New Business** Memorandum of Understanding. The proposal for the Memorandum of Understanding to be negotiated with the University was circulated for information and discussion. Questions were raised as to the extent the UVRA would wish to be a unit of the University - would the benefits exceed the negative outcomes? Peter said that it was the Board's intention to form a committee and to seek further member-input before going into negotiations with the University.

Peter thanked members for attending the meeting.

8. **Motion to Adjourn**

That the 23rd Annual General Meeting of the UVRA be adjourned.

Gordon/Morris

Approved.