RASC WINNIPEG CENTRE COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the council of RASC Winnipeg Centre held via Zoom on Monday, August 7, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Daemon Nightshade, Judy Anderson, Marc Sarrasin, Dennis Lyons, Mark Irvine, Kamala Kodi, Bryan Stach, Ed Wright,

REGRETS: Stan Runge, Scott Young, Michelle Boyce, Mike Karakas, Russell Brown

1. Call to Order, Land Acknowledgement — Dennis
2. Welcome and Introductions — All
3. Adoption of Agenda — Dennis
4. Adoption of previous minutes — Ed
    - No changes. 4 people read
5. Financial Report — Mark
    - Mark: Banking more simplistic now. Online access. There are 3 GICs still against old bank acct. Waiting for them to mature and then will deposit under new operating account. Will stick with the prime based GIC $9K and then the other as security for the credit card. At some point signing authorities will be asked to come in to sign. Just the paperwork needs to be done. For expenses, biggest pressure is the observatory. Will get invoices from Russell. Did accrue for that. Nothing heard on the eclipse glasses. Dennis: They just finalized the look and at the printer now. Mark: Not much confirming that we ordered 1000 yet other an email. Not charged for anything yet. Will be leaning on Scott. Got good response from people, 6 calls, people interested in working on the finances. One was a former treasurer for Ottawa and Toronto. They are now in Winnipeg. The more view points the better. Will be entering first reporting cycle for 2024 in January as corporation. I can trend out the expenses and see what are anomalous for this year. The membership list, Marc has access, if could forward the list, need just the numbers. Could forward the numbers to me. Good predictor. Marc: 239 members now, 12 new members, but omits people leaving. Mark: Will see where we are at in Sept. Feels like pretty steady in spite of national situation. We have held our own. Cheques I have written are in there. We do have funds in the balance sheet that can deal with SWSP. It can be used to subsidize any of the additional costs that could be incurred. Cliff gave us $2K less the bank fees. It is designated for SWSP.
    - Mark: I am doing the main speaker thing for Friday.

MOTION Mark motioned to approve the financial report, Marc seconded. APPROVED

    - Dennis: We got $350 for SWSP this year.
6. Committee Work Reports
    a. Policies and Procedures Manual — Dennis
    b. Observatory Committee — Michelle
    - Michelle not here. Judy: Observatory Committee did meet once. Dennis: Michelle said after Aug 11 she would be more engaged.
    c. Member Meeting — Judy
    - Judy: gAIL: Beginner Session, Bryan: What's Up?, Michelle: What's New, Mark Irvine: Main Presentation. Have speakers for September, October, December, January.
    d. Finance Committee — Mark Irvine

- Mark: Call for volunteers went out. 5 or 6 volunteered. Will see what comes up out of that. Gearing up for first set of reports. Judy: Do you intend that all of those people to be on that committee, could be 10. Mark: Yes, Idea is to draw people in. Can disburse the activities of the Treasurer. It is all cloud based. Could be only half after the year is over, or might be ten to the end of the year. There are things we can do, are we as efficient with the cloud services as we could be. Initial meeting should be lots of people but some people might leave. It is always good to have a backup.

e. Star Parties — Russell/Dennis

f. SWSP — Dennis

- Dennis: Silvia got everything updated with the Park, sent msg to main group, Judy offered to take registration, Mark says e-transfers by Friday. The $25 covers the continental breakfast for Sunday morning and other incidental costs. GJerry is doing talk on Galileo. Bryan: I am happy to take pictures this year again. I will also be Diablo. Dennis: Again will be a simple thing. Tent is stored at SWPP. Unlikely will be awards and money.

g. Explore the Universe — Stan (not here)

h. Eclipse 2024 — Scott

- Dennis: Agreed that for the Oct one will coordinate with MB Museum and it is in Assiniboine Park.

i. Fundraising

- Dennis: Any suggestions on who to approach for this. Need policies and procedures. Tabled for now. Ed: Could there be a person in the 5 to 6 people Mark found. Dennis: Need to recruit the person. This person to couch what the committee will do. Then would recruit people after that. Will be a certain skillset for this. ~~Judy: Do you intend that all of those people to be on that committee, could be 10. Mark: Yes, Idea is to draw people in. Can disburse the activities of the Treasurer. It is all cloud based. Could be only half after the year is over, or might be ten to the end of the year. There are things we can do, are we as efficient with the cloud services as we could be. Initial meeting should be lots of people but some people might leave. It is always good to have a backup. Judy:~~

7. Appointed Positions Recruitment — Dennis
   a. Volunteer Coordinator
   b. Mentor Coordinator
   c. Meeting Coordinator – Judy: Take this out, it is me.
   d. Youth Outreach
8. Business Arising
   a. NCC — Dennis/Silvia
      - No update.
   b. Glenlea, cleanup, damage repair — Ed
      - DFA application progress: Met July 30 to tackle requests by Province toward supporting the application. Ed drafted a response with embedded Excel files and PDFs of the many documents that were assembled for this response (RASC responsibility for maintenance and insurance of our 2 buildings; evidence of Incorporation and availability to the whole community; partnership with U of Manitoba; lack of coverage for overland flooding as it is excluded, although we do have an insurance policy). This document will be sent to the Province. So far Judy, Mark, and Dennis have approved; so, it will be sent tonight.
   c. Spruce Woods gift to casino — $180 plus tax — Dennis
      - Dennis: Phoned, emailed, but no response about making a presentation there. Suggest we drop this now. Ed: Michelle said this was also to remind them that they are adjacent

to a dark sky preserve. We don't have the gift as yet, waiting until we know they will or can accept it. Dennis: There might be a liquor or gambling law prohibiting but they are not answering. Marc: Maybe put on hold for a few months then try again later. Dennis; yes can do.

~~d.~~a. Website – Marc

- Marc: Not much done, was on holidays. The only issue is the menus. Has some ideas on how to fix it. Appearance looks good. Read on ideas for, will get back in a couple weeks. Put Dennis's email on the SWSP up on the site. Judy: We were not able to log in today. Marc: I did notice that my test acct went to the profile settings, not the main page. Mark: Need someone to send $0.01 to finance@winnipeg.rasc.ca.

~~e.~~b. Strategic Plan/Bylaws Dennis

- Dennis: Parked until the fall.

c. Credit Card Mark

~~f.~~• (see financial report)

~~g.~~d. Glenlea Public use Dennis

- Dennis: Left to the observatory committee to discuss.

~~h.~~e. Members Observing Night – who does what? Scott

- Dennis: Scott was to look at that for members night. Tabled until next meeting.

~~i.~~f. Scope donations and other programs All

- Dennis: Had another scope offered. Judy: Did do some digging, would be challenging, he offered it to somebody who could not afford, maybe Telescopes for Kids (T4K). Is a neighbour of a member. Could do a silent auction. We do not need a license for a Dutch Auction. It is getting people to put down their offer. Can set a minimum bid. It is on hold until Council gives feedback. Mark: This would be a fund-raising opportunity. Dennis: We have general consensus to proceed. This would be an example of what the fundraising committee would do.

~~j.~~g. On The Move Inc Kamala

- Kamala: Very successful. Mark and ~~Keith~~Keerthan did presentation, two batches, me and Stan and Wing and Yvonne set up the scope, good bright day. Kids enjoyed, 5 – 13 of age. The summer camp people were happy. We charged $100 but could go up to $200. Was not exorbitant. Maybe $400 for a full day.
- Kamala: One more public event last month but did not happen, was Winnipeg Parks checking on renting, did not want what they have because is in corner, need field closer to the Duck Pond. They said could rent in that field and were asking whether is public event. Asking if can use without renting. Did not get response back yet. $60 to $70 for renting. If they say it costs, can we go ahead with that? Aug 26 or Aug 27 would work, but keep flexible. Could keep flexible and send out asking for volunteers for the St Vital Park one. Dennis: Is a motion. Dennis: Let them know we can include an ins rider from National. Suggest ask for volunteers now. Judy: Recall this is the public SWSP weekend, so some people will not be available there.

MOTION Kamala moved and Mark seconded for funding up to $70 for the park rental. PASSED

~~k.~~h. Fundraising Committee Kamala

- Dennis: Already discussed.

~~l.~~i. Glenlea Keys All

- Move to the Observatory Committee. Mark has money for Daemon.

~~m.~~j. Assiniboine Park winter activities Mike - Tabled

~~n.~~k. Donation from Wing All sky camera Ed

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- Dennis sent our reply to Wing but has not had a response. Ed: Believe that Wing got the response.

~~c.~~l. Telescope donation Policy — Scott/Mike

- Dennis: Talked about this. Seem to be adding bits, but pending discussion from Mike/Scott.

9. Round table — All
    - Marc: Nothing
    - Kamala: Reiterate for breakfast at SWSP will bring some various things for breakfast, cinnamon buns, coffee, tea. Can send out email that they can bring stuff. Dennis reminds Council of the groups.io for SWSP that can be used for those attending the star party. Judy will bring oranges and grapes. Large coffee urn may be at Silvia's; Kamala will contact Silvia, about whether we still need to buy coffee, tea, creamer, etc..
    - Bryan: For the start party coming up, a simple meeting might give new members more time to mingle with senior members.
    - Mark: No additional questions. Need to test the e-transfer. Daemon send an e-transfer, but nothing received yet.
    - Judy: Change next Council date to avoid Labour Day holiday.
    - Daemon:
    - Ed: Only comment is to announce meeting to the members. "A Hike to the Stars on Mount Lemon" asks Mark for ideas on a teaser for the invitation.
    - Dennis: Thanks everyone for all the work you are doing. Also, for Russell we considered best for him to step away and if things improve for January. Need him to give us the credentials for the Gmail. Did the test e-transfer go through? Daemon says there was a password, but Mark indicates that the e-transfers shouldn't need a password. Will check. See you next Friday.
10. Next Meeting, Tuesday September 5, 2023, 7 PM
11. Adjourn — 8:02 PM

	Name	Signature	Date
Secretary	Ed Wright		