

# Chagrin Valley Astronomical Society

## Meeting Minutes for October 3<sup>rd</sup>. 2020

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- Current Officers
  - Joe Masar – President
  - Marty Mullet – Vice President / Parks Liaison
  - Russ Swaney – Secretary
  - Steve Fishman – Treasurer
  - Sam Bennici – Observatory Director
  - Gus Saikaly – Observations Director
  - Dan Rothstein – Historian
  - Chris Powell – Editor

Observatory Park – Vice President Marty Mullet called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm

22 Members Present

### Secretary's Report:

- October's minutes posted to Website (no meeting in July)

### Treasurer's Report:

- Steve Fishman reported the following:

Bank Balance	\$ 2,015.66
Marty Fund	\$ 5,687.00
John Gorka Fund	\$ 600.00
North Observatory Automation Fund	\$ 625.00
Petty Cash	\$ 26.00
Total	\$ 8,953.66

### Income for the month

- \$452.83. Dues
- \$2,000. Down payment on land sold to neighbor.
- \$100 donation from Star party by Ian and Gus.

### Expenses for the month

- \$ 93.06 Electric 44 KhW Estimate
- \$ 586.00 Insurance. Wire Transfer
- \$ 979.40 To Marty for Title Company Check 1068
- \$ 13,380.43. Bank check. To the Richards family for final land payment
- \$ 10.00. Cost for bank check.
- \$ 4.10 to send check by certified mail (Steve covered this)

### Director of Observations Report:

- November Sky Report emailed to Membership – be sure to check out the Astro Photo's
- Ian and Gus held a Star Party for Arts Festival drawing winner in North Madison

### Valley Skywatcher Editor:

- Chris ask for articles/photo's by first week of December, for Fall issue.

### Observatory Director's Report:

- Steel siding on Dome walls ([Picture](#)) – thank you Marty Mullet
- Waiting on quote for Main Observatory Door
- Waiting for contractor to drop 4 large trees leading up to the hill top.

### Old Business:

- Land Purchase -  
Marty reports that we have concluded our purchase of approximately 13 acres from the Richards' family. We were required to absorb the additional acreage into our existing parcel and so we have a warranty deed for the entire amount. We are also under contract to sell 5 acres at the southern end of our property to the neighbor on Stillwell Rd. This transaction is currently under review by the Geauga County Planning Commission and "should" close by the end of 2020. We will use the funds from the sale of this portion to repay member loans used to purchase the original parcel.

This [image](#) shows the 5 acre parcel we are selling in red and the 10.2 acres we're keeping in green.

### New Business:

- 2021 CVAS Officer Elections  
Approved by unanimous vote:
  - Joe Masar – President
  - Ram Kaparski – Vice President
  - Scott Kuntz – Secretary
  - Steve Fishman – Treasurer
  - Russ Swaney – Assistant Treasurer
  - Sam Bennici – Observatory Director
  - Gus Saikaly – Observations Director
  - Dan Rothstein – Historian
  - Chris Powell – Editor

- Christmas Party – with no venue available, we will cancel this year.
- Cuyahoga Astronomical Society – Paul Grubach reported that CAA can no longer hold meetings at Rocky River Nature Center (as a result of COVID-19), their membership has plummeted and the club officers are worried that CAA may not survive. Indeed, the internet "Zoom" meetings are very poorly attended.  
The CAA club president has asked for suggestions on how club members can insure the future survival of the club. Paul suggested that perhaps CAA integrate their activities with the Chagrin Valley Astronomical Society, and this possibly will benefit both clubs and insure the survival of both clubs.

**Next Monthly meeting:**

- December 5<sup>th</sup>. – 7:00 pm - Observatory Park
  - Please check [website](#) for updates