



**Council of Halifax Centre - Minutes of Meeting
8 December 2017
SMU, Loyola Building, Room L177 (10:00 AM - 12:00 PM)**

Present: Dr. Roy Bishop, Paul Gray, Judy Black, Melody Hamilton, Paul Heath, Jim Millar, Andrew Frank, Pat Kelly, Tony Schellinck.

Regrets: John Read, Sean Dzafovic, Tony McGrath, Andy Hasler, Art Cole

Guest: Dave Lane

1. Welcome & Introductions

Paul Gray welcomed members. Quorum has been met. He asked if members had other items to add to the agenda. Judy Black requested the recommendation regarding cheque signatures be made in the Auditor's report be added as item #12.

081217MN – Mot01

It was moved by Jim Millar and seconded by Andrew Frank that the agenda be approved as circulated with the addition of the recommendation from the 2017 Auditor Report.
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 16 remains open.
- e) March 2017
Action 4 remains open.
- f) October 2017
Action 3, 5, 8 & 9 remain open
- g) November 2017
Action 2, 5, 6 & 10 remain open.
Actions 1, 3 (refer to discussion in Item 4), 4, 7, 8, 9 & 11 are closed

It was noted regarding Action 9 that the position descriptions were now posted by Pat Kelly on the RASC-HC website.

081217MN – Mot02

It was moved by Pat Kelly and seconded by Melody Hamilton that the minutes of November 17, 2017 be approved as circulated.
CARRIED.

ONGOING ITEMS

2. Upcoming Meeting Dates & Guest Speakers

Tonight: Dave Chapman - *The Unusual Moons of Early 2018*

Jan: Members' presentations - "Christmas in January"

Feb: Black Holes & Gravity Waves (Luigi Gallo),

April/May: SMU 3-D Virtual Reality Room (Rob Thacker)

Other suggestions included:

- a) The Star Walker - movie over 1 or 2 meetings
- b) Roy Bishop to readdress gravitational waves in light of the new evidence
- c) A member "learns" about a topic and presents what they've learned at a Members' Meeting.

Judy Black had pre-circulated suggested Board and Members' meeting dates that included a meeting in June and October (before or after the MacLennan Lecture) for the Board only. Members agreed to the following dates: January 19, February 16, March 16, April 20, May 11, Board meeting only on June 8, June 15 (SCO BBQ), no meetings in July-August, September 21, Board only on October 19 (or 26, depending on the date of the MacLennan Lecture), November 16, with the December 7 date for the AGM subject to change.

081217MN-Act01

Judy Black will contact Dan Smith to request space for the January to April meetings.

UPDATES / REPORTS

3. Update: RASC Cultural Connections

Paul Heath had been contacted by the Deanery and Ross Creek regarding the RASC 150 celebrations, and is waiting for a response to his email. Dave Chapman and fellow Halifax RASCals and I have been talking to Wendy Birt of THR!VE regarding an evening youth program (in Dartmouth on Thursday nights in January) on the topic of Astronomy & Space Science. In addition to what she has arranged already, she is looking for (and willing to pay for) presenters on:

1. satellites, spacecraft, and space junk
2. Mars 1 and human space exploration
3. the possibility of life on other worlds

Paul Heath suggested they need to look at the educational components and requirements of this request.

4. Update: RASC Halifax Centre Website

Members were tasked at the previous meeting to review the Sunshine Coast and New Brunswick Centres' websites for discussion at this meeting. Members suggested that the pop-up lists provided in the Sunshine Coast website would be a benefit and make it easier to search for content on the Halifax site.

081217MN-Act02

Paul Gray to inquire as to the platforms used by the New Brunswick Centre and the Sunshine Coast.

5. Update: RASC Banner Purchase

Paul Gray had contacted RASC to request the PDF to discover it was designed by Ted Dunphy. Members agreed that 3 banners should be purchased for each of the main outreach Centres. This will be decided once the cost of the banners is determined.

6. Update: Nominating Committee

Paul Gray reported via email that three members were stepping down: Art Cole (Councilor), Tony Schellinck (Editor, Nova Notes), and Jim Millar (Treasurer). The following members agreed to forward their names for election as Directors in the 2018 Board of Directors.

- President - Paul Gray
- Secretary - Judy Black
- National Council Representative - Pat Kelly

- Vice-President - *vacant*

- Treasurer - *vacant*

Directors:

- Melody Hamilton
- Sean Dzafovic (Sean has agreed to also act as Observing Chair)
- John Read
- Paul Heath (Sean has agreed to also act as Outreach Chair)
- Charles White
- Andrew Frank

ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

7. Update: SCO Repairs

Deferred to February 2018 meeting of Council.

081217MN-Act03

Judy Black to include "Update: SCO Repairs" on the February 2017 Board of Directors meeting agenda.

8. RASC Canada 150 Kick-off

This was discussed during the review of the action lists from previous meeting; Paul Heath will ask Wayne Harasimovitch about the use of the Discovery Centre for the Kick-off.

9. RASC Request for Stories & Images

It was determined that the request for stories and images could be mined from the Halifax Centre Discussion List.

10. Gift Card for Jamie Carmichael

As a way of thanking Jamie Carmichael for maintaining the road clearing at SCO, RASC Halifax Centre annually sends Jamie Carmichael a thank you and gift card. It was determined the gift card would be from Home Hardware this year in the amount of \$100.00

081217MN-Mot03

It was moved by Pat Kelly and seconded by Tony Schellinck to purchase a \$100.00 gift card from Home Hardware as a thank you to Jamie Carmichael.
CARRIED unanimously.

081217MN-Act04

Judy Black will purchase the gift card and mail it with the Christmas card to Jamie Carmichael.

11. Email from Colin Haig re Policy: operation of the RASC Discussion List

Two emails from Colin Haig (President, RASC) were presented as information to members. One dealt with the use of the RASCals Discussion List and the second with informing the membership the policies G24 (Anti-Harassment) and G23 (Conflict and Complaint Resolution) are under review. The RASC Board will be expanding them to provide clear direction and protection to all members of RASC, as well as clear procedures for complaints of violations of these policies. They anticipate adoption of the revised policies in the first quarter of 2018.

12. Auditor Report Recommendations

Gregg Dill, the auditor for 2016-2017 fiscal year, provided his annual report with one recommendation, that "the Board entertain a motion to require cheques and other documents be signed by two of at least three people registered to have signing authority." It was agreed discussion regarding this was deferred for decision by the newly elected Board of Directors to January 2018, and a subsequent report to the membership would be made.

13. Adjournment

170512MN – Mot04

It was moved by Paul Heath to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Black
Secretary, RASC Halifax Centre