RASC WINNIPEG CENTRE COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the council of RASC Winnipeg Centre held via Zoom on Monday, October 3, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Marc Sarrasin, Dennis Lyons, Judy Anderson, Bryan Stach, Scott Young, Ed Wright, Mark Irvine, Mike Karakas, Abdul al Manni, Michelle Boyce

REGRETS: Russell Brown

1. Call to Order, Land Acknowledgement — Dennis
2. Welcome and Introductions — All
3. Adoption of Agenda — Dennis
4. Adoption of previous minutes — Dennis

Ed moved, Judy seconded ADOPTED

5. Financial Report — Abdul
    - Abdul: Bank statement as of Sep 19, 2022, $20,789. This does not include payments made for insurance ($662). Membership dues come in the first 2 weeks of the month.
6. Committee Work Reports
    a. Policies and Procedures Manual — Dennis
        - Dennis: no time to work on this
    b. Observatory Committee — Russell
        - Dennis: Russell stepping down so don't currently have a chair.
    c. Incorporation — Dennis
        - Dennis: Will get the cost of incorporation. Will have a motion for the expenditure then can begin the process.
    d. Finance Committee — Abdul/Mark Irvine
        - Dennis: Judy appointed to this. Abdul not staying on next year. Judy is on the finance committee with Mark. Bylaws require 3 people on the comm. Mark: I am meeting on Wednesday with Abdul for draft budget. Will include Judy.
    e. Star Parties — Russell
        - Dennis: Are we okay with Russell running the star party? He is appointed based on silence. To Bryan, note Russell as SWSP for the AGM. No one available for the spring star party.
    f. Awards Centre nominations — Bryan
        - Bryan: Since Abdul resigned, have options with the 2022 awards. Sending out the drive, profile, maybe an article for Winnicentrics. Can upload the drive for the pictures. We are short one person. Scott: I will sit on the awards comm, my calendar is awful, but can discuss by email. Dennis: Need the outstanding member for the AGM. Scott: Nominate Silvia Graca for the National Service Award. Dennis: Everybody agrees. Scott: Need some stories to include. **ACTION: All to write content for Scott**.
    g. Nomination Committee — Bryan
        - Bryan: 2 openings now, Treasurer is open and likely one councillor. Dennis: Talk to people on council. Bryan: Need bus cards. Looked at the list. Kevin Galka is off the list. Also, people who do not want name going to council. Scott: We are in contravention of bylaws because nebulous split between councilors and directors. Need to get that

clarified. Also, will Kevin renew his membership. Dennis: He did notify Kevin that his membership was expired. If he renews membership, then can recruit him. Judy: We need to figure out the directors for inc. Dennis: Need the president, treasurer, and secretary named, not necessarily the VP. Scott: We don't want the corporation and club to be different from each other. Ed: the bylaws say 8 directors and 4 councillors. Dennis: We should have 4 other director pos. Need 2 people to volunteer as councillors. The AGM is January. Dennis: Would like to do incorporation before the end of the year. Would like to announce this. No difference in meetings. Just what goes on the annual return. Mark: No difference in the legal liability for director / councillor. Dennis: I will send out the Corp Act for people to read. The question is whether there anyone on Council who does NOT wish to be named as a Director, out of the 10 current Council members? Dennis will get link to the Incorporations act and circulate. Anyone who is not happy to be a Director, let Dennis know before the application is submitted.

- Mark: Do we have the director liability ins? Dennis: Believe is part of National. Will double check that. Mark: Prov or federal? Federal is simpler step to go to charity. This is a requirement. Dennis: The intent was not to get charitable status right away. Most chapters are provincially incorporated. Mark: Also, any money flows between charities has to be between charities. Ed: Concern that intent was to set org up for the future, legacy giving cares about charitable tax receipt. Dennis: Cutting off because it is not topic for today.

7. Directors and Councilors — Tabled
8. Appointed Positions Recruitment — Dennis
   a. **Winnicentrics Editor** – Dennis: Scott has accepted to be WinniCentrics Editor for next year, after Gord steps down at the end of the year.
   b. **SWSP** – Dennis: This is Russell.
   c. **Membership Coordinator (Jay role)** – Dennis: Need to firm up what Jay willing to do. He thought he was sending a welcome package and not necessarily anything else. Other person to add to the website. Judy: He is doing this now. He could learn how to post things to the website. Dennis: Okay I will meet with Jay. Marc: I could do the membership coordination, but not sure what between Abdul and Jay. Dennis: If there is a piece that Jay does not want to do, e.g., website, you okay working with him? Marc: Yes.
   d. Spring Star Party – N/A
   e. Explore the Universe – Dennis: To Bryan, please get the word out to people that these positions are available as well. Also, Kamala's name was thrown out. Bryan: Yes, she is on my list.
      - Dennis: For the Oct 14 meeting we should tap people on the shoulder and mention.
   f. Webmaster
   g. Volunteer Coordinator
   h. Mentor Coordinator
   i. Meeting Coordinator
   j. Light Abatement Committee
   k. Youth Outreach
9. Web Infrastructure and io email list update. Archiving — Russell/Marc
   - Dennis: Update on this? Marc: Groupsio running. Updating stuff on the website. Dennis: The chats in groupsio is nice. Judy: I am getting a digest for a group which reduces the # of email. Scott: Well done.

10. Business Arising
    a. Meeting format/streaming equipment — Scott/Marc
        - Scott: The last meeting worked. A tight rope. We won't have shared audience and presenters. Will grab the sound system from Kris. Feel more confident now. We need people to bring in the thumb drive. We will need to get all the presentations to the RASC laptop in advance of the meeting, from all presenters. Aiming to get everything routine to get the cables in the right place, so anyone can do the hookup for a meeting. Ed: Need to use the lessons learned from last meeting. Scott: Randy Atwood said how brave of you to have a hybrid meeting. Dennis: at National Council, some Centres were impressed that Winnipeg ran a smooth hybrid meeting. Most don't have the equipment or the technical knowhow to do that. Randy Atwood indicated we were "brave" to hold a hybrid meeting; well done – so many parts! Scott: Maybe you and I could write a journal article. Dennis: It was well done.
    b. Speaker Gifts, purchase more meteorites — Dennis
        - I have 6 more gifts for speakers, and will drop off at Judy's so they can be mailed to the speakers.
        - Next meeting:
            i. gAIL on Hercules
            ii. BS What's up
            iii. Danielle for What's New
            iv. Not heard from the U of T speaker.
    c. Promotional handouts — Dennis
        - Dennis: Who has the promo material? Abdul: I have everything with me. No more handouts needed. Waiting for the 2023 calendars, to arrive in October.
    d. Name tags — Scott
        - Scott: no action to report.
    e. Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) — Dennis
        - Dennis: Playing tag with Tim
    f. Kevin Galka — Dennis
        - No longer on Council
    g. OHMIC — Dennis
        - Oak Hammock Dennis: RASC members welcome and free if they bring their scope. Wanted it in the minutes. Judy: When? Dennis: Third Thurs of the month.
    h. MB Museum First Night — Scott
        - Scott: There is a 1st Friday that month. If people want to come out can. Will be every 1st Friday through December.
    i. Glenlea, cleanup, damage repair — Dennis
        - Dennis: Jay did some work on the weekend. Should we organize a cleanup committee this weekend. Mike: Great idea with members night coming up. Dennis: What time? Judy: Early. Dennis: Will set up for 10:00. Need a Skilsaw for the bathroom floor. Dennis: I put out a general msg on Groupsio.
    j. Library Telescope Program — Scott
        - Scott: Batted around for a while. The cost for StarBlast 4.5" are available come this January, about $300 each, the grant to pay for that. They recommend modifications e.g., zoom eyepiece, chin, decals with the moon map. We would be buying into the program. I need to submit grant by Oct 14. For now, just need letter of support, have volunteer members to check on the scopes every so often, fund to help the centre. But

have not heard back from the library folks, they might not get back to us for this grant. If not hear back would have to push off to next grant opportunity. Will have something for people to look at by Oct 10. The Centre would a contractor of the Planetarium for this purpose. We have a set contract for contractors with appropriate language, would get signed once we have the funding. We be room for who does what.

- Mike: In a perfect world, email goes out to libraries, whoever wants goes with it. Scott: The Millennium Lib has musical instruments. Not all have them. Probably due to having people knowing how to maintenance and for security reasons. Would have to see how Library wants to do it. Likely they would want to do it the same way. Would like to find other orgs to work with as well. Until hear from the Library can't go to the next step.
- Mark: The safety, e.g., looking at the sun. Scott: There is a sticker that says not to do it. There are some mods they recommend, e.g., the collimation screws. For pointing at the sun. There would be materials created that go with the scope, once created that is the package. The Library to take over and operate.
- Ed: Would this would be a formal contract? Scott:"yes", and it would have the appropriate language and terms, and would be signed once the funding was in place. There would still be chance for revision once the funding is there.
- Dennis: I will do up the letter for you. If anyone knows someone in the Library, let them know. Scott: It has to go through central for permission then each library decides on opting in or out. Dennis: No need to vote on this, everyone in favour.

k. Mailing Address forwarding Dennis

- Dennis: Ed is taking over the mail. Everyone was in agreement. Abdul will work with him on that.

l. Spruce Woods gift to casino Dennis

- Dennis: Spruce Woods wants to recognize the casino for agreeing to be compliant with the Dark Sky preserve. The casino would have been a good place to be recognized. They made sure there lights were compliant. The picture might be expensive. Thoughts? Mike: They would not be affiliated with Friends of Spruces Woods? They could cost share that expense. Michelle: How pricey were the pics? Dennis: $200 each, from Ron and Sheila done at SWPP. They were 18 x 24. About $250 for each photo. Michelle: If the plaque is done right would benefit everyone. Dennis: I will reach out to Tim and see if casino willing to give us space for this.
- Dennis: Friends of SWPP has been talking about building small observatory out there. They need good guidance. Trevor Bryant runs most of their programs. Dennis: Might want to suggest that they keep their project small. Mike: Gerry and I emailing each other. Trevor was planning on donating an 8" dob, but it is not quite suitable because is older. Better to have a 8" SCT. Need the right height to work with. Mike: Jennifer at SW is not aware of the donation. Scott: As soon as you have a building people outside get excluded. Really, they need a pad with shed and dobs with wheelie mounts. Michelle: I agree, given number of people saw there that might work well. They have courses. Mike: A dob is a good thing but push-button keypad is really handy. Michelle: Gerry had a star hopping course, could be a weekend course, special pointing scope for special observing sessions. Dennis: The reason not used now is the park interpreters don't know the night sky. Hence the go to. Michelle: They could go for training. Dennis: The initial request from the Friends of Spruce Woods. But they need to decide what their goal is. Our best is to feed back questions to understand that they need. Michelle: Is someone from our group talking to them? Judy: It has been Silvia and Gerry.

Someone there asked about an obs, but they had questions on what they really need. Dennis: Yes I think someone needs to sit down with them, they need to know their budget, they are putting the cart before the horse. Judy: Anyone can join the Friends. Michelle: Okay might check into that.

m. Telescopes for Kids Dennis

- Do we go ahead with sponsoring this, for this year? All approve. Dennis will tell Gord.
- Scott requests that we not give out a department-store scope that is not appropriate for kids

11. Round table All
    - Ed: Next membership meeting. Will be another set up challenge.
    - Marc: For next meeting what is capacity of the room? About 100. Last month was 40.
    - Judy: Any ideas in case U of T falls through? Dennis: Try Gord for his obs build. Scott: I have a dozen presentations. Michelle: I have presentation on choosing your own scope. The dark universe. Judy: The scope would be a beginner talk.
    - Scott: Nothing
    - Mark: Nothing
    - Mike: NCC next month or in Nov? Dennis: Not sure. Mike: I have a scope in the garage to use.
    - Bryan: Do we still have the pull-up banner? Dennis: Stan might have it. Bryan: Also, the beginner's package. Dennis: Jay working on that.
    - Abdul: Nothing
    - Michelle: Nothing
    - Ed: Danielle: Confirmed for the What's New? NCC = Nature Conservancy of Canada.
12. Next Meeting Monday Nov 7, 7 PM?
13. Adjourn 8:29 PM

	Name	Signature	Date
Secretary	Ed Wright		