

MINUTES OF THE
ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA - HALIFAX CENTRE

March 18th, 1994

Present: Ian Anderson, Larry Bogan, David Chapman, Patrick Kelly, Dave Lane, Blair MacDonald, Shawn Mitchell, David Turner, Mary Lou Whitehorne, Joe Yurchesyn

The meeting convened at 19h08 at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, Halifax.

1) Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the agenda was moved by MLW/JY..... Motion carried

2) Minutes of the January/February Meeting

Deferred

3) Business Arising from the Minutes of the January/February Meeting

Deferred

4) Reports from Members of the Executive

a) President (DL) **No report.**

b) First Vice-President (PK) **No report.**

Paul Gray has completed his Messier marathon. Due to the lateness of the year, we should sell the remaining observing calendars at a reduced cost.

c) Second Vice-President (MLW) **No report.**

d) Secretary (PK) **No report.**

e) Treasurer (IA)

Ian circulated a list of members who had not renewed. It was decided to wait and see how many had not renewed next month before taking any further action. The balance in the bank account was almost \$10,000 for a few days.

f) NOVA NOTES Editor (DL)

The deadline for the next issue is early next week.

g) National Council Representative (JY)

David Turner was at the last national council meeting and reported on a number of developments. The national treasurer resigned effective June. The national insurance policy "should" cover centre activities. The national budget for 1994 was approved after much debate. There was also much debate what the Millman Fund should be used for. A motion to add a spiral binding to the 1995 handbook was defeated. The Edmonton graze expedition was a success. Three service awards were approved including Gary Diamond and Randy Dodge, both of the St. John's Centre. The nomination committee report included nominations for the following positions: President: Doug Hube; First Vice-President: Michael Watson; Second Vice-President: Don Hladiuk; National Librarian: Walter MacDonald; National Recorder: Peter Jedicke. A B.O.G. advertising flyer is now available to all centres. An eclipse viewing brochure has been prepared for public distribution.

h) Librarian (SM)

The Sky & Telescope order has not been processed yet.

i) Observing Chairman (PG) **No report.**

5) Upcoming Meetings (DL)

The list has been updated on the agenda, with the exception of the Venus-related annular eclipse. MLW will contact Jim Mulaney to confirm the June meeting.

Moved by BM/SM to support the expenditure of air travel for Jim Mulaney to speak at the annual banquet..... Motion carried.

6) New National Office Membership System (DL)

National office has distributed a copy of dBASE III with a "program" for processing centre membership data.

7) Simon Newcomb Award Rules (E-mail) (DL)

Pat will update the wording and resubmit it to the national awards committee.

8) Agenda for Tonight's General Meeting (DL)

The meeting agenda was decided.

9) Land Search/Observatory Committee Report (SM)

A meeting was held last week. It was decided to look at a few other sites (there is another tower on Highway 14, and Norm Scrimger's area might have a usable site). A notice will be put in NOVA NOTES to let all members know of the search in case they know of a usable area.

10) Halifax Centre Merchandising (SM)

Moved by DT/MLW to approve spending for forty-eight new centre T-shirts, as well as crests and other promotional items. Motion carried.

11) Astronomy Day/Schedule Eclipse Committee Meeting (DL)

It was decided to combine Astronomy Day with the annular eclipse. A meeting of the committee will be set for the near future.

12) Plan to Encourage Youth Membership (DL)

DL put forward several ideas including the reintroduction of sending NOVA NOTES to school libraries and to offer an additional subsidy for youth membership.

13) Start up 7:00 P.M. Videos Again? (DL)

These will be resumed at one of the next meetings.

14) Science Fair Judges (DL)

David Chapman will be there as a judge for acoustical exhibits. He and David Turner will act as judges.

The meeting adjourned at about 19h58 on a motion by MLW.

Patrick M. Kelly

Secretary

