

Minutes - Feb. 8 2003 Exec Meeting

(at least as I recall them, please advise me of necessary additions or changes.)

Location - home of Kevin Kell and Kim Hay, Yarker 12:30 pm - 16:20 pm
Meeting began at - 12:35 pm

Attendance:

- Hank Bartlett
 - Doug Angle
 - Kevin Kell
 - Kim Hay
 - John & Peggy Hurley
 - David McGuire and
 - Tom Dean.
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- - discussion on eyepieces for the Venor led to decision to purchase the following, keeping in line with the \$1,200 after tax budget which was voted in Jan. 2003.
 - Doug will order a 2" narrow band filter, 32mm Omcon, 25mm Ortho, 12.5 Ortho and a 1.5 x Barlow. The purchase will be made from a single supplier if it is cost effective given the range of pricing of different accessories from different shops.
 - John will purchase a foam lined box suitable to carry and protect these accessories from Home Depot.
 - Doug brought with him the reworked Venor focuser for us to check over, the proof will be in actual testing in various temperatures.
 - Tom informed us that Queen's U. requires a mechanical model with motors of the Venor mount in order to build/test electronics we would like them to build. This would not be required until September. I do not recall anyone volunteering to build this model. Further discussion is required as to whether or not it is prudent to put more money into this project as opposed to just purchasing a commercial system.
 - Hank circulated a draft of the letter to be used in securing funds from an interested benefactor. This letter was then posted to the rascexeckc and Ken Kingdon for critique and/or input.
 - Prof. Judith Irwin attended and made a presentation with regard to Queen's U and RSACKC entering into a partnership under the Trillium Foundation Funding for a public outreach program based through the Queen's Observatory. It was agreed to in principle and Peggy volunteered to be Judith's contact for RASCKC. Mutual benefit from the \$25k/2yr. request was discussed, Judith presented a current budget projection for

Queen's of \$15k. There will be further discussion as to RASCKC's requirements as far as equipment and any other costs to be incurred. Judith will secure more information from Trillium and Peggy will contact RASC National about working under their non-profit number. Peggy will report ongoing progress.

- John & Peggy informed us of a 3,000 acre park that will be formed north of Hwy 7 that may be of interest to us as an observatory property, they will follow up and keep us posted.
- The RASCKC reserve fund was defined and split into the following categories.
 - observatory fund \$10k - this will be an ongoing fund used to eventually buy property and equipment for the RASCKC observatory. This money will be locked into a higher return investment in order to help it grow. Having this as a separate fund we maybe better able to encourage donors to channel their money into this project.
 - endowment fund \$500 - this will be used eventually to provide operating expenses for the RASCKC observatory, offsetting charges and costs to the membership.
 - special projects fund \$1.5k - used to procure equipment, services or fund special projects that the RASKC shall undertake from time to time. This year for example this fund will be used to purchase the Venor telescope accessories.
 - the President was informed that he is to do a physical audit of all RASCKC equipment. This has been logged onto the Tudu List.
- Committee budgets were set for the new year. There was incomplete input here as some committee chairs had not received the email to submit a budget. It was determined that the 2002 minimum budgets (\$100) would stand with the exception of the following -
 - Library - \$200.00 - new acquisitions
 - Public Relations - \$300.00 - upcoming events and ongoing promotion
 - Education - \$500.00 - next printing of ETU
 - Newsletter - \$1,300.00
 - Observing - \$200.00 - telescope maintenance

No date for the next meeting was set at this time.