

March 2018 Board of Directors Meeting

The Tucson Amateur Astronomy Association held its regular monthly meeting on 14 March 2018 at Banner University Medical Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM. B. Bailey, President, Presiding. Board members present: E. Foley, Treasurer, C. Hendricks, Secretary, J. Mead, B. Wheeler and B. Lofquist Members-at-Large. Other TAAA members present: C. Smith.

Member Feedback: None.

General Announcement(s)/Discussion: None.

Minutes of 14 February 2018: W. Lofquist made motion to accept minutes. Motion seconded by B. Wheeler. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: J. Mead made motion to accept Treasurer's report. Motion seconded by B. Wheeler. Motion carried.

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Old Business:

Replacements for key TAAA positions is not proceeding as desired. To date only one position has been filled. Ralph Means has agreed to assume the position of Equipment Loan Coordinator.

Dennis McMacken has stated his desire to relinquish duties of coordinator of the Astronomy Fundamentals Special Interest Group (AFSIG) although he will continue to arrange access to the meeting room. Other members of the AFSIG have been approached but none have expressed interest in assuming the coordinator duties. This SIG faces the possibility of being dissolved unless someone steps forward to assume the coordinator duties.

We also need someone to volunteer to assume the duties of Grand Canyon Star Party Coordinator, and Astronomy Services Coordinator.

B. Wheeler introduced a motion to accept the proposed TAAA Policy on Working with Minors and that it be fully implemented by September 2018. The implementation plan should be presented at the May Board Meeting. Motion seconded by W. Lofquist. Motion carried.

Grand Canyon Star Party Policy. A set of rules for persons staying in the free campsites donated by the National Park Service to TAAA to manage for volunteers at the Grand Canyon Star Party was reviewed at the March BOD meeting. The BOD suggested a change in the rules to be voted on via email. The change was made in the materials originally submitted to the BOD and accepted via email vote.

New Business:

SPG agreed that capital funds now available (\$114,000) should be used to build a sleeping room structure. SPG created a working group to recommend a site for a sleeping room structure and a building design that conforms to the recommended site. The working group will work within a \$130,000 building budget (anticipating additional fundraising). The working group will submit an initial report before the April SPG meeting.

E. Foley introduced a motion to accept the SPG recommendation to use all available capital funds (not to exceed \$130,000) for the sleeping room project. Motion seconded by B. Wheeler. Motion carried.

E. Foley introduced a motion to make member planet contact information available to our leader list. Seconded by J. Mead. Motion carried.

E. Foley introduced the topics of background checks and bonding for financial volunteers. TAAA handles lots of cash and the treasurer has access to all the association's financial assets. We need to establish a requirement for background checks for incoming financial volunteers. The background check should include credit screening as well as public records. We should have a policy that requires bonding that covers us in case of fraud. Further discussion of these items is deferred to the April 2018 meeting

R. Gilroy requested a change to the Bylaws to allow for filling of vacancies in the Nomination and Volunteer Resource Committee. B. Bailey moved that the bylaws be modified to allow for filling of vacancies in the Nomination and Volunteer Resource Committee (NVRC): In the event an elected position is not filled or is vacated, the remaining members of the NVRC shall appoint by 2/3 vote a member in good standing to fill that office, subject to approval by the Board of Directors, until their successor is elected by the General Membership. Any Member of the NVRC in good standing who vacates their office before the end of their term may vote on the appointment of their replacement. If by reason of death, resignation, or otherwise, the NVRC has no members in office, any voting Association member may call a Special Meeting of the General Membership for the purpose of electing members to the NVRC who shall then hold office for the duration of the term. Motion seconded by E. Foley. Motion carried.

Adjourned at: 9:05 PM

Chuck Hendricks, Secretary