



## **Council of Halifax Centre - Minutes of Meeting 13 May 2016**

SMU, The Atrium, Room AT217

**Present:** Paul Gray, David Chapman, Judy Black, Jim Millar, Paul Heath, Chris Young, Quinn Smith, Andy Hasler, Elli Hasler.

**Regrets:** Dr. Roy Bishop, Ian Anderson, Sean Dzafovic, Tony McGrath, Pat Kelly, Tony Schellinck.

**Guests:** David Lane, Andrew Frank.

### **1. Welcome & Introductions**

Paul Gray welcomed members. He asked if members had other items to add to the agenda. Agenda was approved as circulated.

#### **160513MN – Mot01**

It was moved by Dave Chapman and seconded by Jim Millar that the agenda be approved as circulated.  
CARRIED.

The Action Lists were reviewed.

- a) December 2015: Action 5 remains open.
- b) January 2016: Action 16 remains open.
- c) February 2016: Action 5 remains open; Tony McGrath had circulated the results of the SCO survey.
- d) March 2016: Actions 1 and 4 remain open.
- e) April 2016: Actions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 remain open.

Minutes of the April 15, 2016 Council Meeting had been pre-circulated for review. No changes to the minutes were noted.

#### **160513MN – Mot02**

It was moved by Paul Heath and seconded by Quinn Smith that the minutes of April 15, 2016 be approved as circulated.  
CARRIED.

### **ONGOING ITEMS**

#### **2. Upcoming Meeting Dates & Guest Speakers**

Paul Gray noted a full slate of speakers for the remainder of the year. He is in discussions with New Brunswick regarding the Maritime Tour of Dr. David Levy. David Chapman has been in contact with the Halifax Central Library to determine their interest in co-sponsoring the presentation; he requested the Paul O'Regan Hall for the presentation; he was promised a response in a couple of weeks.

Paul Gray has also been in contact with Randall Rosenfeld to determine his willingness and availability for a presentation here in April/May 2017.

#### **160513MN-Act01**

Paul Gray is to contact Dr. Levy to determine his topic and obtain an abstract.

### **3. Outreach**

Paul Heath noted there are several requests for presentations and invited members to assist. Halifax Centre is also invited to the Science Teachers Conference on October 28, 2016 at Halifax West High School, 7:30 AM – 4 PM. The cost of having a table at the booth has gone down considerably compared to past years (\$30.00 for not for profit organizations, down from ~ \$200.00 in past years).

#### **160513MN-Act01**

Paul Heath is to obtain more information about making application for a table at the Science Teachers' Conference being held in October 2016.

### **4. Sale of Dobsonian**

No offers to purchase the Dobsonian have been received. Chris Young made a few suggestions on how we could go forward:

1. Buy a shed for it at SCO for approximately \$1,000.00, do upgrades and use it.
2. Let time pass and re-auction it with a lower minimum bid. The current minimum is the depreciated value which may not reflect the market value.
3. Let the NB Centre be included in the next auction or offer it for sale (delivery/pick-up distance is a factor in any sale).
4. Do homework on what it might sell for (i.e. watch Astro-Buy Sell, Cloudy-Nights, Astromart)
5. Sell on Kijiji.

#### **160513MN – Mot03**

It was moved by Quinn Smith and seconded by Paul Heath that the Dobsonian be posted for sale on Kijiji for \$1200.00.  
CARRIED.

Council discussed the price that should be quoted on Kijiji, and the method of delivery (i.e., meeting the buyer halfway if sold in Nova Scotia or New Brunswick). Following discussion, an amendment was proposed to the previous motion.

#### **160513MN – Mot04**

It was moved by Judy Black that an amendment to the previous motion be made and that the Dobsonian be posted for sale on Kijiji for \$1400.00 and that the person who posts the telescope has Council's approval to accept offers down to and including \$1200.00.  
CARRIED.

#### **160513MN-Act02**

Paul Gray and Chris Young are to post the sale of the Dobsonian on Kijiji citing the price of \$1400.00 but have been approved to accept a bid as low as \$1200.00.

### **5. Council member Position Descriptions - Approval**

Judy Black had pre-circulated the summary document for members' review. She proposed that Council approve the information in the Column entitled Roles/Tasks. Jim Millar noted that the Treasurer position was the only one that did not have term limits. He proposed the suggestion for a 3-year Term Limit for this position due to difficulty in recruitment.

#### **160513MN – Mot05**

It was moved by Judy Black and seconded by Chris Young that the Roles and Tasks of Council as proposed in the summary document with the addition of a the 3-year term limit for the Treasurer position, be approved.  
CARRIED.

### **6. Financial Concerns**

Jim Millar contacted the Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia and was informed he required a tax lawyer or accountant. Consequently, he obtained advice from a Federal Crown Prosecutor who informed him that RASC Halifax

Centre does need to complete the CRA T2 form. Discussion ensued regarding acquiring assistance from an accountant with the first tax submission.

**160513MN-Mot06**

It was moved by Chris Young and seconded by Paul Heath that Jim Millar acquires a tax accountant to assist with the T2 submission to CRA.  
CARRIED.

**160513MN-Act03**

Jim Millar is to acquire a tax accountant to assist with the T2 submission to CRA.

**7. Youth Recruitment Task Team**

No action has taken place on this item.

**8. Library Purchases**

Andy Hasler thanked Chris Young and Dave Chapman for their assistance in the inventory and acquisition process. There were 30 new books plus 2 DVDs on astrophotography. They were on display for members to peruse. Andy also noted that Elli had produced the *RASC Halifax Centre New Library Books & DVDs for 2016* as a reference guide to the books purchased for and donated to the Library. Members thanked Elli for her great work in producing the useful document. The full list of books had been pre-circulated. Discussion followed about how to notify members of the new acquisitions.

**160513MN-Act04**

Pat Kelly will post the information to the website.

**160513MN-Act05**

Judy Black will advise members of the document through the Announce List.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**9. Annual BBQ at SCO (June 17)**

It was determined there would be no public meeting in June. The gathering at SCO would be for members and their guests only. Chris Young stated he could provide a list of tasks to ensure a successful SCO BBQ.

**160513MN-Act06**

Chris Young will provide the list of SCO BBQ tasks to Judy Black.

Paul Gray suggested that Council still hold a June meeting but that it be separate from the SCO member BBQ. Its purpose would be to discuss more fully some of the items on the agenda as well as items suggested through the by-law review process.

**160513MN-Act07**

Paul Gray is to poll Council members to determine the best date for a June Council meeting.

**REPORTS**

**10. RASC Halifax Centre By-Law #1 Review - Update**

Judy Black reported a 39-page By-law revision document and a supplementary document had been circulated to By-Law Review Committee members for consideration. A date to meet is to be determined. It was suggested that this could be part of the June Council Meeting.

**11. Kejimkujik DSW**

Dave Chapman informed the group the event is organized by the Park.

**12. Nova East:**

Quinn Smith stated everything is under control. Smiley's Provincial Park remains an unmanned park; however, a poster will be placed at the main gate to advertise the sky tours and other public events during Nova East.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Black  
Secretary

**Halifax Centre Agenda**

May 13, 2016: 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM

SMU – The Atrium, Room AT101 (53 in attendance)

Agenda Items				
Time	Item	Purpose	Responsibility	Support Documents
7:30 PM	Welcome & Introductions	Information	Paul Gray	N/A
	Outreach Opportunities (when information available)	Information	Paul Heath	N/A
	<b>Special Presentation:</b> The Hitomi X-Ray Observatory	Presentation	Dr. Luigi Gallo	N/A
	What's Up?		Paul Gray	N/A
	Nova Notes	Information	Paul Gray / Tony Schellinck	N/A
	Nova East	Information	Paul Gray / Quinn Smith	N/A
	Library Acquisitions	Information	Andy, Elli & Chris	N/A
	Annual BBQ at SCO (weather permitting)	Information	Paul Gray	N/A
	Special Presentation: Book of Constellation Poetry to Paul Heath	Presentation	David Chapman	N/A
	AstroPhotos of the Month		Paul Gray	N/A
9:30 PM	Adjournment Refreshments		Paul Gray Pat Kelly	N/A