

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
HALIFAX CENTRE

1989 IMPORTANT DECISIONS AND MOTIONS

Invoice To Delinquent Members
(from the executive meeting of January 20)

Randall Brooks suggested that members who have not renewed should be invoiced for their dues as a friendly reminder, especially the Professional types. A policy was developed for this to be used in future years and is as follows:

- first advertise in Nova Notes (in large print)
- if no response by January 31, send an invoice

Antigonish Subsidy of \$7.50
(from the executive meeting of February 17)

The astronomy group from Antigonish who have joined the RASC through the Halifax Centre requested a subsidy from their dues to assist them in their operations. A motion was made by Paul Smith (seconded by Doug Pitcairn) to return \$7.50 to them, leaving \$2.50 for us to cover our mailing costs for Nova Notes, etc. The motion was passed. Currently 11 members have joined from this group.

Observer's Group Meeting
(from the executive meeting of March 17)

The second monthly meeting will start up in May with the first meeting at Dave Chapman's on May 4 at 8pm. The June meeting will be at Mary Lou's.

Mini-Messier Challenge
(from the executive meeting of March 17)

Dave Chapman has created a "mini-Messier" list for beginning observers. It was thought to be a good idea, but it was decided that a prize was probably not necessary. A certificate could be awarded. The list is to be reviewed by Randall Brooks and Mary Lou Whitehorne.

(from the executive meeting of April 21)

The mini-Messier challenge is ready for distribution to the general membership. Dave Chapman is to describe at general meeting.

Summary of Resolutions

(from the executive meeting of May 25)

In order to keep track of important decisions made at executive meetings, the Secretary is to summarize all resolutions made throughout the year, at the end of each year.

Copy of Minutes to President

(from the executive meeting of May 25)

From this time onward, the secretary is to provide to president with a copy of the minutes of the previous meeting at the beginning of the current meeting.

Constitution Committee Formed

(from the executive meeting of June 16)

Our constitution may have to be changed as a result of the eminent passing of the new National Constitution at the GA. A constitution committee has been formed consisting of Dave Lane, Randall Brooks, and Pat Kelly.

Life Members Certificates

(from the executive meeting of February 17)

A member of the general membership indicated it would be nice for the society to have a certificate of membership suitable for framing similar to that which is given by the National Geographic Society. Another point was brought up to give something more significant to life members for their commitment to the society (possibly a plaque). This item will be discussed in the next executive meeting.

(from the executive meeting of March 17)

Life member certificates were discussed. It was decided that it should be brought up at the next National Council meeting.

(from the executive meeting of June 16)

Randall Brooks is scheduled to bring up our proposal at the GA for membership certificates for Life Members of the society.

(from the executive meeting of September 15)

Randall Brooks reported that our proposal to provide life member certificates has been passed by National Council. Our commitment is to provide the backlog of about 300 current life members. National Office will produce the on-going certificates as they are needed for future life members.

Resolution on Commercial Exhibits
(from the executive meeting of October 14)

The following motion was introduced by Randall Brooks, seconded by Nat Cohen, and passed after much discussion and debate.

Whereas, the Nova Scotia Museum guidelines of 14 September 1989 for activities of societies meetings in their premises only permits the sales and fund raising activities by the society itself, the Centre Executive hereby directs that no commercial displays may appear and/or sales maybe made at meetings of the Centre held at the Nova Scotia Museum.

New Meeting Times
(from the executive meeting of November 17)

The new general meeting times were finalized as follows. The regular speaker is to begin at 8 p.m. A short executive meeting is to take place from 7:15 to 7:45 p.m. Announcements are to start at 7:45 p.m.

Centre Telescope Upgrade
(from the executive meeting of October 14)

Dave Lane reported that the Centre C8 needs some accessories to make it an instrument suitable for use. Its problems are related to the following:

- no suitable due cap
- no counterweight
- poor eyepiece selection
- no piggyback bracket for a camera

Dave is to prepare a report for the next meeting detailing the costs of the upgrade for discussion.

(from the executive meeting of November 17)

Dave Lane presented a suggested list of accessories to be purchased for the Centre C8 telescope.

It was moved by Randall Brooks and seconded by Mary Lou Whitehorne that Dave Lane acquire all of the accessories mentioned up to a maximum of \$500.00. The motion was passed unanimously.

Dave Lane indicated that most of the list presented at the last meeting was either ordered or received. He suggested that the building of a drive corrector was not cost effective, because a hardly used high quality Bausch and Lomb model (\$250 new) was available from Nat Cohen. Dave Lane will still purchase the battery and charger parts. Dave Lane and Nat Cohen asked that a motion to purchase this item be moved.

It was moved by Joe Yurchesyn and seconded by Paul Smith that the Bausch and Lomb drive corrector be purchased from Nat Cohen by Dave Lane for sale to the Centre under the funds approved at the November 17, 1989 executive meeting at a cost of \$500 minus the amounts committed to the other items (minimum \$100).

The motion was passed.

Distribution of Minutes

(from the executive meeting of December 8)

Dave Lane brought up the point of distributing copies of the minutes prior to the next executive meeting.

It was moved by Joe Yurchesyn and seconded by Nat Cohen that the minutes of the executive meetings be distributed prior to the next executive meeting by the Secretary.

The motion was carried.

In order to save postage, the secretary will make an attempt to distribute the minutes by hand or fax machine up to two weeks prior to the meeting. After this point, the mail system will be used.

Membership for Dr. Harry Taylor

(from the executive meeting of December 8)

It was moved by Randall Brooks and seconded by Mary Lou Whitehorne that we give an honorary membership for the year 1990 to Dr. Harry Tayler following his donation of the honorarium check given to him for his talk in November.

The motion was carried.

Grant Applications Procedures

(from the executive meeting of December 8)

Randall Brooks requested that he submit the "Grant Applications Procedure" presented at the last meeting (November 17, 1989) to National Council for their consideration in the Halifax Centre name. The following motion resulted.

It was moved by Joe Yurchesyn and seconded by Mary Lou Whitehorne that Randall Brooks submit his "Grant Applications Procedure" to National Council in the Halifax Centre name.

The motion was carried.

**Donations for Nova Notes Ads for Telescope Sales by Non-Members
(from the executive meeting of December 8)**

Much discussion occurred relating to the success of the NOVA NOTE's ASTRO ADS section for selling used telescopes. It was decided that it was a very useful asset to the membership to have access to such a service free of charge. Although, it was decided that a small donation will be requested for non-members placing ads in the future.

Purchase Slide Projector

(from the executive meeting of December 15)

Doug Pitcairn suggested, in light of our current financial position, to purchase a new slide projector for members giving public talks in Astronomy. The approximate cost for a Kodak Carousel is \$400. As a result, the following motion was presented.

It was moved that Doug Pitcairn and seconded by Mary Lou Whitehorne that Doug investigate the purchase of a Kodak compatible slide projector and report back at the next meeting.

The motion was passed.

Respectfully submitted,

David Lane

David Lane
(Secretary)