

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA - HALIFAX CENTRE

April 19, 1996

Present: Ian Anderson, Larry Bogen, Roy Bishop, Dave Chapman, Paul Gray, Tom Harp, Pat Kelly, Dave Lane, Blair MacDonald, Shawn Mitchell, Clint Shannon, Dave Turner, Mary Lou Whitehorne

The meeting convened at 19h20 at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, Halifax.

1) Approval of the Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was adopted.

2) Approval of the Minutes of the March Meeting

Approval of the March minutes was moved by DT/TH.....Motion Carried.

3) Business Arising from the Minutes of the March Meeting

Further to item 10), there has been no reply to a letter written to the Nova Scotia Museum by DC.

4) Reports from Members of the Executive

a) President (DC)

There was a discussion regarding a suitable memento to mark Rosemary Freeman's retirement. It was decided that DL would supply a photograph of Comet Hyakutake, SM would mount it appropriately and it would be available members' signatures at the May meeting.

b) First Vice-President (BM)

The city of Halifax is still interested in a sidewalk astronomy program in spite of the weatherout of the lunar eclipse earlier this month. BM is looking for volunteers to assist. The dates are to be determined but will probably be 1st quarter moon. This will be announced during the meeting.

c) Second Vice-President (SM)

The Discovery Centre owes the Centre \$200 for sales of Observer's Handbooks on consignment. Despite repeated efforts, payment has not been forthcoming. DC will phone the Discovery Centre in an effort to obtain payment before more direct measures are taken.

d) Secretary (TH)

The Centre has received a Deed of Gift from the Public Archives in regard to the documents submitted. TH requested and received authorization to execute this deed.

e) Treasurer (IA)

The Centre's cash balance is \$ 2,041.36. IA has opened a \$ 6,000 mutual fund account.

f) NOVA NOTES Editor (DL)

The next issue of NN will be prepared towards the end of May. As always, articles are needed.

g) National Council Representative (DL for PK)

Motions creating the new publication Astronomy Canada were passed. Starting in January, members will receive a one year subscription to Sky News. The RASC will get a ½ page advertisement in SN which it is hoped will increase our membership.

h) Observing Chairman (PG) No Report.

5) Tonight's Meeting

- DT will be the meeting reporter
- Announcements
- What's Up

- St. Croix Observatory report
- Guest Speaker: Bob Hawkes: "Meteors from Outside the Solar System"
- Handbook Talk: SM
- Social Hour

6) **Observatory Committee (SM)**

A presentation will be made during the Centre meeting. (The site plan was presented and the plans for this construction season were detailed during the meeting.)

7) **Nova East Committee (PG)**

A sample brochure was presented for comment. The planned speakers are Pat Kelly, Bob Hawkes, Adrian Bordash and Dave Chapman. It was noted that the dates announced in Astronomy are wrong and that the event is on Sky and Telescope's WWW site.

8) **Burke-Gaffney Award (DC)**

The selection committee is deadlocked. DC requested that DL assist in resolving the matter. The annual awards will be made at the May meeting.

9) **Other Business**

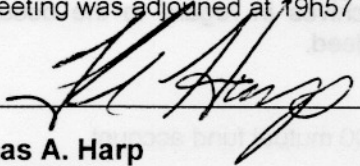
It was proposed that DL donate the proceeds of the comet photo sales to the Observatory and that a tax receipt in this amount be issued.

A motion to this effect was made by PK/TH.....Motion Carried.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

- May 17: Members' Night - comets and other goodies
- June 21: Larry Bogen - Orbit Determination
- Canada Day weekend: RASC GA
- July 19: Public Observing @ Dollar Lake
- August 16-18: Nova East
- August 23: Public Observing @ Dollar Lake

The meeting was adjourned at 19h57 on a motion by DT.


 Thomas A. Harp
 Secretary