

FRIENDS OF TAYLOR OBSERVATORY – NORTON PLANETARIUM

MEETING MINUTES – Monday 8/19/24, 5:00 PM Taylor Classroom

CALL TO ORDER [Haddon (Interim President)] 5:05pm

ATTENDEES

In person: Bill Haddon, Rob Young, Chris Nettles, Barbara McIntyre, Eduardo Alatorre
Via Zoom: Juan Leal, Logan Hill

MINUTES (McIntyre) 5/22/2024 –

Chris N. motioned to approve; Eduardo A. Second
Action Items Planetarium Sound Issue – Rob Young-New Sound Card
delivered from Digitalium; to be installed; Rob Y and Bill H continued work
on New Telescope Installation

FINANCIAL REPORT (Haddon)

-- Bluehost (internet) Bills – **Bill Haddon Credit card is on account;**
reimbursement to Bill H. Account to be change to FOTO credit card – Bill H.
and Eduardo A to contact Blue Host

-- Umpqua acct: **\$6,676.82**

-- First Interstate Bank: **~\$23,000 (\$10,000 additional is allocated to finish**
telescope installation project.)

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Officers for 2024/2025 Chris N. motioned to approve/Eduardo 2nd ; All
agreed

a) Haddon continue as Interim Pres pending VA move

b) Vice President – Eduardo Alatorre

c) Treasurer / CFO Propose Logan Hill – Provisional:

Chris N. volunteered to support Logan through transition if needed>

We need to put Logan on the Umpqua account (need letter so
authorizing) Signed and Authorized by Secretary Barbara McIntyre and
Interim President Bill Haddon

d) Secretary – Barbara McIntyre

2. 2023 tax forms bank account – Action: Logan Hill and Bill Haddon to schedule
a meeting to hand over financial files and discuss financial action items; Chris
Nettles available to support if needed

a) Three forms due: IRS 990, California FTB, Secy of State CA. (every 2 years

b) Folder of accounting and tax information received from David Markham

c) Deadline for all three forms is November 15

3. Repair of the Ash Dome Shutter (Rob Young):

Rob Young completed installation of RASA Scope; Plane-Wave Mount
and Classroom Screen

Repair of stuck Dome Shutter completed with assistance from Electrician; a
12 volt light bulb drain on electric signal was the problem. Removed Bulb.

4. Donations of Telescope and Books from Prof. Phil Scherrer and Deborah Scherrer (Haddon, Hill)
- a) Numerous books donated to the Lake County library.
 - b) Additional books available for Taylor Observatory – save or sell. Probably Sell at some future Fund Raiser.
 - c) An 8" Newtonian Telescope (The Dobsonian mount was personally evaluated by John Dobson).
 - d) **Need authorization for a donation letter to the Scherrer's – perhaps \$600 total \$400 for telescope and \$200 for the books. All agreed.**

5. Possible Donation – equipment and photos from family of Mr. Roy Osterberg (Haddon) **90% sure that the family will donate the equipment. If we get the donation, a plaque with photos or images would be nice**

Angelo was contacted by Ms. Mary Benson, who is selling the Osterberg house including the astronomical observatory at 2900 Oakmont in Clearlake Oaks.

If the buyer does not want to purchase the observatory equipment, it is available for donation to Friends of Taylor Observatory.

The "centerpiece items" are the Astrophysics 1100GTO German Equatorial Mount and a Meade 12" Schmidt-Cassegrain ACF Scope (OTA only). The value of these two items is about \$12,000 plus a guide scope, three cameras (two ZWO and one SBIG). Maybe \$20,000 total.

Bill Haddon has held extensive discussions with Matt Osterberg about the donation, which is conditional on a named recognition for Roy Osterberg. We could use funds from sale of equipment to build a solar observatory.

6. Events at Taylor (Parisi and Kelly) – **plans for upcoming school year.due to absence; postponed until September meeting. Eduardo suggested that he would like to present an Astrobiology topic at November's Window to the Universe Event**

7. Proposed Solar Observatory honoring Roy Osterberg

-Separate building adjacent to FOTO shed; role-off-roof	
- NexDome	\$6,595
- Concrete pad for building	\$2,000
- Labor costs – sheetrock, wiring etc	\$6,000
-	
- Solar telescope -- use Coronado Scope initially	
- Telescope Mount	\$1,500
- Camera, use donated ZWO camera	0
- Computer , etc	\$2,000
-Approx total cost:	\$18,000

8. OCTOBER - Comet Tsuchinshan-ATLAS (C2023/A3)

-- Late October , West/SW – **it will be returning from around the sun; we hope to be able to see the comet**

-- Constellation Ophiuchus, ~30 degrees elevation

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Big Read – NEA Big Read Invitation to Partner / review forwarded Georgina Guardado Email – Book for Big Read is The Bear and does include a discussion about the stars ([The Bear by Andrew Krivak | Goodreads](#)) **Due to absence of Angelo Parisi and Jennifer Kelly; decision made not to participate**

2) NEXT EVENT -

Discussion - a big reopening Event for the 3rd Saturday in October. New Telescope completed; should know about donation of Telescope Equipment by then. Rob Suggested putting the future events on EventBrite; Eduardo to look into doing that. Bill and Eduardo to write an announcement for the October Event to send out in Newsletter and to post online

- 3) Recruiting – **quick conversation that recruiting is necessary but no action item; add to next meeting agenda**
- 4) Chris N. requested copy of Bylaws - **Bill Haddon to send latest Bylaws to all members**
- 5) Wildlife Roof Camera to Watch Stars – **Camera was for Mendocino Students to log into to watch motion of the stars. Rob Young and Eduardo Alatorre discussed return of camera for the roof.**
- 6) **Send Umpqua Bank Support Person Information**

Jessica Peak
Relationship Banker
Umpqua Bank – Kelseyville CA

Office: 707 263 2124
Fax: 707 279 8900 (M 866 486 7782)
Email: JessicaPeak@UmpquaBank.com

NEXT MEETING – September 9th

ADJOURN – 6:30pm