



Minutes of DAS E-Board Meeting

Friday, April 27, 2007

Officer/E-Board Attendees: Wayne Green, Keith Pool, Brad Gilman, Darrell Dodge, Jack Eastman, Frank Mancini, Joe Gafford. **Other:** Aaron Reid, Ivan Geisler, Wayne Kaaz, Bill Ormsby,
Absent E-Board Members: Ron Mickle, David Shouldice, Ron Pearson, Bryan Wilburn, Dan Wray

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm by Wayne Green, DAS President.
There were no minutes to be read.

CHAMBERLIN REPORT – Aaron Reid

A new architect – Slater-Paull – has been selected for the Grant work. Aaron took the architect's staff on a tour of Chamberlin to point out problem windows and foundation areas, and they came by again on April 13th and 27th. Work will include: 1) window renovations, 2) mortar and foundation repair, and 3) the installation of a new fire protection system. The window renovation scheme needs to be reworked because the window frames do not slide out. There was water infiltration in the basement during a recent rain storm. The Slater-Paull staff took pictures of problem areas and obtained mortar samples. They will not touch the 20-inch telescope. Aaron will coordinate schedules with them to avoid Public Night and Open House conflicts. May have problems with daytime events, but none have been planned so far.

Work is now scheduled to start in August 2007. A general contractor may be selected, with up to 4 subcontractors (fire alarms, carpenter for windows, mortar, etc.) Grant work will not involve renovation of electrical or plumbing.

Usage plan for new bookcase in the E-Board Room: Lower right 4 drawers and 4 doors can be used by DAS for storage. Items from the historic library collection housed in the rest of the bookcase can be checked out with any Colorado library card through DU's Penrose Library.

OFFICER REPORTS

Secretary Report – Darrell Dodge

The membership spreadsheet developed by Stuart Hutchins has been loaded into an Access database. This will allow the creation of a DAS roster and several specialized reports, such as a list of members whose renewals are overdue, a list of active members for Greg Marino to help maintain the Yahoo group list, and various mailing lists, including the Observer list. Reminder cards were sent out in early April and several renewals have resulted. There will be a list of new members in the May Observer.

Treasurer Report – Brad Gilman

There were 6 new members in April, as well as several renewals. DAS paid the electric bill for the Dark Site: \$1250 (\$125 per year.) Brad will pay the bill for the 2006 tax return preparation (\$400.) A motion was raised and seconded and passed to pay Alan Cartwright to do taxes (at 1/3 the price.) and pay his dues for one year. He will tweak the QuickBooks program Brad is using to clear up problems.

Vice President Report – Keith Pool

Guest speakers have been lined up through August: June, Mark Bottorff (topic still to be decided); July, Max Moe, Evolution of Planetary Nebulae; August - Dick McCray – Super Nova 1987a Revisited. Past speakers have been paid.

President Report – Wayne Green

Wayne gave Naomi Pequette a recommendation for scholarship applications. She will be applying for a Van Nattan-Hansen scholarship this year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee – Frank Mancini

No Report

Public Outreach Committee – Contributed by Wayne Green

The recent Kiowa star party was a big success, with attendance of about 100. A local bank in Kiowa wanted to buy a telescope for the school and Wayne pointed them to S&S. People from Kiowa will come down to Chamberlin. Wayne suggested they start a community astronomy club with junior members.

“View the Ancient Skies” concept – a possible future exhibit – interested Dr. Stencil.

Upcoming star parties include one at Sabin Elementary School near Hampden and Sheridan, Wednesday, May 9th 8pm. 100 kids and parents expected.

The April Open House attracted 60 visitors despite cloudy skies.

Ron Mickle had requested a copy of PowerPoint for the Public Outreach computers. Wayne Green purchased 5 copies of MS Office 2003 through Tech Soup – for \$100 – so all DAS computers will have Office 2003 (and PowerPoint) on them.

Internet and Yahoo Group – Wayne Green

Gambro donated an equipment rack to allow the Web server to be moved to the Chamberlin basement where it will be cooler, out of the way during the Grant work, and provide better wireless coverage.

Web Site – Darrell Dodge

A new design for the DAS home page has been developed and was shown on a laptop computer. Attendees were given the URL and asked to review and comment.

Dark Site Committee – Wayne Kaaz

The E-Board discussed the DS committee’s ideas about the 17 ½ inch Newtonian telescope, including the possibility of selling it and using the proceeds to purchase another telescope. E-

Board members noted that it has a good primary mirror, diagonal and focuser, along with a good finder and suggested that refurbishing be considered. DS Committee members discussed options for a storage shed at the last meeting. A Rubbermaid storage shed had been considered, but Wayne Kaaz noted that the day after a snow storm the roof of one of those sheds at his local Office Depot had caved in. The committee is considering a larger structure again. Ken Takahashi had volunteered to join the committee to replace Mickey Smith, who has moved to Oklahoma. Wayne Green moved to approve Ken's membership on the committee. Joe Gafford seconded. The E-Board voted yea.

Wayne Green moved to adjourn, Joe Gafford seconded. The E-Board meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Submitted by Darrell M. Dodge, DAS Secretary