

# Meeting Minutes – Mars Society

*June 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM Challenger Center, Alexandria, VA*

## 1. Tom Hill: Display for DC Mars at Convention

- Conducted web search for sample displays and costs
- Most displays are geared toward businesses; however Tom proposes that he can put together a design for \$20.
- 4 panels are arranged to be folded together into a compacted shape.
- Cover panels with fabric that is mountable for displays
- Tom plans to use costs associated with creating display to be put toward dues.
- Suggestions for layout are welcome.
- Tom is expecting to submit two abstracts for convention:
  - Novel to design habitat
  - Briefing or roundtable for presentations and discussions.

## 2. Ron Hess: Proposed Speaker

- Proposed speaker will not be able to make today's meeting.

## 3. Joe Webster: Public Outreach

- Mars Direct Table of Contents
  - Suggestions needed as soon as possible to get edits done in time for convention.
  - Anticipates to write up short form soon.
- Mars Prize
  - Took an article from Robert Zubrin and developed it to be presented to Congress
  - Total proposed cost is \$30 billion
  - Sample mission \$1 billion dollar prize
  - Pressurized orbit for Mars
  - 1<sup>st</sup> use of Martian soil
  - Demonstrate heavy booster to low earth orbit
  - Sending crew to Mars
  - Reference: "Mars on a Shoe String" by Robert Zubrin.
- Mars Direct Concept
  - Important part of briefing book
  - Need to make more accurate and polish up
  - Briefing book expected to be done by July to be ready for conference; see Mars Direct web site.
  - Need a congressional sponsor for holding meetings.
  - Need staffers for contacts and coordination.

- Press aides @ NASA – Don Savage.
- Fact Sheets
  - Itemized sheet to make it easy for Congressional staffers to understand and use
- News Items
  - NASA Watch Web site
  - NASA briefed the White House on findings on Mars – good indication that water was found.
  - Paper underway to discuss water ice on Mars in Mariner's Valley.
  - Look next week for discovery from Mars Explorer
- Private Initiatives
  - Mars Rover has sponsor from Radio Shack for about \$5 million. First \$1 million will be donated the first year then more funds to be released later.
  - Mir Space Station (MIRCorp), plans to send first space tourist to the Mir Space Station for a week. Cost is around \$20 million.

#### 4. Bob Terry: Website

- Since Late April we got access to website. We can now post to the website
- E-group list seems easy to do. Bob will set up lists.
- Board and general membership lists moderated automatically every 24 hours. Host server takes messages and sends one message in an email to members.
- Should list be moderated? It was decided that it shouldn't be moderated since it might take too much work. List will be reviewed periodically to see if moderation is necessary.
- Send ideas or HTML pages to [RETerry@bigplanet.com](mailto:RETerry@bigplanet.com)
- Page is still looking for concepts. Volunteers?

#### 5. Ron Hess: General Business

- General membership meetings are the last Tuesday of every month.
- Suggestions for Youth Outreach:
  - High School science classes guest speakers
- AIAA (American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics) speech from Dan Goldwin June 29<sup>th</sup> at NASA Headquarters.
- Convention is August 10<sup>th</sup> through 13<sup>th</sup> in Toronto. Contact Ron for Carpools and travel partners.

End Meeting.