

DAS E-Board Minutes for July 22, 2011

Officers and Board members present: Ron Pearson, Pres; Lisa Judd VP; Dennis Cochran, Sec'y; Brad Gilman, Treas; Board members Jack Eastman, Joe Gafford, Chuck Habenicht, Ron Hranac. Not present were Tim Pimentel, Keith Pool, Dave Shouldice, Dan Wray. Past Pres: Ron Mickle.

Observatory Reps present: Aaron Reid.

Others members & guests present: Hugh Davidson (Scope Operations), Bill Ormsby, Keith Rodefelt.

Previous Minutes were read, amended and approved.

Observatory Report: Aaron Reid thanked the DAS for its support of the recent maintenance activity on the 20" Clark. The scope is now operational but Aaron will be repairing the power supply to the back of the scope including the setting circle lights. To contact him it's best to use his cell phone. (the last General Meeting Dr. Stencel gave a detailed report of the scope repairs.) Apparently Wayne Green has made an arrangement with Dr. Stencel to replace the encoders which does not involve the DAS. Discussion ensued of the dangerous non-transparency of this for the continued documentation of scope maintenance. The DAS is scheduled to replace the laptop computer at the scope and provide a newer version of The Sky software for same.

Heather _____, reporter for the Aurora Sentinel has talked with Jerry Sherlin about our upcoming Vesta Fiesta (see below.)

The observatory building did not flood during the recent thunderstorms, when some campus buildings did flood.

REPORTS:

President:

The 14" Celestron scope was installed in the completed Brooks Observatory out at the EKG Dark Sky Site. Arcturus was espied in said scope. (See Old Business.)

An equipment list was passed out at tonight's meeting of items that were donated with the scope, worth around \$500. The scope tube + mount are worth about \$4500. Also a list of items connected with the C-11 donated to the Club. At the EGKDSS a pier was set up for the C-11. Finally, a handwritten list of other purchases was passed out; some of these items are pending. Discussion of same followed.

Veep: We have speakers booked thru Feb 2012. Volunteer awards were given at the picnic. Ron: Let's not give awards to hangers-out (non-Club members.) Lisa to talk to Theron about this.

EGKDSS: Darrell (DD) had an orientation for 5-6 new people. Ron and DD to collaborate on protocols of Brooks Observatory use. Ron suggested two levels of

certification of its use: 1. Simple scope operations for visual use, and 2. more complicated instructions for imaging.

Public Nights: Team 7 getting shorthanded. Gary Tweed not a club member and thus not a team member. Tim Miller, who did tix at 7/11 O.H. is also not a member! Chuck Carlson was supposed to do it, but...? Lisa volunteered to fill a Team 7 slot. Possible Team 8 made up of current operators substituting in any other team. There seemed to be a lack of communication amongst team members. Ron Mickle suggested a meeting of operator teams to get in sync. Discussion of this followed. We may need a Public Nights Yahoo group to help with coordination. Hugh Davidson working the PN Teams meeting and the Yahoo group.

IT: Chad not here, on travel at work. He had mentioned a possible security camera scheme. Dave Shouldice or Chad to update the laptop s/w.

Yahoo Group: Ron working at moderating the group. Refer to the listserve rules sheet. A new rule was discussed: no commercials on the listserve. Ron Hranac made motion to accept, and motion was passed.

Loaner Program: Two scopes out, one dob left. Oculars are in the orange tackle box upstairs.

Newsletter: No report.

External Outreach: Solar scopes to be at DMNS 10/1/11. NSN kits: Chuck Habenicht has latest kit. Discussion of talks for DMNS and the ensuing Open House. Upcoming Vesta Fiesta at 8/6 Open House: Ron H will do meteor talk with emphasis on Vesta connection. NASA Vesta flyby to be shown on monitor.

Van Natten: The committee will meet and discuss two candidates.

Old Business:

The property inventory is still pending.

Darrell Dodge is making making new membership brochures which Ron P will print.

Brooks Observatory Dedication will be 8/20/11 at 5:30. The Brooks family is coming and will bring refreshments!

2012 Calendar: Review copies were passed out by Joe Gafford to be scanned for errors.

Adjournment: was moved and passed.