

**FRIENDS OF TAYLOR OBSERVATORY –
NORTON PLANETARIUM**
MEETING MINUTES – Wednesday 5/22/24, 5:00 PM Taylor Classroom

CALL TO ORDER – 5:30 PM

ATTENDEES - Angelo Parisi, Bill Haddon, Eduardo Alatorre, Juan Leal, Barbara McIntyre

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS: Rob Young-LCOE, Michael McKeown

MINUTES [Barbara] from October 18, 2023

- Approved - Bill Haddon motioned to approve; Eduardo Alatorre 2nd motion

FINANCIAL REPORT (Leal/Haddon) – Barbara provided Juan with donations of \$180.25 from Eclipse Event.

Current Status of reporting incomplete due to Juan Leal not having all information from David Markham (previous financial officer)

Action- Barbara to contact David for more detail information and setup a meeting with Juan Leal and Bill Haddon for Tues. May 28

BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1) New Telescope / Electronic Assisted Astronomy – Installation, Training, Who?, Future Applications (Bill Haddon, Rob Young, Group??) -
Telescope mounted but needs balancing - Action Items: Bill Haddon and Rob Young to meet Tuesday May 28 at 10am to finish balancing (Planewave contact is Bill Dean). Rob mentioned that the USB cables for the screen and scope are here along with HDMI for the computer. The 8k screen cost \$1500.
Installation of Camera and Computer interface to be scheduled after balancing; Training of select staff/FOTO members and select Students to be scheduled at a future date.
- 2) The April 8th Eclipse Event at Taylor Success (Barbara McIntyre, Juan Leal, Jennifer Kelly and Juan’s daughter Connie) – Over 80 visitors and \$180 in donations; support activities from Jennifer Kelly a great success ie. Pinhole projector and hands on eclipse demonstration; short Planetarium shows were given; safe solar telescope viewing and in classroom, on screen NASA Eclipse Across America and Local Eclipse real time presentation.
- 3) Planetarium - Sound Issues with several programs, Digitalium Support? (Angelo Parisi) – A number of shows/programs – surround sound does not work and the bluetooth channel needed to be changed to Mono sound for them to work; contacted Digitalis and was provided a couple of options to try, the options did not work and further options were beyond our expertise; Barbara contacted LCOE IT (Kevin) before the Eclipse event – resulted in hardwiring with cable vs Bluetooth to get select shows to work; cable has presented a tripping hazard and will be fixed per Rob Young. Rob and LCOE to contact /schedule a meeting with Digitalis to resolve sound issues.
- 4) Taylor public programs – role of FOTO during 2024 (FOTO Board Members)
 - a. Continue Window to the Universe series? – Bill Haddon to connect with a speaker for the June Windows to the Universe. Eduardo is unavailable until the end of August to support Windows to the Universe. However, he will be able to publish events on Facebook. Barbara to continue publishing on our website
Ideas?

- 5) FStar Program – Currently? / Continue? / Who? (Bill Haddon, Angelo Parisi)
Angelo Parisi to take over the leadership for the FStar program. Bill provided Angelo with the FStar Contract. Angelo mentioned that he has a few students that show promise and are interested. He will schedule telescope training within the next couple of weeks.
- 6) FOTO Members Status / Newsletter / Continue? / Who? (Eduardo Alatores, Bill Haddon, Group) Eduardo to work with Bill Haddon to publish our next Newsletter for June.
- 7) FOTO Board – Future Direction / Who is left? / New Member Interest? (Group)
FOTO Officers to be elected/announced at June meeting. Bill Haddon will be moving away within the next couple of months to a year. All agreed that FOTO should continue with it's support. The specifics of recruiting new members and new ideas for fund raising will be discussed at August meeting.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

- 1) FOTO Donations – Eduardo to finish setting up donations with Paypal and Venmo.
Rob Young and Michael McKeown suggested including Zelle. Eduardo to investigate it.

ADJOURN Meeting closed at 7pm