

RASC Kingston Centre

Executive Meeting Minutes - February 3, 2001

Meeting called to order at Laura's place at approximately 1330hrs.

Attendance:

Laura, Paul, Kendra, Kim, Tom, Kevin, Peggy, Doug, Susan.

- ATM
 - Kendra has agreed to chair until the 24 inch is complete, a co-chair will be added in the spring. 24 inch progress is modest and figuring continues. Some jobs have been farmed out, but often there is a great delay in times between pick up and return. There is a need to have all parts accounted for and an assembly will be held as an ATM meeting at Doug's on the evening of March 3rd when a members observing night is scheduled. BUDGET: unchanged, original \$3000, \$300 of which has been spent, full \$2700 is expected to be used this year. HELP WANTED
- Presidents inventory: Audit for 2001 is now in Laura's hands.
- Annual Report to National: Done and sent
 - Treasurer
 - 2000 Secretary
 - 2001 list of executive and committee chairs
- Observing: Chair Tom
 - Group Observing will continue as is, August BBQ date has been set for Friday the 10th at Marks.
 - Public Observing also unchanged.
 - Equipment: last years purchases have been great additions but there will be some maintenance required for other items, paint etc.
 - BUDGET: \$100 was approved.
 - HELP WANTED TO DO THE MAINTENANCE
- YOG:
 - Hank says no \$ needed especially since attendance is near zero. Kim has added the YOG to her publicity efforts to see what happens. So far he and Don and Tim have been doing it. It was also decided that perhaps there should be a 5 to 10 minute beginners observing tip at the beginning of each meeting.
 - HELP WANTED
- Treasurers Report
 - On file
 - **Motion:** Laura | 2nd by Kevin

- that John move \$8000 of GIC money freeing up soon to a T-Bill,
- *carried*, (better access and better return)
- **Motion:** Paul | 2nd by Laura
- that John change bank branch at his convenience,
- *carried*. (Current location is not convenient for anyone.)
- Promotion and Publicity:
 - In the future we may need to put \$ on Promotion but for now it will be done on the cheap.
 - Correction: Phone line was approved for the next year, cost is \$120.00 per year, last payment covered till the end of Jan 2001, next payment due till the end of July.
 - Education will fund a flyer for all school to be circulated by the school board mail, promoting YOG and Public Observing nights. An arrangement with the Libraries may be possible where we set up a membership and they let us do 3 or 4 public talks a year. Libraries also allow non-profits to post.
 - It would probably be possible to do the fireside thing at Chapters that goes on Cable TV. There is also interest in securing a larger room in Stirling Hall to attract Queen's Astronomy students and make it possible for us to post things in that area. This larger room would allow us to hold more talks that may attract the public and not have to change our location.
 - Paul will contact the Queen's Astronomy Club.
 - John will see if there would be a room available.
 - Promo items for sale:
 - **Motion:** Kevin | 2nd by Paul
 - that a 20% discount to members begin as soon as we could get the word out.
 - *Carried*.
 - Additional items for sale may be T shirts, LED key chains, Astrophotos, laminated Messier cards (Peggy will check to see if lamination can be done cheaply at school).
 - Tom will see if we can participate in the E- store set up by national, and he will join the MAP committee asap.
 - Do we need a membership Person?
 - Yes perhaps a greeter at the door to spot new faces, co-ordinate filling information requests. A customer service/membership co-ordinator.
 - Someone who is not on exec now.
 - Susan has agreed to speak with Ruth, and possibly establish a ride to meetings if that is an issue. If Ruth does not want to do it, it will go to the help wanted list.

- Education:
 - BUDGET
 - **Motion:** Kevin | 2nd by Paul
 - that we fund the production of:
 - 10 copies slide set 1
 - 10 copies slide set 2
 - approx \$700
 - and
 - 20 copies of the 1st edition of the grade 9 book
 - approx \$120
 - *Carried.*
 - Laura will contact Rick Husiak in Saskatoon about some books for them. The 2nd edition will be somewhat de-regionalized for other provinces, a few sections will be changed out and a colour cover and some colour pages will be used.
 - Peggy will look into a better binding.
 - A new price of \$30 and a larger print run will be considered.
 - Grade 6 inventory is massive.
 - The work on the CD continues.
 - HELP WANTED
 - What would you like to see on the CD and what might you be able to do?
 - Members will find this request for help on the website.
 - Kevin and Tom have got some quicktime movies made and would like to see files of test questions in common word processing formats for teachers to use.
 - ATM Project Book Vol 1
 - Going well, to be used for fundraising, 4-5 members have contributed projects.
 - STAO
 - November 1-3, 2001
 - Registration Deadline Feb 19.
 - Registration is free to non commercial.
 - Cost, travel only.
 - Doug will attend, with Susan as a potential volunteer.
- Light Pollution - Chair: Kim
 - Kim will make a certificate to say Thank you to Kathy Perrett as she will be leaving Queen's this spring.
 - Kim will begin research into municipal bylaws
 - Lighting levels may be possible to get with the help of Queen's engineering students.
 - Kim will also find out what she can about the Richmond Hill award.

- Correction: Kim needs to contact Mike Cook of the city of Oshawa, on their Light Pollution Effort.
- Richmond Hill, has already received an award from Bill Broderick, but will check with him on what is needed for the award.
- Astronomy Day - Chair: Don
 - Kevin will be talking to Don and pass on an offer from Susan to assist if he would like.
 - The International Day is April 28, but it is not known if Scott Young is going with this date. We will find out what arrangements Don has made.
 - We may try to get a more significant mention in Kingston this Week.
- Sky is the Limit Festival
 - Shall we participate? Yes, no invitation yet but we expect it next month.
- Land O Lakes next meeting Feb 12.2001
 - Report from last meeting no file.
 - There may be government funding available to research the dark sky preserve status wrt to existing pollution, etc.
- Fall N Stars
 - Date ? after Labour Day
 - David Pianosi will be asked to be the Kingston Rep to co-chair With a Belleville Astronomy Club member.
 - Doug is getting an estimate on having a tent sewn, and is very interested in taking the event public, several others expressed reservations with going public on only the 2nd effort.
 - HELP WANTED
 - BUDGET: \$200 to start up
- Awards Chair
 - Lets ask David Pianosi to remain as chair.
- Canada Wide Science Fair
 - National Provides \$500 for registration, and \$200 x3 for prizes, Centres are expected to supply a Judge.
- Proposal - BUDGET RELATED
 - **Moved** by Kevin 2nd by _____.
 - That funds from the monthly meeting draws go to the Annual Banquet to take it upscale or subsidize tickets or something for secondary prizes. There is a general feeling that we need to show appreciation to volunteers and this may help.
 - *Carried.*
- 40th Anniversary Projects
- Yearbook:
 - get information from past and longtime members

- Request pictures from members
- List centre accomplishments
- Solicit letters National President, Terry D., etc.
- BUDGET: CD-ROM format: \$350 + project (200 CD's and mailing)
- Other items, a second talk by Leo, solstice BBQ, 1st light for the 24, possible 40 year old Port raffle.
- Observatory Committee - Chair to be named.
 - It was decided that it was time to have a committee and these were the volunteers
 - Correction: Kim, Susan , Doug, Tom, John, Kevin, Ken and Steve were volunteered in absentia and will be notified.
 - The 1st meeting will take place at Doug's next observing meeting.
 - The first step will be to produce a map showing where members live so there is a good idea of where a 30 to 45 minute drive will get most people.
 - Distance to darkness shall not daunt the devoted!
- So you are a committee chair!
 - Kevin will write up job descriptions and circulate them.
- A magazine pool idea was floated to share subscriptions of Astronomy-related material. One snag was that the group discount requires a minimal # of subscribers so perhaps *Astronomy* and *Sky and Tel* would not be suited to this. Kevin will continue to think about this.

Meeting was adjourned at approx 1830, we thanked Laura and her ever tolerant family and hit the road.