

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

OCTOBER 17, 1997

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Present: Dave Chapman, Dave Lane, Dave Turner, Pat Kelly, Shawn Mitchell, Ian Anderson and Darren Talbot

President Dave Chapman called the meeting to order at 18h55m

0) Volunteer Secretary Needed.

Darren Talbot agreed to be the secretary for the October meeting in the absence of Mary Lou Whitehorne.

1) Approval of Agenda.

The meeting agenda was unanimously approved.

2) Approval of the minutes from the last meeting.

The minutes were approved unanimously.

3) Business arising from the minutes.

17" mirror - More info to come from Roy Bishop regarding the mirrors quality. Upon satisfaction of the mirror it will be purchased.

Handbooks - Quick mention of the prices for the '98 handbooks. Non-member price will be \$18.95 and price for sale to retailers will be \$14.95

Missing C-8 - Shawn tried to find out any status on the C-8 from Paul Gray with no response. Comments abound "Time to start the mail bomb again!"

4) Reports from members of the Executive.

4a) President - took place in a scheduled public observing session with only one family turning out but they left well informed. Mention of the "Light Pollution Award" more to follow from Bill Thurlow.

4b) 1st VP - no report (absent)

4c) 2nd VP - Handbook sales (to submit to N.N.) and other merchandise sales (excluding comet photo sales) totaling approx. \$1800.00. Errors by National Office have been cleared up in regard to merchandise. The 1998 Handbooks are expected by Halloween.

4d) Treasurer - Information for the center is all in order for Ian's departure of the treasurer position. Balance is \$5925.33. Ian recommended that the next treasurer as well as keeping a computer record that that person also keep a paper record of RASC transactions and balances.

4e) Nova Notes Editor - Issue will be ready next week. A plea for articles for future issues.

4f) National Rep - meeting tomorrow (no members from Halifax will be present). Over 2000 renewals are in to avoid a potential postal strike. Surplus amount of \$40,000.00 estimated for 1998 year. a 60/40 split in membership costs with regard to Skynews' cost. A National fee and a Centre fee are proposed. Approval of NGC certificate for Darryl DeWolfe, has been mailed to Dave Lane.

4g) Observing Chairman - Work parties have begun to finish up some work at the SCRO.

5) Meeting report volunteer.

Unknown to the secretary at this time.

6) Nomination Committee.

Names for 1998 executive are to be "on the floor" to the membership for voting, nominations etc.  
Walter Z. is still thinking about being Centre Auditor.

7) Annual General Meeting.

Request made by Dave Chapman to members of executive for a blurb about what they did in '97 and give a copy to Dave Lane for Nova Notes.

8) Upcoming Speakers/Activities for Upcoming Meetings.

November - Mary Lou "Introducing Astronomy to young people" and Dave Lane (Short computer animation).

December - George Fowler "Navigation by the Constellations"

January - Willard Boyle "CCD's" (still questionable) as well, aybe a St Marys Grad student talk.

9) Other Business.

Clint inquired about expenses for travelling speakers. To be discussed.

Submitted by,

Darren Talbot,  
Acting Secretary