

## Minutes of Eboard Meeting May 7, 2010

Officers: Present: Ron Pearson, Pres., Norm Rosling, VP, Bonnie Kais, Sec., Brad Gilman, Treas.

Board: Present: Jack Eastman, David Shouldice, Joe Gafford, Frank Mancini, Tim Pimentel

Absent: Keith Pool, Dan Wray, Steve Solon, Ron Mieckle

Minutes of the May, 2010 meeting were amended and approved.

### DU Report

1) Aaron Reid provided a follow-up on the telescope restoration plan and Chris Ray and Fred Orthlieb's findings. At the DAS General Meeting, the two experts presented restoration options in two separate contract periods. Contract 1: In Fall 2010 complete an Optical Restoration—clean lenses. Contract 2: In 2011, complete a mechanical cleaning of electrical systems and gears. Other issues which could be addressed as time and money permit: cosmetic issues and dome motors. DAS is expecting the experts' final written reports by the end of May, 2010. Overall, scopes are in good health with the upper percentile well-maintained. Ron Pearson inquired whether Dr. Bob Stencel plans to fund Chris and Fred's next trip to Denver. Frank Mancini indicated no money exists in the Chamberlain fund for this expense. He also reported there may not be enough money in the fund for the restoration work. Frank Mancini proposed DAS seek bids for 1<sup>st</sup> phase to find out how much this will cost. Jack Eastman asked if the video cameras are now a dead issue. Aaron indicated he would like to see this work completed when the circuits are repaired.

2) Aaron also reported that the Pine Valley Ranch Star Party is tentatively still on for May 15, 2010. It is to be held in the Jeffco Open Space and volunteers are still needed. However, no meal will be provided for lack of funds. He also reported that the Sabin Elementary Star Party hosted by Johnny Barilla was held as scheduled in spite of dense cloud cover. Sabin Elementary donated \$75.00 to DAS which Aaron gave to Brad Gilman. In lieu of sky watching, Aaron gave a brief talk on the night sky and demonstrated the reflecting telescope and invited participants to a DAS Open House.

### President's Report

Ron Pearson inquired whether DAS can get back the \$335.00 fronted to Earthworks Expo which Aaron indicated was now defunct. Frank Mancini indicated that a refund is indeterminate at this time.

### Vice President's Report

Norm Rosling requested assistance filling some speaker slots for upcoming DAS General Meetings. Keith Pool may have a speaker for May, Mike Carroll, an artist. Norm indicated that the Astronomical Society of the Pacific will hold their Expo in Boulder from July 31 – August 4<sup>th</sup> and might secure a speaker there. On August 20<sup>th</sup>, Dr. James Green of CU will report on the instrumentation CU sent on the space mission. Tim Pimentel volunteered to provide a talk in June on Solar Observing. Roger Clark may be available to present a talk on lunar water and Cassini later. Aaron is going to ALCON and will look for speakers there. Meeting schedule so far: May--Mike Carroll, June-- Tim Pimentel, and August-- Dr. James Green (firm). July is still open. Jack Eastman proposed panel discussions of subjects of interest for some unfilled months.

Secretary's Report - Bonnie Kais had no report.

### Treasurer's Report

Brad Gilman is still receiving bills on the banquet and to date, cash in accounts are correct. Federal 990N form is completed and he is working on state filing now.

### Dark Sky Site

1) Darrel Dodge introduced Glen Frank who presented a plan for repair of the warming hut at the DSS. Schematic handouts were provided to board members and reviewed by Glen. He proposed a repair plan that was economical and would last at least eight years. Basically, the construction trailer that serves as the hut was erected in 2000 on dirt, then was put on blocks secured with metal straps. Finally, cemented posts were added as anchors. The straps weathered and weakened at the south end of the trailer and then broke in high winds. His plan: place trailer on 24' long 6X6 pressure-treated lumber and re-anchor with 3/4" galvanized rod and hardware.

The trailer will be moved back onto foundation, and then secured. Work to be completed in 1-2 days. Estimated repair cost - \$1300+. Aaron volunteered to help move it. Integrity of trailer after repair is unknown. Cost of a new trailer is estimated at approximately \$8,000. Resetting of the post of the broken fence area will need to be repaired at the same time. Frank M. proposed a vote to extend assets to DSS repair. Tim P. motioned that \$1500 be approved toward project. Jack E. 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried. Darrell D. will write check for the repair. 2) Darrell D. reported on a meeting with DSS landowner, Mr. Henry and family. Darrell indicated that the landlord is happy with DAS and our use of the property but may not be planning to hold onto the property much longer and would decide within one or two years. Mr. Henry is also considering obtaining an easement from the County to keep the property as open space for wildlife. Questions for DAS? How much longer will we have access? Could we consider purchasing a parcel? If so, would the new neighbors impact DSS objectives? Can DSS secure a deal with the County to guarantee our business there as usual? Electric bills were also discussed. We pay approximately \$150/year for our part of the utility and this year's bill is due. Brad G. will send one payment for \$150.00 for the 2010 payment.

#### Finance

Frank Mancini reported that charities like DAS can sell donated property up to the limit of \$500. However, if DAS sells something on consignment and the organization receives a percentage of the revenue, any \$\$ amount received by DAS is okay.

#### Outreach & PN Teams

Wayne Kaazz reported on a request from Westwood College to provide a tour for students of the night sky on July 9<sup>th</sup> at their location within a shopping center. Wayne suggested an open house at DAS. Ron Pearson expressed that all such inquiries should be directed to Keith Pool. Ron P. indicated that PN Team 4 needs volunteers, especially a lecturer. Anyone can apply.

#### VN-H Scholarship

Ron Pearson reported that the scholarship deadline is May 1, 2010 and that two applications have been received this year.

#### Loaner Program

Bill Ormsby reported no scopes loaned. Dave S. made a PDF of inventory.

#### IT/ListServer

Servers are working. Ron P. set up calendar.

#### Newsletter

Ron Pearson conducted Newsletter poll and received 40+ responses regarding sending paper copies to members. There are still member who want a newsletter mailed to them. Darrell D. proposed an Email program called "Constant Contact" that is an email link to members to remind them of upcoming meetings and events and remind them to download their newsletter. Up to 500 email addresses can be included for \$15.00/month. The board voted to try out program for 3 or 4 months.

#### Old Business

Ron Pearson reported that Cathy has not reported on the Celestron scope in for repair. David S. set up PDF of Property Inventory. Ron P. reported that this Saturday is the DMNS Solar Event. Everything is okay.

#### New Business

Frank M. indicated that DAS Insurance Policy is adequate. Tim Pimentel reported on clocks he found upstairs that need restoration for about \$200. Discussion tabled for now. Ron P. will investigate a potential aluminum dome donation from an individual in Evergreen to DAS.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.