



**Council of Halifax Centre - Minutes of Meeting
17 March 2017
SMU, The Atrium, Room AT306 (6:30 AM - 7:30 PM)**

Present: Paul Gray, Paul Heath, Judy Black, Andrew Frank, Melody Hamilton, John Read, Sean Dzafovic, Pat Kelly.

Regrets: Dr. Roy Bishop, Tony Schellinck, Jim Millar, Art Cole, Andy Hasler, Tony McGrath.

1. Welcome & Introductions

Paul Gray welcomed members. He asked if members had other items to add to the agenda. None were suggested. The original agenda had been rearranged so that discussion of the Bylaw approval and transition could be discussed first followed by those items that are time sensitive.

170317MN – Mot01

It was moved by Paul Heath and seconded by Sean Dzafovic that the agenda be approved with the amendment noted.

CARRIED.

The Action Lists were reviewed.

a) April 2016:

Action 2 remains open.

b) May 2016:

Action 3 remains open.

c) September 2016

Action 3 remains open.

d) October 2016

Action 4 was open. Judy suggested that given the observing nights are posted in the RASC-Halifax Centre website that this item be considered closed and that a new action to advise members of its posting be made. Item now closed.

170317MN-Act01

Judy Black is to notify members of the observing night posted in the RASC, Halifax Centre website.

Action 16 remains open.

e) January 2017

Actions 1,2 remain open.

Action 3 closed. Dr. Spray is unavailable.

f) February 2017

Actions 5 remains open.

Actions 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 closed.

Minutes of the February 17, 2017 Council Meeting had been pre-circulated for review. One error in the spelling of a member's name was noted.

170317MN – Mot02

It was moved by Paul Heath and seconded by Pat Kelly that the minutes of February 17, 2017 be approved as
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circulated with the correction.
CARRIED.

ONGOING ITEMS

2. Upcoming Meeting Dates & Guest Speakers

members discussed the potential topics and speakers for 2017.

March (tonight): Focus on Outreach - Paul Heath and Dave Chapman

April: Laura McClarnon (speaker at February MAG meeting)

May: Revisit Solar Eclipse; Members' Night; Runing Zhang re her visit to Beijing Observatory Science Academy

June: BBQ at SCO

Sept: Solar Eclipse presentations by members in Nebraska and elsewhere; summer activity recap from two DSW week-ends and Nova East + Starmus

Oct: SMU's MacLennan Lecture; Randall Rosenfeld (??)

Nov: Dr. Luigi Gallo re Black Holes

Dec AGM: unknown.

PRIORITIZED ITEMS:

3. Bylaw Approval Update

Judy Black reminded members the RASC Halifax Centre Bylaw #1 had come into effect once approved by the Registry of Joint Stock Companies (as of February 24, 2017). The logistics of an implementation process required and how it would work for us is determined by us as a society. Members then discussed the benefits of status quo until the December 2017 Annual General Meeting (AGM) versus immediate implementation and an election being held. After much discussion, it was agreed by all members that status quo until the AGM when elections and all business going forward would be according to the Bylaw #1 (2017).

4. Saltscapes

Paul Heath reminded members of the Saltscapes Expo being held April 28-30, 2017. Brian Giffin from Atlantic Photo Supply (APS) had contacted Paul about our involvement again this year. They have a full table so there would be space for our print materials. A list of volunteers is required.

170317MN-Act02

Paul Heath is to post a request for Saltscapes Expo volunteers on the RASC Discussion List.

5. Purchase of RASC Banner

Sean Dzafovic noted that Randy Attwood would provide a file to the RASC Dropbox to upload and be printed. The costs would be approximately \$100.00 for the banner and \$150.00 for the base. Members all agreed it would be a bonus to have at outreach events and our Members' meetings.

170317MN – Mot03

It was moved by Sean Dzafovic and seconded by Paul Heath that the RASC banner and base be purchased.
CARRIED.

Members then discussed whether "RASC Halifax Centre" could be added to the banner.

170317MN-Act03

Paul Grey is to inquire whether "RASC Halifax Centre" could be added.

170317MN-Act04

John Read to add "RASC Halifax Centre" to the banner, once approved to do so.

6. RASC Solar Viewers

RASC has offered solar viewers for solar eclipse events in Canada only. It was noted there would be opportunities for outreach events in Nova Scotia associated with the solar eclipse. It was decided to request 200 solar glasses.

170317MN-Act05

Paul Heath is to request 200 solar glasses from RASC.

7. Nova East

Melody Hamilton reported there was nothing new to report now other than the Nova East Committee meets tomorrow morning.

ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

8. RASC Halifax Centre Meeting with Keji Staff

Due to Tony Schellinck's absence, this was deferred to April 21, 2017 Council meeting.

9. Insurance Coverage at Outreach Events

Paul Heath noted that only two requests for proof of insurance over the years had been requested. RASC will provide the certificate of insurance with at least 2 weeks' notice. No further discussion was required.

10. RASC 2018 Cultural Connections

This had not been investigated further so was deferred to the April 21, 2017 Council meeting.

170317MN-Act06

Paul Gray is to investigate the RASC Cultural Connections and report to the next meeting.

11. UPDATE: Purchase/Arrival of Parallelogram Mount for Thurlow Binoculars

The mount had been ordered but the thread size was required. Pat Kelly determined the size from the Thurlow tripod (M10 x 1.50 threaded post) and this information was sent on to the fabricator. Chris Young hoped it would be received before the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

12. Project with the Discovery Centre

Paul Heath viewed all the astronomy programs. Although the programs were basic, the equipment used to produce the programs were astounding. He hoped planetarium presenters would be willing to work with us to develop new shows. He suggests RASC, Halifax Centre presenters get together with the Discovery Centre in September. It was also suggested that Dave Lane and Rob Thacker could be the speakers at a November RASC Meeting held at the Discovery Centre planetarium.

13. Letter of Support re Gerald Gloade

Members were advised of a letter of support from Dave Chapman with the blessings of RASC for the nomination of Gerald Gloade to the Order of Nova Scotia. Mr. Gloade's involvement in astronomy was only one part of his contributions to Nova Scotia.

14. Adjournment

1670217MN – Mot04

It was moved by Pat Kelly to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Black
Secretary