



## RASC Halifax Centre Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, January 31, 2023: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Via Zoom - Meeting ID 847 3780 2242

Agenda Items				
Time	Item	Purpose	Responsibility	Support Documents / Notes
7:00 PM	1. Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval of Agenda</li> </ul>	Information Approval	John Nangreaves	Pre-circulated: Agenda: January 31, 2023
60 minutes allotted	2. RASC Financial Update	Information	Charles Ennis Michael Watson Judy Black Gregg Dill	Pre-circulated: January 27, 2023
	3. Previous Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review Action List</li> <li>Approval of Previous Minutes of Meeting</li> </ul>	Information Approval	John Nangreaves	Pre-circulated: Agenda: January 31, 2023 Minutes: January 10, 2022
<b>ONGOING ITEMS</b>				
	4. Upcoming Meeting Dates & Guest Speakers <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2023 Member's Meeting Date Confirmation and Format</li> <li>Confirm Member's Meeting agenda</li> <li>Zoom/SMU Bookings</li> <li>Guest Speakers &amp; Ideas for Future Presentations</li> </ol>	Ongoing Discussion Approval	John Nangreaves	<b>Refer to Agenda Notes #1: Speakers &amp; Approved 2023 Member Meeting Dates</b>  <b>Refer to Agenda Notes #2: 2023 Board of Directors Meeting Dates</b>
	5. Report from National Council Representative	Information Discussion	Judy Black	<b>Next NC Meeting: February 5, 2023</b>
	6. RASC Halifax Centre Website & YouTube	Discussion Decision	Judy Black	<i>Deferred to next meeting: February 28, 2023</i>
	7. Financial Update	Discussion Decision	Gregg Dill / Jaime Whynot	<i>Deferred to next meeting: February 28, 2023</i>
	8. Recruitment	Discussion	Peter Hurley	<i>Deferred to next meeting: February 28, 2023</i>
	9. Education & Public Outreach (EPO) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outreach Requests (if applicable)</li> <li>Form Committee</li> </ul>	Discussion Decision	David Hoskin	<i>n/a</i>
<b>UPDATES / REPORTS</b>				
	10. SCO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade Status</li> <li>Financial Status</li> </ul>	Discussion Decision	John Liddard Jaime Whynot (Gregg Dill)	<i>n/a</i>
<b>GOVERNANCE</b>				
	11. Policy & Bylaw #1 Review	Information Discussion	Judy Black	<i>Deferred to next meeting: February 28, 2023</i>
	12. Registry of Joint Stock Companies (RJSC)	Discussion Decision	Jaime Whynot Peter Hurley	<i>Judy Black &amp; Gregg Dill to assist. Annual report to RJSC required.</i>

NEW BUSINESS				
	13. GLP Training	Information Decision	Judy Black	<i>Organize training for Halifax Centre</i>
9:00 PM	Adjournment (Next meeting: Feb. 28, 2023)			

## RASC, Halifax Centre – Member’s Meeting

Saturday, February 4, 2021 – 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Via Zoom – Meeting ID 859 7707 5399

Agenda Items		
Time*	Item	Responsibility
1:00 PM	<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b> Photo Montage	Judy Black (emcee) David Hoskin
1:15 PM	<b>Presentations:</b> Gary Welch – Life in Space Pat Kelly -	Gary Welch
2:45 PM	Food for the Soul	Paul Heath
2:55 PM	What’s Up? (February)	David Hoskin
3:30 PM	News from the Board	John Nangreaves
4:00 PM	Adjournment	

\* Times are for Board of Director information only and for informing presenters of the length of their presentations; they will not be published on the Halifax Centre website. Times will be adjusted for each meeting.

## Halifax Centre Board of Directors - Minutes of Meeting January 31, 2023 - 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**Present:** John Nangreaves (President), Peter Hurley, Lisa Ann Fanning, Judy Black, David Hoskin, Jaime Whynot, Kathy Walker (until 9:00pm), Tony McGrath, Dave Lane, Gregg Dill, Mary Lou Whitehorne, John Liddard, Matt Dyer, Pat Kelly,

**Guests:** Charles Ennis, Michael Watson, Catherine Carr

### 1. Welcome & Introductions

Judy opened the meeting at 7:02pm, reminding us that this was an information session that she had arranged as Halifax Centre National Council Rep and Chair of the National Council so that members of the National Board of Directors could explain to our Board the current financial situation of the RASC and possible solutions that were being considered. She introduced Charles Ennis (President, National RASC Board), Michael Watson (1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, National RASC Board) and Catherine Carr (Treasurer, National RASC Board) to our members and handed over the session to our guests. It was explained that the information to be presented was in confidence as the National Board was in the process of making these presentations with various Centres across the country to seek feedback before the National Board makes further decisions moving forward. As a consequence, and because there were no decisions, actions or motions from our Board, minutes were not recorded. At approximately 8:00pm, our guests departed for another meeting. Discussion among our members continued until approximately 8:40pm, at which time John Nangreaves called our Board meeting to order.

John Nangreaves called the meeting to order at 8:40 pm and welcomed members. The meeting agenda had been circulated by Peter on January 29, 2023. John asked if we could review the agenda, skipping item 2 as it had already occurred, and keeping in mind that we would likely need to defer items.

230131MN-Mot01

It was moved by Judy Black and seconded by Matt Dyer to approve the January 31, 2023 Board of Directors meeting agenda, as circulated.  
CARRIED.

The minutes of the January 10, 2023 Board of Directors meeting had been circulated by email by Peter on January 30, 2023. Peter proposed that, given the late date that the minutes were distributed, approval be deferred until our next meeting to give members time to review them. Deferral was agreed. It was also suggested that we could defer review of the Action List if there weren't any time-sensitive issues.

## **ONGOING ITEMS**

### **2. Upcoming Meeting Dates & Guest Speakers**

Mary Lou asked if we should keep Rick Wagner on as a speaker in March to discuss the RASC Robotic Telescope, given the presentation by the RASC National Board members. It was agreed that it would be best to leave that decision until after the February 5, 2023 National Board meeting decisions were made. When discussing if there might be a SMU Post-Doc that could speak in Rick Wagner's place, it was suggested that the potential strike by SMU Faculty wouldn't affect our access to the AT101 meeting room or to SMU grad students. Lisa Ann suggested Stéphane Picard, a member of the New Brunswick RASC Centre, could speak on the topic of Astrotourism. It was agreed that we would wait until February 5, but if the decision was to cancel Rick Wagner as a speaker, Judy agreed to contact Stéphane Picard.

#### **220131MN-Act01**

Judy Black to contact Stéphane Picard, a RASC New Brunswick Centre member, to ask if he would speak at our March 4, 2023 Centre Members meeting.

Peter reported that a Centre member had complained after the January 7, 2023 Members meeting that, while participating in the meeting by Zoom, they had been harassed via a private chat from another meeting participant and had left the meeting as a result. Upon investigation, it was determined that the participant who had harassed our member was a person who had previously been expelled from RASC. There was discussion about how to prevent this from happening in the future and it was agreed that the name of the individual would be passed on to our Zoom meeting monitor and the individual would not be allowed into the meeting from the Zoom waiting room if they were to attempt to join in the future. It was also agreed that an extra message would be added to the meeting introduction to be delivered by the meeting emcee indicating that harassment of meeting participants would not be tolerated and anyone experiencing any harassment at any time during a Centre activity should communicate it to the meeting Host or a Board member. Pat suggested that we should save the Zoom session files in the event of a similar occurrence because the contents of the chat messages is captured in the session report files.

#### **220131MN-Act02**

Peter Hurley to determine if private chat messages made during a Zoom meeting are saved in the Zoom meeting session files.

John Nangreaves asked if there were other items on the agenda that needed to be addressed at this time or could be deferred to next meeting. Peter indicated that the Centre Annual Report was due to the RASC National office by the end of February. He, David, and Gregg should all provide input to Judy who would collate material for the report.

#### **220131MN-Act03**

Judy Black to circulate the draft RASC Annual Report to Board members for their input.

### **Green Laser Pointer Training**

Another item that needed attention was the selection of a date for the GLP training. David, John Nangreaves, Peter and Tony Schellinck had all indicated interest in participating, and others were also interested. It was agreed that a Sunday afternoon would be preferable. It was agreed that once a date was selected, it would be communicated to the general membership for interest in participation. Peter pointed out that the Centre would need to keep track of who had been trained and when the training had been taken since the certificate required re-training after 3 years.

**220131MN-Act04**

Judy Black to confirm a date and time with Denis Lyons for GLP usage training.

**UPDATES / REPORTS****SCO**

John Liddard provided an update on SCO and indicated that he had been unsuccessful finding someone to provide a quote for servicing the propane heater but that he had heard from an electrician that the installation of the electric heater would cost about \$1,000. There was discussion whether installation of the electric heater needed to be completed by an electrician and Tony and Dave volunteered to install the heater. They felt that it could be completed for less than \$250. It was agreed that Tony, Dave and John Liddard should proceed as soon as they are able.

**Adjournment**

There being no other pressing business, John Nangreaves asked for a motion to adjourn at 9:26pm.

**230131MN-Mot02**

It was moved by Judy Black to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Hurley, Secretary

**ACTION LIST (January 31, 2023):**

<b>From September 6, 2022</b>		
220906MN-Act01	<b>Peter Hurley</b> and <b>Tim Doucette</b> to discuss light pollution abatement, where it best fits within the DSP Committee or as a separate entity, and report how best to go forward at the October Board meeting.	Open
220906MN-Act03	<b>Judy Black</b> to contact Dave Lane and Gregg Dill to organize the inventory of SCO equipment.	Open
<b>From November 1, 2022</b>		
221101MN-Act02	<b>John Liddard</b> to acquire price quotes for servicing the furnace and for acquiring an electrician's services for electrical heat installation.	Open
<b>From November 29, 2022</b>		
221129MN-Act01	<b>Judy Black</b> to discuss how to handle the RASC Halifax Centre Zoom account registration and payment with John Nangreaves.	Open
221129MN-Act03	<b>Peter Hurley</b> to confirm the availability of room AT101 with SMU administration for Members meeting dates in 2023.	Open
221129MN-Act09	<b>Peter Hurley</b> to put amendment of Bylaw #1 to include use of social media to hold meetings on a future he Board meeting agenda (not January 3, 2023).	Open
<b>From January 10, 2023</b>		
230110MN-Act01	<b>Jaime Whynot</b> to explore SMU mailbox option with Tiffany Fields and Dave Lane.	Open
230110MN-Act02	<b>Judy Black</b> to ask <b>Mary Lou Whitehorne</b> to invite Gary Welch to present at the February or March Members meeting.	Open
230110MN-Act03	<b>Board members</b> to indicate if they are willing to serve as emcee for Centre	Open

	Members meetings.	
230110MN-Act04	<b>Judy Black</b> to obtain possible GLP training dates from Denis Lyons.	Open
230110MN-Act05	<b>Judy Black</b> to send the updated Board contact list to Dave Lane.	Open
230110MN-Act06	<b>Board members</b> to report any changes or corrections to their contact information to Peter Hurley for reporting to NS RJSC.	Open
230110MN-Act07	<b>Dave Lane</b> to provide Peter Hurley with the contact for the SMU colloquium distribution.	Open
230110MN-Act08	<b>Peter Hurley</b> to contact the RASC National I&D Committee to ask if they could arrange a presentation to our Board about improving I&D.	Open
230110MN-Act09	<b>David Hoskin</b> to ask for volunteers to form an EPO Committee at upcoming Members meeting on February 4, 2023.	Open
230110MN-Act10	<b>Peter Hurley</b> to work with David Hoskin to create a list of volunteers to help with observing and outreach requests that are remote to the HRM area.	Open
230110MN-Act11	<b>John Nangreaves</b> to forward the email from Samantha Cox, Shubenacadie Wildlife Park requesting an outreach activity to David Hoskin.	Open
230110MN-Act12	<b>David Hoskin</b> to contact Samantha Cox regarding her EPO request.	Open
230110MN-Act13	<b>Judy Black</b> to contact Richard Wagner regarding a possible presentation at a Centre Members meeting.	Open
230110MN-Act14	<b>Jaime Whynot</b> and <b>Gregg Dill</b> to report on the amount remaining in the funds raised for the renovations of SCO.	Open
230110MN-Act15	<b>Peter Hurley</b> to notify those nominated for appointment that they have been approved.	Open
230110MN-Act16	<b>Gregg Dill</b> to generate financial data required to complete RJSC online form and submit the list of officers and the financial data to RJSC online.	Open
230110MN-Act17	<b>The Governance Committee</b> to review policy G3 and propose a action regarding signing authorities.	Open
230110MN-Act18	<b>Jerry Black</b> to change the wording of the announcement of the 2023 Astroimaging Contest rules on the Centre website to correct the eligibility.	Open
<b>From January 31, 2023</b>		
230131MN-Act01	<b>Judy Black</b> to contact Stéphane Picard, a RASC New Brunswick Centre member, to ask if he would speak at our Centre Members meeting.	Open
230131MN-Act02	<b>Peter Hurley</b> to determine if private chat messages made during a Zoom meeting are saved in the Zoom meeting session files.	Open
230131MN-Act03	<b>Judy Black</b> to circulate the draft RASC Annual Report to Board members for their input.	Open
230131MN-Act04	<b>Judy Black</b> to confirm a date and time with Denis Lyons for GLP usage training.	Open

## MOTION LIST (January 10, 2023):

230131MN-Mot01	It was moved by Judy Black and seconded by Matt Dyer to approve the January 31, 2023 Board of Directors meeting agenda as circulated. CARRIED.
230131MN-Mot02	It was moved by Judy Black to adjourn the meeting.

## AGENDA NOTES

Agenda Item, Proposed By, & Date Proposed	Description Received (& Proposed Motion, if Applicable)
<b>Agenda Note #1 re: Speakers &amp; 2023 Member Meeting Dates</b>	<p><b>2023 Approved Member Meeting Dates and Events</b> Members' Meeting dates were approved at the November 2022 Board of Directors meeting. They have been posted on the RASC(HC) website.</p> <p><b>Confirmed Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">February 4, 2023 (Hybrid meeting) Our Solar System</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Gary Welch</b> – Gravity's Way: Shredding Galaxies on a Laptop</li> <li>○ <b>Pat Kelly</b> – The Sun is not an average Star. The Earth is not an average planet.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed Meeting Speakers, 2023</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">March 4, 2023 – Beyond Our Atmosphere, but not our View</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Rick Wagner</b> – Science with the RASC Remote Telescope</li> <li>○ <b>Chris Young</b> – Sky Lore</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <a href="#">April 1, 2023 – Hot and Cold</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Tarek El Wazzi</b> – Lebanon: nightlife of a different genre</li> <li>○ <b>Jeremy Kuzub</b> – Making your Own Luck: A Guide to Aurora Chasing and Photography</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <a href="#">May 6, 2023 – Look Up! The Skies are Open.</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Chair, Observing Committee (Blake Nancarrow)</b>: “Observing. Looking up.... now and in the future” RASC programs now and in the future.</li> <li>○ <b>Blair MacDonald</b> – “Challenging Astroimages: Dying Stars”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Suggested Speakers / Special Presentations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Kaja Rotermund</b> (formation of a high-redshift galaxy cluster)</li> <li>○ <b>Dr. Samantha Lawler</b>: New to the U of R and very busy rebuilding the astronomy program. She also has her core research and took on a leadership role in the StarLink issues and lobbying the federal government about it. <a href="mailto:Samantha.Lawler@uregina.ca">Samantha.Lawler@uregina.ca</a></li> <li>○ <a href="https://rasc.ca/find-speaker">https://rasc.ca/find-speaker</a></li> </ul>
<b>Agenda Note #2 re: Approved 2023 Board of Directors Meeting Dates</b>	<p><b>Approved Meeting Dates, 2023</b> Member Meeting dates for 2023 were approved in principle by the Board in November 2022. However, Board meeting dates need to be reaffirmed by the newly elected Board. The following dates are all on Tuesday evenings unless otherwise noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feb 28</li> <li>• March 28</li> <li>• May 2</li> <li>• May 30</li> <li>• June 20 (if required)</li> <li>• Sept 5 (Labour Day = Sept 4)</li> <li>• Oct 10 (Thanksgiving = Oct 9)</li> <li>• Oct 31</li> <li>• Nov 28</li> </ul>