

September 2018 Board of Directors Meeting

The Tucson Amateur Astronomy Association held its regular monthly meeting on 12 September 2018 at Banner University Medical Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. M. Smith, President, Presiding. Board members present: J. Mead, Vice President, Treasurer, C. Hendricks, Secretary, E. Foley, D. Smith, and B. Wheeler Members-at-Large. Other members present included Connor Jackson, Tom Rolfsmeyer, Gus and Ruth Gomez and Terri Lappin.

Member Feedback: None.

General Announcement(s)/Discussion:

M. Smith indicated a desire to change the agenda so that visiting members could make their presentations prior to getting into regular business. J. Mead

Minutes of 8 August 2018:

E. Foley moved to accept Minutes. Motion seconded by D. Smith. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report is not available due to the treasurer being on travel.

Visiting members' presentations:

Gus Gomez presented a proposal to acquire TAAA stickers/logos for sale/handout to club members. Gus feels they could be used to attach to telescopes, automobile bumpers/windows, Coffee mugs, thermos or laptop. Stickers could be used for money-making project, or as a "thank you token for monthly meeting presenters, or new members. Gus also looked into acquiring a patch that could be sewn onto shirts or jackets.

Connor Jackson presented a proposal to purchase a video camera, video camera tripod, a memory card and external speakers with microphone. B. Wheeler moved to authorize the expenditure of no more than \$150.00 for the purchase of these items. Motion seconded by D. Smith. Motion carried.

Tom Rolfsmeyer presented a proposal to revive the Astrophotography Special Interest Group. The objectives are to:

- Bring together TAAA members who are interested in astrophotography and disseminate information about equipment software required.
- Set up a regular meeting schedule and location for the months of September and location for the months of September through May for each year. Leaving out the June through August summer months because of the heat and monsoon season.

- Establish a topic for each meeting and have a person responsible for that topic (see topic list).
- Establish some hands-on work shops where the group can practice things like polar alignment, basic imaging, how to obtain a good focus, etc., possibly at TIMPA, CAC, or other location.
- Make the group self-sustaining by getting enough members involved to prevent burn out and to establish guidelines for future meetings topics.
- Hands on projects – these projects can be done as a group or by an individual member. Emphasis is on developing skills without undue expense or necessarily traveling to a dark site.
- DSLR Nightscape/Star Trails – Participants meet at a convenient location, moderately dark, to shoot short exposure nightscape image with DSLR mounted on a tripod, then also shoot star trails using longer exposures (combined with free software from StarStax).
- Lunar/Planetary Imaging in convenient location (i.e. parking lot) with one or more small scopes to do lunar imaging with DSLR (requires appropriate connectors for Canon, Nikon, etc., to scope). Followed by group session to process images in Registax, etc.

Old Business: Efforts to determine the contents of the club library and person responsible for maintaining it are ongoing. We need to establish policy on accepting new library items/materials and disposing of items/materials that have become obsolete or otherwise no longer need be maintained. This policy would also provide procedure(s) for determining the value of library materials.

New Business:

We received a grant of \$3,000.00 from Cox Charities. The grant is specifically intended for Gateway to the Galaxy.

The Minor Policy Committee prefers not to deal with Minor Policy issues at the 22 September 2018 Leadership meeting/retreat. D. Smith moved that the retreat be cancelled and that the Minor Policy Committee choose a date they are comfortable with.

Adjourned at: 8:51 PM

Chuck Hendricks, Secretary