

DAS E-Board Minutes for April 22, 2011

2011 Officers and Board Members: Ron Pearson, Pres; Lisa Judd VP; Dennis Cochran, Sec'y; Brad Gilman, Treas; Board members J. Eastman, J. Gafford, C. Habenicht, R. Hranac, T. Pimentel, K. Pool, D. Shouldice, D. Wray. All present except for K. Pool.

Observatory Reps present: A. Reid.

Others members & guests present: H. Davidson (Scope Operators), D. Dodge (Web & Membership), W. Kaaz.

Previous Minutes were read, amended and then approved.

Observatory Report: Aaron Reid reports that the 20" Clark will be down May 15 - June 2 for mechanical repairs, during which there will be no Public Nights.

An IDA display t.b. set up at the Arapahoe College Earth Day event of Saturday 4/23. Aaron received request by Peggy Kaarg @ Sabin Elementary School for Thursday 5/12. Rain caused resched to Monday 5/23.

President's Report: Trip to Little Thompson Observatory on 4/23/11: still on despite possible rain. (Later called off by Pres., but D. Jones and D. Cochran showed up anyway, in case the Berthoudites were there, but no one was at the observatory. All was not lost: the Berthoud A&W is still in operation.)

Membership roster: Emails are bouncing. Up-to-date addresses not getable from Yahoo. The roster is TBA awaiting email info being cleared of fossil entries.

Newsletter: To be published at 1st of month, then put on website a month later. A motion to do this was made by Ron Pearson and passed.

Veep's Report: June speaker bailed. Two possibles being pursued. One possible is Dr. Frank N. Stein on the topic of "Human Engineering: It's Alive!"

Restaurants for speaker dinner: Black-Eyed Pea good, Blue Bonnet OK. Discussion followed, with decision to go with Black-Eyed Pea on Colorado north of VI.

No Globe-at-Night. What does this mean in practical terms?

Treas. Rpt: Busy with asset depreciation info for State of Colorado. This detailed non-profit info is due 5/15/11.

Committees: Van Natten: Received a student member application for the scholarship.
EGK Dark Sky Site: D. Dodge: orientation will be given on dark-sky weekends rather than at scattered times. Combination to the gate lock available to all members.

Finance: No report.

Public Nights: Gary Tweed, who sells the tix at back door at Open Houses, is a mystery man, not on our member rolls. All other team members are known. (Gary is a lapsed member who said he'd re-up at 5/14 O.H. He wears a DAS ID badge.)

L. Judd: A training session is needed for object-finding at the Clark.

A. Reid: Said he could help with Public Nights Tues/Thurs.

D. Shouldice: We need a light on the Declination Setting Circle to aid finding dim

objects. He will help with object-finding training.

IT: Chadd not present. Our computer is upstairs in the office (response to question.)

Public Outreach: Monday 4/25 at The Grange in Castle Rock: (talk given to group by Steve Solon, scopes clouded out.) Then DMNS Space Day Saturday 5/7: info booth + solar scopes + talks. All went well. John "Hard-Sell" Barela buttonholed many innocent passersby. Sabin Elementary Thursday 5/12 resched to 5/23.

Loaner Scopes: D. Dodge: PST added to website loaner info. He has made an application form for equipment loans for the web page (denverastro.org/scopeloan). To be mailed by the borrower to Bill Ormsby or handed to him in person. The form captures such info as duration of loan, equipment specification including eyepieces, deposit info. Scopes are: PST, 8" DOB, C-8.

Dan W: We need a responsibility agreement to be signed by the borrower. The deposit is only \$100 but the equipment may be worth more.

D. Shouldice: An inventory sticker should be on all loaned equipment.

Newsletter: J. Gafford reported trouble sending Patti his pix. Technical discussion.

Night Sky Network (NSN): C. Habenicht reports we're getting packages from NSN for outreach activities. They'd like headcount info from us. He registered 32 DAS events with them. Packages include many CDs, which he will bring to DMNS (they were pressed on innocent passersby.) How to use them? - Some not suitable as give-aways. L. Judd has the give-away package materials for new members, and these NSN CDs might be applicable.

Meeting Signs: A. Reid: We have easels upstairs for signs.

Greeter: Discussion of need for a new-member-greeter at Chamberlin after the General Meetings, to act as point-of-contact for new members. D. Cochran volunteered.

Discussion of who this was aimed at, specifically, and what the greeter should do.

Greeter will set up a table at next meeting. Give away NSN packages? Eat - er, give away donuts?

Old Business:

Webcasts with Stellacom: The Moon thru the 6" finder of the Clark was webcast. There is another site that is ad-free but needs a membership password for log-on.

Clark finders: Re-align with main scope needed.

Wayne Kaaz stranded in Spain: Discussion of send-money-to-Spain scam spam appearing in members' emails. Wayne published a new Email address.

Jackets: Seventeen ordered, coming soon (D. Wray. These arrived at Open House.)

Brooks Observatory: At EGKDSS, for donated C-14. T. Cox, D. Dodge and C. Betzina working. Construction starts next week, may be done end of May. C-14 back at S&S Optika. No bill received yet. Someone: We need a plaque saying Celestron donated (if they did) a new corrector plate. Cathy H to Brad G: C-14 now worth \$3k.

Karla (ex-DAS Pres) visits Denver last week of May.

New Business:

Participation Prize: L. Judd handling. Maybe present two of these at the July picnic.

Adjournment: Moved and passed. Cloud of dust leads to VI.