

Faculty Club Council

Annual General Meeting

June 13, 2018 2:00 PM Old Montreal Room

Present: Ian Butler, President; Edith Zorychta, Past President; Stefano Algieri, Vice-President; Abe Kestenberg, Secretary; Nicolas Zrihen, General Manager (GM); Adrian Chu, Assistant Manager; Valerie Kinslow; John Galaty; Philip Smith; Axel Van-Den Berg; Peter McNally; Olivia Jensen; Beverlaa Tallant

Adoption of Agenda

Jensen, 2nd Algieri Carried

Adoption of Minutes 2017 AGM

McNally, 2nd Algieri Carried

Business Arising

None

President's Report (Ian S. Butler)

This has been a busy year at the Faculty Club. I will just highlight the main points. Other members on Council will provide more specific details as our meeting proceeds.

- The special events over the year were usually well attended. We had two Opera Nights with dinner, thanks to the efforts of our Vice-President, Stefano Algieri; a Robbie Burns Night; the Annual Christmas Lunch and Children's Brunch; and a Mother's Day Brunch. There were also several successful national food festivals, such as the two-week long Lobster Festival. In addition, there were five events held throughout the year in conjunction with MAUT: a Welcome Gathering in September 2017; an Oktoberfest/Apple picking and a barbecue at the Macdonald College campus in October 2017; MAUT's Guide to the University in November 2017; a Winter Brunch in January 2018; and a Tenure and Mentoring Workshop in April 2018. Similar jointly sponsored events are being planned for the 2018-19 academic year.
- The Tuesday afternoon Bridge Club has continued to meet all year thanks to the organization of Dorothy Thomas Edding.
- The Trivia Nights, hosted by our Past President, David Harpp, were a resounding success. This year, about \$3,600 was raised for Centraide. Over the past 8 years,

about \$23,000 has been generated for this worthy cause. A 9th Trivia season is being planned.

- The McTavish Lounge in the basement was completed and officially opened during last fall. Its use is steadily increasing.

The total membership of the Faculty Club is 906 members, a little lower than I anticipated. There are 817 members paying the annual \$60 fee, 54 non-faculty members (e.g. McGill administrators), who pay \$254 per year, and 35 other members (i.e. business professionals or alumni members), who pay \$300 per year. Clearly, some advertising is needed to boost the general membership, and this is one of the things I plan to do in the next year.

- MAUT has apparently started an internal discussion about the possibility of having a joint MAUT/Faculty Club membership. Nothing has been formally proposed to us as yet.
- As some of you may know, the University Club, located at 2047 Mansfield, has now been closed and the building has been sold. The members of this club have relocated their activities to the St. James Club at 1145 Union Avenue since January 2018. In May, we were approached by the outgoing President of the University Club, Mr. Zaurrini, about the possibility of some of their members (possibly about 200-300) being allowed to join the Faculty Club and for them to hold some of their usual activities here. Following discussions with the General Manager and the two Past Presidents, Edith Zorychta and David Harpp, a letter signed by both the General Manager and myself was sent to Mr. Zaurinni describing the following conditions for University Club members to join the Faculty Club:
 - (a) Some of the University Club members may already be McGill professors, lecturers or librarians and they can join at the \$60 per year rate. If they are McGill administrators, they can join at the \$254 rate. Others can join as either Business Professionals or Alumni members (if appropriate) at the \$300 rate.
 - (b) As members, they will have access to all the dining and bar facilities, events, etc., that take place in the Faculty Club and be able to pay for these services by credit card.

They will be able to plan their usual events through the Faculty Club Catering Office. These events will be considered as catering events.

- (a) They will not be subject to the same privileges as the McGill Faculty Club events. Room rental, bartender fee, food and beverage and audio-visual facilities will be charged accordingly, and these events can be paid via credit card or cheque.
- (b) They will have free spousal membership in the Faculty Club.
- (c) They will have free WiFi access within the Faculty Club.

- (d) They will be able to access the reciprocal services shared with other faculty clubs worldwide that are affiliated with the Association of College University Clubs (AUCC). The directory is available from Membership Services upon request.

The University Club has just had its own AGM. We expect to hear back from either Mr. Zaurinni or the new President very soon to let us know whether they are interested in joining the Faculty Club under these conditions. Since the bulk of the prospective new members would be joining as Business Professionals, they will generate more income for the Faculty Club. Moreover, it should be noted that, according to the Constitution of the Faculty Club, they will not be able to serve as members of Council. The relationship between the University Club and the Faculty Club could either be a short-term arrangement or a longer one depending on how things work out.

Zrihen (GM) says that the new members from other clubs will follow the Faculty Club (FC) operations.

Jensen says that these members from other clubs could always join as private members.

GM says they will be with us until they find another location for themselves.

Zorychta adds that the University Club was much in debt.

Algieri says that the FC should stay as we are and not rebrand ourselves.

Galaty asks if these members had a board.

Financial Report (Edith Zorychta for Antal Deutsch)

Zorychta says that the main expenses of the FC are salaries and major and minor renovations and mentions that she will try to undertake more woodwork restorations.

There was a change of executive chefs this past season as our chef retired, but things did not work out as hoped for and now our retired executive chef returned to help.

Our newly hired executive chef is working out well.

Zorychta states that the lounge in the basement has opened and that it is a beautiful place.

The FC is doing well.

Galaty asks about University management and services it provides.

Zorychta says that the University is listing the services it provides such as snow clearing, electricity, etc.

Zorychta explains the salary diversion and states that she receives yearly updates on the amount of the salary diversion. She also states that the FC has been well managed for years, which has been outstanding for the club, and states that the FC is solvent.

Jensen says that Zorychta has done a fine job of maintaining the salary diversion.

Zorychta explained the inauguration of the salary diversion and its history.

Galaty says that there was a referendum on the salary diversion years ago and that the academic staff voted to carry on with the salary diversion.

Galaty states the FC should continue to brief the administration so that it understands the salary diversions history and how it operates.

Van-Den Berg asks if new MAUT members could become members of the FC at the same time.

Jensen says that an FC Membership line should be added to the MAUT membership form in order to facilitate the process.

Zorychta explains how little time new young academic members have.

Algieri states that the FC membership forms are handed out at several events.

Algieri makes a motion that *the MAUT membership forms have a Faculty Club membership line added in order to make the FC membership easy and that the first year of membership be gratis.*

2nd Galaty Carried

McNally asks about the reserve fund and Zorychta responds that the fund is close to our goal.

General Manager's Report

The GM states that the FC is functioning well. Renovations over the past season are complete and paid for, and the FC is left with a profit.

The GM listed many of the renovations and improvements that have taken place, such as the installation of sprinklers and a bain marie in the kitchen, addition of audio-visual equipment in Billiard Room, etc.

There was a change of executive chef because of retirement. This was accomplished quite smoothly with the help of the retired executive chef. Although the first hire did not work out as planned, the retired executive chef returned to help the FC and the GM again. This time things seem to have worked quite well. Our retired executive chef helped train the new chef, as there is always a lot to learn. These changes of personnel added to the expenses of the FC but the situation is now under control.

The GM explained how the FC receives its revenue.

The GM says that catering is essential to the successful operation of the FC.

For events at the FC during the year, please refer to President's report.

The GM congratulates Chu for his wonderful contribution.

The GM says that in the coming year the heating system must be evaluated and necessary repairs will be made. The front door will be slightly revamped. A gas fireplace will be installed in the lounge, an expense that has already been paid.

The GM states that the University is responsible for the shell of our building but adds that the University and the FC might tackle some issues together. The GM says it is essential that the building stay in excellent condition as it is a flagship for McGill.

Neil Stewart, a guest at the Faculty Club AGM, says that it is wonderful to see the FC being run well and, as a result, is a bonus to the University.

Stewart asks about young new members and Zorychta outlined the FC initiatives in this area.

Zorychta reports that Tadjia Hall is functioning well.

Galaty asks about the possibility of outside catering and the GM explained the positive and negatives of getting into this business.

McNally discussed University events outside the FC and the GM says the FC is used more and more by the university administration.

Nomination of new members:

Christopher J. Barrett; Axel van den Berg; Philip Smith; Brendan Gillon

2nd Galaty Carried

Butler states that Sylvia Sklar, Carmen Sicillia and John Galaty will be retiring from Council.

Butler announces that the Secretary of the FC Council, Abe Kestenberg, will be retiring after many years.

Kestenberg responds that the quality of leadership at the FC Council and the Management leadership have made this FC Council the most enjoyable committee of his 47 years at McGill.

Other Business

None

Adjournment of Meeting

Zorychta, 2nd Algieri Carried.

The Faculty Club Annual General Meeting June 13, 2018 concluded at 3:12 PM