

**McMaster Association of Part-Time Students
Special General Meeting Minutes
Friday January 8, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.
Council Chambers, Gilmour Hall Room 111**

PRESENT Jerusalem Addisu, Min-Ju Evans, Elaine Marion (Chair), Rose O'Connor, Violet Wakeman-Ajandi, Ian Walker, Candace Waterkamp,

BY PROXY Jeanette Button, Kate Pratas, Rob Vokes

STAFF Sam Minniti (Executive Director), Terri Jones (Office Administrator)

CONSTITUTION OF THE MEETING

The chair, Elaine Marion, certified that notice had been duly served. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order.

ATTACHMENTS TO THE OFFICIAL COPY OF THE MINUTES

- Agenda
- MAPS Bylaw Excerpt with proposed amendments (tracked changes)

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Moved by Waterkamp, seconded by Walker that the agenda be adopted as presented.
Carried Unanimously.

2. MAPS' DUES

Minniti explained that the MAPS Board of Directors, at its most recent meeting on December 3, 2009, had entertained a motion to increase MAPS' dues (membership fees) from \$5.00/unit to \$7.00/unit in order to undertake an expansion of service delivery and support for both degree and certificate/diploma students including a capital gift of \$1,000,000 for the proposed Liberal Arts Building, similar to MAPS' capital gift to McMaster University for the McMaster University Student Centre. Minniti noted that this is the first proposed dues increase in nine years, and that MAPS' membership fee is currently not automatically indexed to the consumer price index (CPI). Marion referenced "Section 6 – Dues" of the MAPS Bylaw, and indicated that the Board of Directors had met the minimum two-thirds majority requirement of endorsing such a motion (by a unanimous vote) to the general membership.

Motion: Moved by Wakerkamp, seconded by O'Connor that the membership amend MAPS' dues from \$5.00/unit to \$7.00/unit (effective September 2010) in order to undertake an expansion of service delivery and support for MAPS members including, but not limited to, a capital gift of \$1,000,000 to the proposed Liberal Arts Building as per the standing resolution unanimously passed by the MAPS Board of Directors on December 3, 2009.
Carried Unanimously.

3. MAPS BYLAW AMENDMENT

Minniti explained that he and MAPS' President, Elaine Marion, had discussed giving the MAPS Board of Directors greater autonomy in setting MAPS' dues via MAPS' Bylaw, without the need for always going to the general membership, especially for modest fee increases.

Marion indicated that a reasonable capped threshold by which the MAPS Board of Directors would need to seek approval by the general membership would be increases of \$5.00/unit or more.

Waterkamp inquired if it would make more sense to use a percentage for the capped threshold as opposed to a dollar value.

Minniti agreed that a percentage for the capped threshold would be better since the value of money obviously depreciates with time; that the value and purchasing power of \$5.00 today would be very different than in 80 years. Minniti added that he would review the fee increases since MAPS' inception and convert them to a percentage change so as to recommend a reasonable capping threshold percentage along with the other proposed bylaw changes for the next Annual General Meeting (AGM) or Special General Meeting (SGM).

Marion added that Minniti's research would be interesting and helpful and that using a percentage capping threshold versus a dollar value should be something that next year's Board of Directors and membership should ultimately determine, but that the membership should still proceed at this point with a dollar amount cap.

Motion: Moved by Wakeman-Ajandi seconded by Waterkamp that the membership amend "Section 6 – Dues" of the MAPS Bylaw as following:

DUES

6. Dues shall be fixed from time to time by Standing Resolution approved by a two-thirds vote of the board of directors, which vote shall become effective only when confirmed by a vote of the members at an AGM or SGM no later than March 31.

change to

DUES

6. Dues shall be fixed from time to time by Standing Resolution approved by a two-thirds vote of the board of directors. If the fixing of dues results in an increase larger than \$5.00/unit, then such, which a vote shall become effective only when confirmed by a vote of the members at an AGM or SGM no later than March 31.

Carried Unanimously.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Marion asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Moved by Waterkamp, seconded by Walker that the Special General Meeting (SGM) adjourn.

Carried Unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.