

FRIENDS OF TAYLOR OBSERVATORY – NORTON PLANETARIUM

MEETING AGENDA Minutes – Wed. Feb. 13, 2019, 5:00 PM Taylor Classroom

CALL TO ORDER [Haddon] 5:05 PM

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

MINUTES REVIEW (Whittlesey)

FINANCIAL REPORT [Markham]

- **Action Items from Previous Meetings**
 - Taylor History project (Schleif)
 - Investment of \$50,000 in savings/MMF [Markham]

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. President's report [Haddon]

a. Taylor Position – update

Elisa Prather has been named as the LCOE Education Specialist for Math and Science. She will have oversight of the Taylor Observatory Assistant position. The Taylor position has been posted on Ed Join with a job description.

b. LX-200 Meade 16" telescope

No news to report. Previous activity has been through Ryan Mayhew at LCOE who has left the county for a position at Mendocino COE. Cynthia Lenner has been contacted to see where we go from here.

c. Progress on Audit by Carlie Pehling & Associates

- i. **Review and approve missing minutes.** *The October 2017 meeting was cancelled due to the Tubbs/Sulphur Fires. The March 2018 and July 2018 minutes have been located and were approved by the board. Bill will send the missing minutes to Carlie Pehling & Associates.*

d. Tracking and other issues on Teeter Scope.

Prior to the January 26, 2019 Public Night, the cable that rotates the scope came off the track. The issue has been resolved. Tom and Bill are working to resolve electrical issues.

2. Public Events

a. January Report of public nights

i. Eclipse – Jan 20 Sunday

We had approximately 20 people for the event and collected \$40 in donations. Poor weather limited the viewing to a 30 second glimpse of the eclipse between the clouds.

ii. Windows – Velasquez (NASA Update) Haddon (Dark Sky Initiative)

We again had poor weather but had a good crowd for David's update on NASA missions and Bill's update on the Dark Skies Initiative. We collected \$100.

b. February Tim Gill

Tim will send a description of his talk to Bill.

c. March Eduardo

Eduardo will speak in April. Bill is talking to Stephan Kane about speaking in March.

d. Speakers for remainder of year.

We need to secure our speaker schedule for the remainder of the year. Tim will reach out to Elisa Prather and invite parents from KVUSD's new home school program.

3. Workbench installation in FOTO Shed (Schleif)

The workbench and new flooring has been installed by Bill and Tom. We also have new filing cabinets in the shed.

a. Authorize tool purchase.

The board authorized the purchase of tools for the FOTO Shed in the amount of \$100. Motion by David Markham, second by David Velasquez. The motion passed.

4. Transfer Taylor web info from LCOE to Friendsoftaylor.org (McIntyre)

In the transfer of data to the new LCOE website, ADA issues resulted in the loss of data and images from the Taylor Observatory page. Barbara will search through her files for the new FOTO website with a focus on the history of Taylor Observatory project.

5. Evelyn Norton 8" Telescope – refurbish (Haddon, Firebaugh, Schleif)

Bill, Tom, and David Firebaugh will work on restoring the telescope.

6. Other new business.

a. *Dark Skies vs. Calpine lights – Angelo lives in Anderson Springs and has direct line of sight to Calpine on the mountain. How do we collect the data we need to approach Calpine? How do we know if Calpine is the major contributor to the light dome we see to the south of Taylor? Once we have some compelling data, we can approach Calpine for a meeting.*

b. *David Firebaugh will report in March on efforts to save the Mendocino National Forest.*

ADJOURN: 7:00 PM