

## January 2016 Board of Directors Meeting

The Tucson Amateur Astronomy Association held its regular monthly meeting on 13 January 2016 at University Medical Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:40.

B. Bailey, President, presiding. Board of Director members present: M. Smith, Vice President, C. Hendricks, Secretary, E. Foley, Treasurer, R. Gilroy, Past Board President, W. Lofquist, and J. Kalas, Members-at-Large. Other TAAA members present: L. Kalas and D. McMacken.

### **General Announcements:**

A member voiced concern about a perceived lack of attention or concern paid to new members. It was agreed that we must make every effort to welcome new members and ensure that they are engaged.

Absentee ballots notifications have been sent and requests for absentee ballots have been received from seven members. However, one of the members requesting a ballot is not a current member. The membership expired in 2014. Subsequent efforts to contact the individual have proved unsuccessful.

John Christianson needs guidance on refreshment procedures.

### **Member Feedback:**

**Minutes of 09 December 2015:** B. Gilroy introduced a motion to accept the minutes of December 2015. The motion was seconded by M. Smith. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** B. Lofquist introduced a motion to accept the treasurer's report pending corrections discussed by J. Kalas. Motion seconded by M. Smith. Motion carried.

**Old Business:** B. Gilroy presented an update on the progress of the website construction. B. Lofquist asked if general meeting information could be included for three months in advance. Discussion of what information is to be included under the outreach heading. Special events. Dark sites. Members benefits.

Discussion related to access to TAAA forum. A petition for membership was received recently, but the individual's membership could not be verified.

Astronomy Services discussion. Several searches undertaken to find some to replace John Kalas. We have had three meetings to find solutions to the issue. Finding someone to assume the responsibilities has been very difficult. Received an abundance of information from John related to how the program works. B. Lofquist has volunteered to serve as the point of contact with the customers and to coordinate volunteers to support the events as scheduled.

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B. Lofquist presented recommendations to the Board Directors for continuation of the Astronomy Services Program. He covered the need to go with John as quickly as possible to meet the contact person at the Marriott at Starr Pass. Six-month transition period is envisioned. John feels he needs to contact the Marriott to arrange a visitation with the event planners to introduce B. Lofquist as the new Astronomy Services Coordinator.

J. Kalas asked a question related to how long will B. Lofquist at as leader and who might replace him. After some discussion, it was decided that B. Lofquist is appointed Astronomy Services Coordinator effective 1 January 2016.

Reynolds project. Waiting for the architect to return from vacation, which should be in a couple of days.

SPG has three projects underway. John Riggs has created a set of drawings for the Large Roll-Off Roof Observatory that can be used for a cost estimate. B. Bailey voiced concerned about pairing the two projects together might be a good idea but, do we have someone to act as project engineer for the LRO. Forrest Holly and John Mead will work in that capacity

B. Gilroy requested disposition of a 16-inch Truss-Dobsonian. E. Foley recommended that we contact Ron Probst and see if he and B. Gilroy can work out a convenient time to assess the condition of this item so that a decision can be made for its disposition.

B. Lofquist recommended we make a proposal.

We have a six-inch refractor and have received a question from NOAO if we will sell or donate this item to NOAO. B. Lofquist introduced a motion to donate the item to Kitt Peak. The motion was seconded by B. Gilroy. Discussion: We are an outreach organization and should seek to maintain good relations with NOAO by donating the item (Lofquist). There is no binding decision to offer all items of excess assets for sale to members first. Motion failed. B. Gilroy introduced a motion to respond to NOAO telling them that the item is available and ask them to submit an offer which we will review. Motion seconded by J. Kalas. Motion carried 5 to 1.

**New Business:** We should identify the telescopes that we have no use for and decide which ones we make available for sale to members, and which we just want to get rid of. B. Gilroy wants to be a part of the team making this assessment.

B. Lofquist introduce a motion to approve the three documents proposed for donations and naming. The motion was seconded by Gilroy. J. Kalas has concern for the percentage of the projected cost or 25% of the fund raising goal. M. Smith introduced a motion to amend the original motion to change the threshold percentages to 50%. B. Lofquist does not accept the motion as amended. Motion reverts to the original motion. Original motion carried.

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It has come to the BOD's attention that member's names are being retained on the Announcements list long after expiration of their membership. This needs to be corrected as soon as possible.

**Motion to adjourn made by Lofquist. Adjourned at 9:43**