RASC Winnipeg Centre

COUNCIL MEETING 2 Oct 2025

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Mark Irvine (Chair), Scott Young (recorder), Judy Anderson, gAIL Wise, Rhianna Cohen, Wing Kwong, Daemon NIghtshade, Ed Wright, James Fast, Marc Sarassin, Bryan Stach

Regrets: Stan Runge, Dennis Lyons

1. **Call to Order; Welcome and Land Acknowledgement** (President)

   There being quorum present online, Mark Irvine called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., introduced himself, and presented the Centre's land acknowledgement.

2. **Adoption of Agenda and Previous Minutes** (President)

   MOTION 202510-01 Moved by Mark Irvine (Seconded by Judy A.) to adopt the agenda as presented.

   Motion 202508-01 CARRIED.

   MOTION 202510-02 Moved by Scott (Seconded by Judy A.) to approve the minutes of the September 2025 council meeting as circulated.

   Motion 202508-02 CARRIED.

3. Committee Business Reports

a. **Finance Committee** (Chair - James F.)

   Net profit for SWSP is $854.13, discussion in SWSP Committee report. May reinvest $10K if the ObsComm can't spend it this year on repairs.

   GST is not included in amounts expensed since it is backed out and tracked separately.

   MOTION 202510-03 Moved by James F. (Seconded by Gail W.) that the Finance Committee report be approved as circulated/amended.

   Motion 202508-03 was CARRIED.

b. **Observatory Committee** (Chair - Ed W.)

Nothing new to report. Acknowledge support of Council as Ed's mother has gone into palliative care. Milton determined that the MB Hydro connectors are a problem in the wind, and a service ticket ticket was pursued and they have replaced the clamp-on connectors which should rectify the problem. If someone is going out, take a picture of the electrical mast and send to Ed.

Repairs: nothing has come back. Will be delayed until next year.

c. **Spruce Woods Star Party Committee** (Chair – Daemon N.)

Event went well, profit was $834, paid for the barbecue we bought, 65 people attendees, will keep event at 3 days. Will do a wrap-up meeting later this month.

Scott: previous P&L compared to this year, what is different? Daemon: this year we spent money on the griddle, some extra printing, and online registration system.

Mark: What will surplus go to, the SWSP Fund or general revenue? Do we want SWSP profit to subsidize Centre operations, or should we keep it for SWSP programming etc.

Scott: It was intended to go to SWSP, so let's keep it there.

Judy: Was intended to be used on programming.

Daemon: Agree, separate for SWSP.

Guidance from Council that we will continue recording the SWSP surplus.

Mark S: Agree to keep things separate, fundraiser.

Ed: Should there be a limit for the SWSP fund to avoid it building up, and so it doesn't get spent frivolously.

Daemon: SWSP is meant to be break-even, not to accumulate money. Having a cushion is good so that we can absorb a loss.

Wing: We should have some "profit" to implement improvements and enhancements in the event.

Judy: I'll make sure we don't have a substantial profit.

Mark: Council is steward of the funds, would take SWSP's needs into consideration.

Mark: Thanked Daemon.

4. Upcoming Meetings (Judy A.)

October - what's up, what's new, gAIL - Perseus, Dr Adam Sirik/Axiom 1

November - Scott - Beginner's, Jay - What's Up, Telescope Buying session - Scott, Danielle - What's New, speaker Dr. Paul Charbonneau - solar eclipses through the centuries

James - telescope & binoculars buying guide

5. Business Arising

a. **Observer's Calendar Sales** (Stan R.)

No report

b. **Telescopes for Kids** (Judy A.) - Judy and Scott will get it going. We will talk tomorrow. Wing would like to remain involved with Telescopes for Kids to promote during Southwood Circle.

c. **Tipis and Telescopes review** (Scott Y.) -

d. **Glenlea Anniversary 2026 Committee** (Bryan S)

There are 6 people on the team (Wing, Ellis, Doug, James, Rachel Janzen) first meeting yesterday. No date selected. Rachel Janzen recused after first meeting. Two external advisors - Ellice Ganz, celebrity Chef Rob.

Bryan left the meeting.

e. National Welcome Letter (XXX)

Still looking at it

f. **Green Laser Pointer training** (Dennis L.)

Happy to run another one

g. **Insurance update** (James F.)

6. New Business

a. Winnicentrics Editor Search (???) - scott will send out email

b. Social Media Moderation (???) - resolved last meeting, update provided to Mark

James/Wing - Southwood Circle Astronomy Night event - audio system, food trucks, paid security (UM Properties), PowerPoint presentation. Lot of energy. Traffic plans with Bomber parking guy. Lots of volunteers and sponsors, lots of online promotion.

Mark - with U of M running more things, should we be charging them? Wing: yes, $200 fee for volunteers. 13 confirmed telescopes (including smart scopes) and 20 volunteers. Still recruiting more from students.

7. Round Table discussion

gAIL - our meeting is the same night as NdG-T (because our room isn't available on the 12th). Wing suggests Chevrier meeting place? Judy mentions meeting is stuck on 5th because the speaker has booked their own ticket.

Wing - NASA Hackathon is Saturday with 2 RASC members in it. Machine learning project to discover asteroids. Maybe future speakers?

8. Motion to adjourn Council

MOTION 202510-04 Moved by Judy A. to adjourn the meeting.

Motion 202508-04X was CARRIED.