



## Denver Astronomical Society

### Minutes of October 17, 2017 E-Board Meeting

#### Officers Present:

- Ron Hranac - President;
- Lindsey Shaw - Vice President;
- Mike Nowak – Treasurer;
- Ed Ladner – Secretary;

- Dan Wray,
- Sorin <No Last Name>,
- Zach Gilbert,

#### Observatory Representative:

- Dr. Bob Stencel

#### E-Board Trustees Present:

- Brent Blake,
- July Candia,
- Jack Eastman,
- Joe Gafford,
- Ed Scholes,

#### Members and Guests:

- Ivan Gisler
- Mary Ann Wallace
- John Anderson

#### Absent:

#### MINUTES:

1. Call to Order at 4:33p
2. Roll Call
  - 2.1. Certify a quorum (Seven (7) E-Board officers/Members shall constitute a quorum).
    - 2.1.1. Certified quorum of twelve (12) board members.
3. Review and approve the previous E-Board meeting minutes (August 11, 2017)
  - 3.1. Modified minutes to correct spelling of “Carroll” on item 7.5.5.2
  - 3.2. **Approved with edits.**
4. Additions to agenda
  - 1.1. Old Business adding discussion of member badges. (as 6.6)
  - 1.2. Recap of Singing event. (as 7.3)
  - 1.3. Show and Tell for next meeting. (as 7.4)
5. Chamberlin business and DAS Treasurer’s report
  - 5.1. Chamberlin Observatory business by Dr. Bob.

### 5.1.1.Light pollution

- 5.1.1.1. 10K lumen flashlights are now available on the retail market, and are becoming more efficient, impacting local light pollution. Additionally, LED street lights are also becoming more prevalent as their efficiency increases.
- 5.1.1.2. STEM academy (Adam's district 12) outreach needs reviewers and participants. The outreach event on October 27<sup>th</sup> will have 2 time slots. Please contact Dr. Bob if you are interested in participating.
- 5.1.1.3. Colorado Code enforcement group is receptive to discussions about local light pollution.
- 5.1.1.4. Chamberlin building business.
  - 5.1.1.4.1. During operation with Brad, Dena and Hugh, the dome siezed. A review of the structure showed the need for penetrating oil to be used on some gears. Maintenance of the dome idler wheels shows that only some of the wheels were accessible. Continue to monitor the mechanics of the building. Note: the slip mechanism has been known to break down.
  - 5.1.1.4.2. Major maintenance of the dome will need to be scheduled in the near future.
  - 5.1.1.4.3. The observing floor has low spots as it continues to deteriorate. The floor needs to be treated with a wood hardener.
  - 5.1.1.4.4. Clutter needs to be cleared out of the ready room, or it will be taken to the dump. Stacks of paper boxes need to be removed, and boxes labeled DAS records must be moved to a storage location, and not stacked on the floor. The Ready room also has loaner equipment stacking up and is becoming a fire hazard and an access hazard. This equipment must be stored correctly and safely. Be aware of diminished load limits on the floor, and do not overload the floor.

### 5.2. Treasurer's Report

- 5.2.1.Treasurer's accounting statement is provided with the minutes.
- 5.2.2.September was light for PayPal activity.
- 5.2.3.Discussion resulted in a need to include the statement for the Van Nattan-Hansen (VNH) Scholarship fund with the Treasurer's report monthly.
- 5.2.4.VNH scholarship committee has not provided a statement quarterly as required, resulting in the VNH fund balance to be brought back into the DAS Treasurer's report.
- 5.2.5.**ACTION ITEM:** Copies of the VNH scholarship fund need to be retrieved from the VNH committee.
- 5.2.6.The VNH committee has not met for approximately 18 months.
- 5.2.7.**ACTION ITEM:** The Treasurer will review options for a petty cash account with the bank. This item remains outstanding from the August 2017 meeting.

### 6. Old Business.

#### 6.1. 2018 Calendar

- 6.1.1.Printed copies are available for review. Approval is needed at the next board meeting.
- 6.1.2.**ACTION ITEM:** Review 2018 Calendar and be ready to approve.

## 6.2. SWOT Analysis

6.2.1. Discussion of the SWOT analysis for guests.

## 6.3. DAS Shirts

6.3.1. Review of the shirts is progressing. The shirt brand "Gildan" was found to be too poor of a quality to be used.

6.3.2. Because these shirts are going to be used for public night volunteers, a higher quality shirt needs to be identified, and the increased cost will be absorbed by DAS.

6.3.3. **ACTION ITEM:** need brand recommendations to July and Sorin. Dan W. will provide a ABC catalog for them to review.

6.3.4. Discussion to consider public recognition of the volunteers, and presenting the shirts to them. Possible venues include a monthly general meeting or the holiday banquet.

## 6.4. Holiday Banquet

6.4.1. Speaker is identified and location has been reserved.

6.4.2. Karly Pitmann from the Space institute will be the speaker.

6.4.3. Embassy Suites DTC on Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

6.4.4. Menus remain to be decided upon. The menu will be reviewed on the EBoard list.

6.4.5. **ACTION ITEM:** Darrel to send a "Save the Date" notification to the membership in preparation of the banquet.

## 6.5. Auction Recap

6.5.1. Initial numbers from the auction show a net take to DAS of \$4,884. (Approximate).

6.5.2. Over the last few months, many scopes were donated by estates or members, and were in storage.

6.5.3. The storage space has been rented for 6 months, and is a 10x10 space. This location is dry, indoor access, and climate controlled.

## 6.6. Member Badges

6.6.1. As discussed at the last meeting, Joe will be paid for the manufacturing of the of old and future badges, as all past badges were produced out of his pocket. Joe will be paid \$4 per badge to cover costs going forward, and members who wish to have a badge will be charged \$5.

6.6.2. **ACTION ITEM:** Joe to provide a count of previously made badges for reimbursement by DAS.

6.6.3. **ACTION ITEM:** Webmaster "Darrell" will review changes needed on the website to allow for optional online purchasing of a badge during membership renewal.

## 7. New Business

### 7.1. Family membership

7.1.1. Initial review of EBoard list discussion.

7.1.2. Need to retain divisible by 12 in order to allow prorating with current software.

7.1.3. Need to discuss Astroleague membership implications.

7.1.4. Need to be attentive to liability insurance issues around membership

7.1.5. Need to review bylaws for membership

- 7.1.6. Identified bylaws, and a bylaw change will be required to add categories of membership.  
Bylaw amending process identified for membership changes, requiring 2/3 majority vote by EBoard with appropriate notice.
- 7.1.7. Identified membership categories to go forward with following discussion
  - 7.1.7.1. Student - \$12 – no change
  - 7.1.7.2. Individual - \$36 – no change
  - 7.1.7.3. Dual/Family - \$60 – add to bylaws, and will include 2 Astro League memberships and 2 general membership votes. A review of State statute will be done on EBoard list to come into compliance with State definitions of “Family”.
  - 7.1.7.4. ACTION ITEM:** Dan W. will provide information on the Mineral club reference to family to help normalize the language.
- 7.1.8. Consensus reached in discussion.
- 7.1.9. **ACTION ITEM:** Eboard to review wording of bylaw change, and provide correct notice to EBoard for next meeting.
- 7.2. Darksite
  - 7.2.1. Special fund raiser for Darksite requested.
  - 7.2.2. Consensus reached – Membership list server may be used by the darksite committee to do a fundraiser to address Darksite costs.
  - 7.2.3. Further discussion tabled until later in the meeting. See item 7.5
- 7.3. Recap of Celestial Singing event
  - 7.3.1. Event was well attended despite a cloudy night.
  - 7.3.2. Sound test in the dome was done, and the sound quality was un-expectedly good.
  - 7.3.3. Other theme type events might be possible with this or other Astro related groups.
- 7.4. Show and tell for next meeting
  - 7.4.1. **ACTION ITEM:** Let people know about the upcoming event at the general meeting
  - 7.4.2. Theme to be solar eclipse. Need to keep the time limited to 5 minutes per presenter including setup.
  - 7.4.3. Lindsey to be responsible for scheduling presenters.
  - 7.4.4. Lindsey to be notified by email of interest by any member to present.
  - 7.4.5. Will try to unify presentations and slideshow to a single laptop in order to minimize setup and breakdown time.
- 7.5. Darksite (Continued from Tabled item) see item 7.2.3
  - 7.5.1. Darksite proceeds request from the auction.
  - 7.5.2. Traditionally, the auction proceeds have gone to the VNH Scholarship fund, but there historical exceptions to this tradition establishing precedent for the funds to go towards “DAS activities”. Further, an announcement was made at the start of the auction, and in letters going in response to donated items, that the funds would be going towards “DAS activities”.
  - 7.5.3. Motion by Dan Wray, to donate \$1500 to the darksite operating fund with the balance going to the VNH Scholarship fund. Motion is seconded.
  - 7.5.4. Discussion

7.5.4.1. John A. points out the need to grow the VNH fund in order to allow the fund to provide meaningful scholarships. He further addresses the need for increased access to STEM education and the requirement of our society in general to promote STEM education. John A. further points out the need for the VNH scholarship fund to not diminish the capital of the fund.

7.5.4.2. Discussion about the VNH Scholarship committee suggests that the committee has not met in 18 months, and that there are outstanding scholarship applications that have not been replied to.

7.5.4.3. Discussion about the Darksite, and recognition in the SWOT analysis that the darksite represents the 2<sup>nd</sup> most valuable asset of DAS after the access to the Chamberlin observatory.

7.5.5. Called to a vote.

7.5.5.1. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Next eboard meeting

8.1. Saturday November 11, 2017 @ 3:00pm. During the day as this is the same day as an open house.

9. Adjourn meeting

9.1. Motion to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded.

9.2. Meeting adjourned at 7:03p