

July 7, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 8:10 PM by Vice-President Steve Kainec

- 1) Treasurers report.
 - a) Balances:
 - i) Bank - \$6,867.29
 - ii) Marty Fund - \$2,637
 - iii) Petty Cash - \$50.00
 - iv) Total - \$9,554.29
 - b) Expenses for the month.
 - i) \$54.47 phone/Internet bill.
 - ii) \$37.20 Electric
 - iii) \$76.00 Annual Fee for PO Box
 - iv) \$279.81 to Ken. \$210 for fill dirt. \$69.81 was for brake cleaner and flashing for 16" building and North observatory.
 - v) \$411.20 to Russ. 117.88 reimbursement for June OTAA Picnic. \$293.32 for miscellaneous repair to the shed.
- 2) Editors report. The quarterly Valley Skywatcher was published. The feature article is from Tony Mallama about observing and timing satellite eclipses from Jupiter and Saturn. The Editor suggested reading the online version because of the embedded links to various animated gifs and other online sources. Next issue will be published in 3 months.
- 3) Observatory Directors report. Ken commented about the pines and stumps that were pulled last year, which he covered with fill-dirt and grass seed this past month. Flashing was placed on the 16" building by the front flap to keep out the carpenter bees. Additional flashing was put on the North Observatory.

The next project is a new building for the 18 inch telescope donated by Ian, formerly belonged to Larry Lovell. In the members section of the website, Russ set up comment section looking for ideas where to put the building. A 30x30 foot structure with a warm up room was suggested, but the size will be determined after a location is assigned.
- 4) Old Business. The new building discussed above.
- 5) New Business. Dan Rothstein noted that Al Panzer from the Cuyahoga club died last year. His widow is selling his astronomical equipment, which includes: several flats, Daystar filters, tripods, an 8 inch f16 refractor, aluminum tubing, drives and a Dynascope drive box. Danny said he would look for items to use at Observatory Park.

Steve Fishman noted the 3 edition Burnham's Celestial Handbook published in 1978, which he used as a resource to learn the sky. Robert Burnham Jr., the author, prepared a self-interview in 1983, which was published by the Village Voice last year. He suggested those interested in the author's history would enjoy the interview at the following website

http://blogs.villagevoice.com/runninscared/2011/06/robert_burnham_j.php

Larry Boros mentioned his land acquisition proposal and asked about approaching Shirley about acquiring a modest amount of land to the west.

6) Calendar.

- a) July 13 – Mentor headlands
- b) July 20, Girdled road for Lake county Metropark
- c) July 21 is Cuyahoga's OTAA convention. Their website shows it at the Letha House, but a recent email suggested due to construction, it will be held at the Lake Erie Nature and Science Center in Bay Village.
- d) July 27. Observatory Park star party. 9 – 11:30.

7) Visitors.

Phil Pisczak attended the May meeting and came back for another visit.

Christine Mahoney from Newbury found us thru the internet. She brought a 3-inch f/11 Meade refractor. It was her fathers and she needed help getting it to work.

8) Other business.

Larry mentioned the Columbus club and a possibility of hosting a shared star party with them.

The 31-inch at Richland's site. It was insured and a member commented that they plan to replace it with a 36-inch mirror.

There were enough members for a quorum. A vote was cast to change the terms for all officers to a 3-year term, effective immediately. The November 2011 officers terms will now expire in November 2014.

Meeting was adjourned 8:44 PM