

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, Victoria Centre
Special Council Meeting Minutes
John Alfred Place 2631 Douglas St.
April 28, 2004

The Special Council Meeting of the Victoria Centre of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada which took place at the residence of George Ball commenced at 7:35 pm.

In attendance were Honourary President George Ball, President Chris Gainor presiding, Bruno Quenneville, Sid Sidhu, David Lee, Lauri Roche, Frank Ogonoski, Jim and Betty Hesser, Ed Maxfield and Li-Ann Dorrance. Regrets: Blaire Pellatt, Sandy Barta and Colin Scarfe.

Welcome

President Chris Gainor explained the reason that Council was holding this special meeting is to honour Honourary President George Ball after the completion of moving George's telescope dome and equipment on April 1.

Thank you

Chris thanked the many people who assisted in the project, and thanked George for his long association with the RASC Victoria Centre and noted that the national history of the RASC has a section with information on George Ball.

Words from the floor

Chris called to the floor for those who wished to say a few words.

Bruno admires the time and effort it took to make the equipment and is proud to have it to the collection.

Sid cherishes the ideas George has given to problem solving and recalls his most exciting moment was winning the Newton Ball Award. Sid was asked to tell how he moved the heavy equipment from his truck to the equipment storage shed on his property with assistance from a tow truck.

Frank is impressed with the dome and has copied the ideas for his own dome.

Jim is also honoured to have won the Newton Ball Award and appreciates everything George has done to better the relationships between the public, amateur and professional astronomers.

Reflections

George shared some stories on how he built the pier, the telescope, the process of alignment, the pouring of cement, machining the right ascension gears, creating the curved rails, and he is proud of how accurate everything is. His only regret is that his wife is not here to share in this event, as she assisted him in the construction.

Presentation

Chris presented George with two photo albums assembled by Bruno and Bill Almond from the day of the move. Chris then presented George with a Certificate of Appreciation from the RASC Victoria Centre.

Business

Frank asked if a thank you note was sent to the crane company, Advantage Cranes.

Action: Bruno will frame a photo and send it as a thank you for their assistance.

Bruno informed Council that the charge for the moving project was for one crane operator at \$30.00/hour for 4 hours plus incidentals. Bruno volunteered his time to be the slinger.

A discussion took place about Astronomy Day the previous Saturday, and how smoothly the event ran. Credit was given to Sid, who organized the event, and the many volunteers who again volunteered their time

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Li-Ann Dorrance
Secretary/Recorder