

BVS Astronomy Club

Observatory Committee

Meeting Minutes, 1-28-22

Overview

The meeting was conveyed at 1000 via Zoom. Present were Bill Norton, Claude Plymate, Teresa Plymate, John O'Bryan, and Michael Lewis. The meeting followed the Agenda (attached) and was directed by the Committee Chairperson, Bill Norton. The meeting adjourned at 1120.



Agenda_1-28-22_O
bs-Com.pdf

Discussion

1. There were no comments or additions to the summary of the meeting with the Recreation Manager, Debbie Papac and her deputy Joe Horswell, contained in the Agenda attached.
2. The Handout for the RAC meeting (see meeting summary referred in 1. above) was reviewed and some changes made. It was agreed that Bill would finalize and deliver the handout and also talk to it at the meeting.
3. In discussing the preliminary project plan to be presented to the BVSA Board on 15 February, John O'Bryan offered a 12-page plan prepared by another organization, GMARS. Some aspects of this plan was discussed and it was agreed that Bill Norton would extract elements of this to prepare a 3-page draft preliminary plan to share by the end of the weekend for comments by the Committee Members.
4. It was agreed the standard Star Party site would be discussed at the next Astronomy Club Board meeting following the coming Party at the Cub Lake basketball court. It was agreed the Party at Cub Lake would occur on Saturday, 5 February, beginning at 1730 with setup.
5. It was agreed that work on the full Project Plan would follow the 15 February BVSA Board meeting and the reactions offered by that Board. However, John O'Bryan agreed to extract the materials list from the 12-page plan mentioned above to serve as the basis for a cost estimate for the wooden building. The call to Craig Gates about his Porta-Potty and any fund-raising would also follow that meeting. Regarding selection of the building type, some discussion as to advantages and disadvantages were exchanged but it was agreed that all would look at the spreadsheet in Bill Norton's workbook (to be sent) and offer changes/ comments prior to the next Committee Meeting.
6. Teresa Plymate conduct the first set of sky brightness readings and had shared these via an e-mail (attached). It was emphasized that this is just the first set and only at zenith. Yet, it is further information for Star Party site selection or even the Observatory if High Country Park



Sky Brightness
Readings.pdf

is rejected.

7. In other discussion it was recalled that Thane Lunberg had some manner of pier planned for his trailer observatories. Bill Norton was to follow-up with Thane to learn about this.

Action Items

1. Bill to deliver finalized Handout to Joe Horswell prior to the 2 February RAC meeting



RAC Handout
rev3.docx

CLOSED on 28 January and attached.

2. Bill Norton to prepare a draft preliminary plan and share with the Committee. **OPEN**
3. John O'Bryan to share the GMARS plan via e-mail along with images of the pier he had fabricated by a local machine shop. **CLOSED** on 28 January.
4. Bill Norton to contact the Recreation Manager for details on the Cub Lake curfew. **CLOSED** on 28 January. The curfew is 1030 but Debbie advised alerting the BVS Police about activity after dark in the event residents report unusual activity.
5. Bill Norton to update the building selection spreadsheet and send out to the Committee



BVSAC

Observatory_rev5.xls

members. **CLOSED** on 28 January (attached).

6. Bill Norton to contact Thane and inquire if he had plans or even hardware for the pier. **CLOSED** on 28 January. Thane was planning to buy pre-fabricated pier lifts for which he sent links to the Pier-Tech and Linak websites.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be conducted via Zoom on 4 February at 1000 (invitation hyperlink previously sent) with Agenda provide prior to that time by the Chairperson.