



**Council of Halifax Centre - Minutes of Meeting**  
**16 September 2016**  
SMU, The Atrium, Room AT306

**Present:** David Chapman, Judy Black, Paul Heath, Chris Young, Ian Anderson, Sean Dzafovic, Pat Kelly.  
**Regrets:** Paul Gray, Dr. Roy Bishop, Jim Millar, Tony McGrath, Tony Schellinck, Quinn Smith, Andy Hasler, Elli Hasler.  
**Guests:** David Lane.

**1. Welcome & Introductions**

Dave Chapman, Acting Chair, welcomed members. He asked if members had other items to add to the agenda. Agenda was approved as circulated.

**160916MN – Mot01**

It was moved by Pat Kelly and seconded by Paul Heath that the agenda be approved as circulated.  
CARRIED.

The Action Lists were reviewed.

a) December 2015: Action 5 closed.

**160916MN-Act01**

Judy Black will write the letter thanking the SMU President for the ongoing sponsorship in December.

b) January 2016: Action 16 remains open. It was noted that Hal-Con takes place in October in Halifax.

**160916MN-Act02**

Paul Heath will follow-up with Tony Schellinck regarding the status of RASC involvement in Hal-Con 2016.

c) February 2016: Action 5 closed; Tony McGrath had circulated the results of the SCO survey.

**160916MN-Act03**

Tony McGrath to address the actions taken as a result of the survey at the next Council meeting.

d) March 2016:

Action 1 closed. It was noted that youth who come into the club should be mentored by a member as a means to encourage and retain involvement.

Action 4 closed. Position Descriptions are part of the policy manual and do not require approval by Centre members. They need only be apprised of their existence and can be viewed at any time.

e) April 2016: Actions 1, 2, 3, 4, remain open. Action 5 closed; meeting rooms for members and Council meetings to remain as is until confirmation of date changes is made.

e) May 2016: Actions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 remain open. Actions 6 & 7 closed. Regarding Action 2, Tony McGrath had offered to post on Astrobuysell; however, it was decided that it was best to initially post on Kijiji in Nova Scotia and with the New Brunswick RASC website

**160916MN-Act04**

Chris Young to discuss the posting of the sale of the Dobsonian with Paul Gray and Tony McGrath.

Minutes of the May 13, 2016 Council Meeting had been pre-circulated for review. No changes to the minutes were noted.

## **160916MN – Mot02**

It was moved by Chris Young and seconded by Paul Heath that the minutes of May 13, 2016 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED.

## **ONGOING ITEMS**

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

Dave Chapman reviewed the fall meeting dates and speakers.

a- **Friday, October 21, 2016** - The MacLennan Lecture replaces the Centre's Member Meeting. RASC will provide a table and hand-outs. The October 21 Council Meeting will be at its usual time unless Paul decides otherwise.

b- **Thursday, November 3, 2016** - David Levy will be a guest speaker; this will replace the October 21, 2016 room requirements

#### **160916MN-Act05**

Judy Black to contact SMU to change the need for Room AT101 from October 21 to November 3.

c- **Friday, November 18** - Dr. Spray to address Mars exploration, Ian Short or its Members' Night.

#### **160916MN-Act06**

Dave Chapman to discuss with Paul Gray the possibility of Ian Short as a speaker.

d- **Friday, December 9, 2016** - AGM. Pat Kelly has offered to do a brief presentation.

### **3. Youth Recruitment**

Based on discussion of the Action List, this item is closed.

### **4. Report: Dark Sky Week-end**

Dave Chapman had provided a report of activities at the Dark Sky Week-end at Kejimikujik National park and National Historic Site; it had been pre-circulated with the agenda for this meeting. A report was also sent to Tony Schellinck for inclusion in Nova Notes. Quinn Smith and Dave Chapman had also conducted a lighting evaluation of Keji and noted there were no changes since 2014.

#### **160916MN-Act07**

Dave Chapman will send the Dark Sky Guidelines to the new Keji manager for consideration during their new construction.

### **5. Report: Nova East**

Quinn had sent a report that was geared to the pre-event announcement.

#### **160916MN-Act08**

Dave Chapman will ask Quinn Smith for a final report of the Nova East event.

### **6. Report: By-Law Review Committee**

Judy Black noted that the first meeting of the By-Law Review Committee had met in June and had made great progress in setting up the new structure and terminology, and had begun review of the articles in By-Laws #1 (1995). A second meeting is tomorrow (September 17, 2016) and the hope is that the review will be completed for review by the Council prior to presentation at the AGM for approval by Special Resolution of the Centre.

### **7. RASC Halifax Web Page Update**

Councillors agreed that the Society was not moving quickly enough for our purposes in updating our website that is in great need of change

### **160916MN-Mot03**

It was moved by Chris Young and seconded by Ian Anderson that Paul Gray as Chair of the Website Committee to contact Dennis Gray at the Society to determine within one month of the way forward.  
CARRIED.

### **1160916MN-Act09**

Paul Gray as Chair of the Website Committee is to contact Dennis Gray at the Society to determine within one month of the way forward to update the Halifax Centre website.

If website changes are not timely, David Lane agreed to set up a temporary website on Joomla! He would not be the person to maintain the site but would provide access by administrators to add content.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **8. Nominating Committee**

According to RASC Halifax Centre By-Laws #1 (1995), a nominating committee had to be struck before October 1, and that the President was a member of the Committee. Paul Gray (Chair), Dave Chapman and Chris Young will comprise the Nominating Committee.

### **160916MN-Act10**

Dave Chapman will advise Paul Gray to call for nominations at the Centre's Members Meeting later this evening.

### **9. Report: Financial Statements (2015-2016)**

Jim Millar, although absent, had prepared and pre-circulated a financial statement of cash flow to September 2016 and a summary of Nova East expenses and income. Members thanked Jim in absentia for the update.

### **10. Donation of Unihedron Sky Quality Meter to Deep Sky Eye Observatory**

The Unihedron Sky Quality Meter of RASC Halifax Centre was donated to Tim Doucette's Deep Sky Eye (DSE) observatory at its grand opening earlier this month.

### **160916MN-Mot04**

It was moved by Chris Young and seconded by Paul Heath that Halifax Centre would donate the Unihedron Sky Quality Meter of RASC Halifax Centre to Tim Doucette's Deep Sky Eye (DSE) observatory.

### **160916MN-Act11**

Dave Chapman will undertake to replace the Unihedron Sky Quality Meter for Halifax Centre.

### **11. Donation/Bequest (from Harry Freeman Roberts)**

Deferred to next meeting.

### **12. Email from Galen Thurber (received Sept 7/16 by J. Black)**

Judy stated that the email received had been upsetting and that she had not responded as advised by other Council members. No further communication from him had been received consequent to the second reminder of the Centre meeting being sent to the members. She stated that from her perspective no action was warranted at this time; however, action would be taken should a second threatening email be received.

### **13. Adjournment**

### **160916MN – Mot05**

It was moved by Dave Chapman to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Black  
Secretary

**Halifax Centre Agenda**  
 September 16, 2016: 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM  
 SMU – The Atrium, Room AT101 (41 in attendance)

<b>Agenda Items</b>				
<b>Time</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Support Documents</b>
7:30 PM	Welcome & Introductions	Information	Paul Gray	N/A
	Outreach Opportunities (when information available)	Information	Paul Heath	N/A
	<b><i>Special Presentation:</i></b> A Matter of Some Gravity	Presentation	Dr. Roy Bishop	N/A
	What's Up?		Paul Gray	N/A
	Nova Notes	Information	Paul Gray / Tony Schellinck	N/A
	AstroPhotos of the Month		Paul Gray	N/A
9:30 PM	Adjournment Refreshments		Paul Gray Pat Kelly	N/A