

Minutes of the Amarillo Astronomy Club Business Meeting

January 13, 2017

Don Harrington Discovery Center Auditorium

The meeting was called to order at 7:38 PM by President David Heard. There were a total of three officers (David, Kareem Dana, and Alan Scruggs) and ten members in attendance. No guests were present.

Treasurer was not present, thus there was no report.

There were no observing reports given. Alan Scruggs read the minutes from the October and November meetings. Art Schneider made a motion to accept the minutes without changes. Terry Zimmerman seconded. The motion passed. David mentioned the club will begin meeting at the Amarillo National Bank beginning next month (16th floor conference room). Robert Ashcraft will provide details before the next meeting.

Under old business, David mentioned that nobody at the DHDC has seen the club's 10" F4.5 dobsonian telescope, or the eyepieces that went with it. We can only hope that whoever took it will use it and take good care of it. Jim Fitch stated that Rich Merten did not need surgery for his cancer – the treatments apparently worked well.

Under new business, Art Schneider discussed the Three Rivers Foundation's plans to build a planetarium. He will be traveling to Quanah on January 28th to evaluate the proposed equipment. 3RF will be hosting a "Messier Marathon" the week of March 23rd through the 29th. The theme is binocular astronomy. There will be several types of instruments for observing including binocular dobsonian telescopes. Registration is \$50 plus a \$10 per day use fee. Contact 3RF for details. Regarding outreach requests, Art stated he has received requests for Alibates Canyon (four requests, two at Fritch Fortress and two at the Interpretive Center, no dates have been set), at Hereford High School on January 30th (est. 450 students), and at Caprock Canyons (note that 3RF will support the Caprock Canyons event – no dates have been set).

Terry Zimmerman handed out new 2017 business cards. David thanked Pearre Chase for hosting a wonderful Christmas party last month. Alan Scruggs mentioned Bill Canady's passing last month. DeeDee Jones mentioned that Brandon received new binoculars for Christmas and needs some assistance with them. Gene Storlie and Pearre Chase were mentioned as knowledgeable members.

Kareem Dana asked everyone to think about programs for the spring months. He mentioned that Dave Oliver was somewhat elusive about providing a presentation. DeeDee Jones stated Steve Kersh might be willing to put on a program. The program for the January meeting was a small swap meet.

There was no other business. Gene Storlie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Amy Heard, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.