

**FRIENDS OF TAYLOR OBSERVATORY –  
NORTON PLANETARIUM**

**Meeting Minutes – Mon. Jan. 14, 2019, 5:00 PM Taylor Classroom**

Called to order at 5:02 PM

3 guests in attendance – Larry Aguirre, David Firebaugh, Angelo Parisi; Board members introduced by Bill; Revised minutes accepted in Emily's absence No financial report as David was absent

Action Items from Previous Meetings

Taylor History project – no action

Electrical in shed appears to be working fine; temporary septic system in place until hookup to sewer completed sometime in the Spring.

Investment of \$50,000 in savings/MMF – status to be determined when David reports

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

1. President's report
  - a. Taylor Coordinator Position – up to 3 candidates being considered for a half-time position, including Jacqueline Parsons and Angelo Parisi
  - b. Change in dates for monthly FOTO Board meetings – motion made and approved to move meetings to 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month
  - c. Proposed service for LX-200 Meade 16" telescope – Chris Erickson in Hawaii will be re-contacted by Bill to see if there is further interest in doing the work; otherwise Sidereal Technology in Oregon will be contacted
  - d. Audit by Carlie Pehling & Associates is in progress
  - e. Authorize purchase of workbench for shed. (\$200?) – discussion indicates that this has been approved. Previous minutes should be consulted to verify
  
2. Public Events
  - a. January
    - i. Eclipse – Jan 20 Sunday – Bill will prepare flyers ASAP for distribution
    - ii. Windows to the Universe will be January 26 and on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday for 2019 as the full moon is appearing earlier in the months ahead; David will present ~ 10 minutes on updates of NASA missions reported on last October and Bill will prepare a talk on the Dark Sky initiative for Lake County.
  - b. February – Tim will present and have a title in the next week or so
  - c. March – Eduardo will prepare a title, but Bill will try to get Stephen Kane to give a final talk before he leaves Lake County
  - d. Other possible speakers to be contacted are Elisa Quintana, NASA (David); Stephen Kane, NASA (Bill); Phil Scherer, Stanford (Bill); Angelo offered to identify possible speakers from his contacts in the Sonoma County Astronomical Society and Tim suggested having high school students from Kelseyville/Lake County give a series of mini-talks, ideally in May.
  
3. Dark Sky Initiative – Update
  - a. Bill has contacted John Barentine of IDA, to get the ball rolling again for IDA designation as a Dark Sky designation after the Lake County Board of Supervisors issued a proclamation declaring Lake County a Dark Sky destination. In the works is a Record-Bee article by Aiden Friedman to publicize the effort to obtain the designation. Ideally the Tourism Improvement district committee for Lake County can provide some economic data regarding the impact of astrotourism.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 PM