

RASC Kingston Centre Executive Meeting Minutes - February 6, 2000

From: "S.D. Gagnon" <sdgagnon@mercury.kosone.com>
To: "RASC Kingston Centre Exec List" <rascexec@cliff.path.queensu.ca>
Subject: Exec minutes Feb 6.00
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Minutes of the Sunday Meeting. Please send any corrections along to me.

Location: (Susan's house)

Attendance: Peggy Hurley, John Hurley, Kevin Kell, Don Mastrianni, David Pianosi, Laura Gagne, Doug Angle, Kendra Angle, Susan Gagnon.

- Astronomy Day - Don
 - The insurance is ok with the Mall.
 - Don placed a request for attendees with scopes and in particular scopes with solar filters.
 - Discussion : logistics of a solar system model , ticket and lottery licence applications to be obtained from City Hall. After a review of the participation in past free draws it was decided that a draw this year was out.
 - Larger freestanding display boards may be added to the display inventory to show off some photos in the library so another \$100.00 was added to the astronomy day budget.
 - Don is to contact Kim wrt Publicity for the Day/Week
 - Don is to contact Astronomy and Sky and Tel for handouts.
 - Don had a demo poster to show for feedback.
- Education
 - Kevin - More slides and books are ready
 - Laura - will begin the grade 6 effort by revamping the latest edition of the grade 9 book. Laura hopes that she will have the book complete by July 1st.
 - Doug -
 - spoke to Heather Highett about a possible secondary school seminar this year and the answer was no.
 - asked Gwen Babcock about the elementary schools and she said that they could not afford it.
 - Another option for exposure is a seminar that will be held in August 21-24 at McArthur College which allows full and ½ day

presentations with an opportunity to sell materials related to the presentation. The payment is no more than an honorarium and is \$180 full day and \$90 for the ½ day. Two half days, one for each level is being considered.

- Friday's meeting unfortunate conflict with Wendy Freeman who will be at Queen's for a lecture.
- The equipment audit is underway.
- Equipment purchases...
 - Much discussion....
 - Peggy **moved** and Doug seconded that the centre purchase a 19mm Panoptic to be added to the loan program.
 - *Carried*
- Montreal Centre has stuff to sell, there may be something still available that will be good for the 24 inch. Doug was given the ok to shop with the budget for the 24 inch.
- Equipment to look into making...Equatorial mount and motor to drive it.
- Community Foundation of Greater Kingston
 - Regularly hosts a 2.5 hour seminar on How to Write a Grant Proposal. It is open to groups like ours. Kevin will attempt to register us Monday Feb 7.00
- Observing On the Website.
 - Certificates are on the website and can be printed out. Kevin will print out a copy of the pages appropriate for the new members kit since Susan has a problem doing that.
- Additions to Promotional Items for sale.
 - A recent catalogue has many items made locally and Peggy will poll the members at Friday's meeting with regard to higher ticket items that require cash upfront with a minimum purchase.
- Next Members Observing session at John and Peggy's Saturday the 12th.
- Star Party - Dave and Don
 - A simple approach was chosen to test the membership interest, a members and guests only, Saturday overnight, site to be chosen from Sandbanks, Bon Echo etc or even a private site if better, no registration, observing only , no speaker arrangements that are sometimes associated with at star party. A very simple get together...
- John will look into tax receipts to be issued by National. Bonnie will be asked if there has been a receipt issued to Legasys for donations last year, as well as receipts for donations made to RASC at renewal time.
- Hank has asked for a BOG for the YOG and he will be encouraged to use his discretionary funds to purchase what he needs for the project.
- Old business...
 - thank you to Joe Cassar has been sent.

- Kim's message about the Science Fair prizes seems to have cleared the air in that department, the message was passed on to Dave, as chair of the Awards Committee.
- The Awards Banquet will be a similar format next year. The issue of what the Centre will pay for has been decided, as a centre event the room and speaker honorarium will be covered and the tickets will cover all other expenses, prizes and food.
- New request for support from Dieter Brueckner, for astronomy groups in India. Kim (?) may be looking into a membership on the National level for the less established group and there may be a membership exchange with the other group. Contacts and addresses are on file.
- **Motion** Laura | second Peggy
- We will get what we can out of National and cover what they don't.
- *Carried.*
- A second proposal from Dieter with respect to an enrichment program at Queen's was deemed too much for us to handle, (purchase of 8 StargazerSteve's scopes that the centre would inherit.) Dieter has been advised to return with a 2nd proposal for consideration.
- What was the deal with the Lithuanian kids?
- Laura and her kids are doing a penpal thing with some kids, apparently the original idea that was proposed. Hank has also discussed with Laura how we could get them a telescope.... Have the youth group here make one and send it the exec is not sure about the practicality of this and perhaps there would be more benefit in helping them with teaching how they can make their own scope. This could tie in with something that Tom wants to do with making a how-to video.

10 P.M. meeting adjourned.

No date set for another exec meeting.

Susan G

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