

Friends of Taylor Observatory~Norton Planetarium  
Minutes for 13 August 2018, Board meeting at the Taylor Observatory Classroom

Meeting call to order, Bill Haddon, President. 5:04 pm

Roll call: Board members present: Bill Haddon, David Markham, Eduardo Alatorre, Tim Gill, Emily Whittlesey, no visitors.

Minutes from the July meeting were not available, so they will be presented at the September meeting.

Financial report: \$65,745.88 reported David M.

Motion by David M. and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Emily to approve: Eduardo will bill David directly for the planetarium shows since they are to be under \$100. Eduardo will then train the group how to do the settings to run these programs.

Action items from previous meetings:

History project to continue when Tom Schleif returns.

Taylor-Nieman scholarship will be discussed at a later meeting.

Display materials in the classroom (Reeves lunar photos for example) to be discussed at next meeting.

Taylor virtual tour to be discussed when Tom returns.

Problem with electricity in the shed: Tim will talk with Kyle about solution.

Business items:

Insurance for Friends of Taylor: Bill has contacted 4 different entities:

Farmers, Lincoln Levitt (\$1500. LCOE not appropriate insurer as they have a high deductible, Mark Tony (Ex. Director of TERN) recommends. (He is moving to the area with his 20" Dobsonian).

Since LCOE owns the building and school district owns the land, Tim will learn more to elucidate.

Investment of FOTO cash reserves: Bill asked David M to look into interest on money market accounts.

Public Window to the Universe nights:

Review: July program by Eduardo, Commercial Space, was very popular.

Review: Perseid meteor shower open house on Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup> was well attended.

The pathways to the telescope still need lighting improvements, Emily noted. Visitors were using flashlights to stay on the pathway, which made viewing often compromised.

August 18<sup>th</sup> Window program, (3rd Sat) "Volcanoes Near and Far", Stephen Kane.

September 15<sup>th</sup> Window program, (3rd Sat) will be Prof. Phil Scherrer.

October 20<sup>th</sup> Window program, (3rd Sat) will be David Velasquez "Future NASA Missions".

Cub Scout NOVA badge: Bill had a call from Middletown girl scouts, and we agreed the appropriate charge for them would be \$125. for one meeting and include a contract. He will let them know.

Dark Sky Initiative:

Jim Steele is ready on BOS presentation

Bill gave a presentation to Cobb Advisory Council on Thurs, Aug 9<sup>th</sup> which was well received and support evident; enthusiastic offers given to help with this.

Record Bee letter was published Sat Aug 11<sup>th</sup>.

Participation in the approaching Pear Festival, on the 29<sup>th</sup> of Sept, was discussed; it was agreed to not participate this year due to slow interest in FOTO at this venue in the past; the event doesn't seem to suit the effort.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Whittlesey, Secretary