

## KAA July 25, 2008 business meeting summary

- 1) The 15" Obsession Telescope mirror is in the final stages of correcting its turned edge and recoating, which should be ready for shipment by the end of July.
- 2) A work session has been scheduled for Sunday September 7<sup>th</sup> at 9am to clean the observatory, mow the field, finish the inside wall repair, mark trees for cutting down, install lag bolts, finish staining of trim, apply wood preservative to sill plates, and etc.
- 3) Please welcome our newest member Chris Chase, a student at KSC.
- 4) A new declination pointer has been made and is ready for installation.
- 5) Staining of the Observatory exterior siding was completed on July 13<sup>th</sup> by Keith and Jim Fox. It looks great. The second coat of stain really did the trick. It took 9 gal of stain.
- 6) Keith finished 90% of our observatory sign and it was put up Friday night for those coming for observing. The sign just needs a direction arrow.
- 7) Thanks to Benjamin and his son Jackson for mowing the entire observatory field on July 13<sup>th</sup>.
- 8) The push lawn mower deck took quite a beating over the winter as 60% of the deck has rusted away from the rest of the frame. It should make it through this summer, but that's about it. If any one has a mower their getting rid of that still works well or know of one, please let me know.
- 9) In testing the declination-setting circle it was discovered that the existing right ascension setting circle does not function. In order to determine the problem the telescope will have to be removed from its mount. This investigation did not occur as scheduled for Sunday July 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am and has been rescheduled for Sunday August 24<sup>th</sup> at 9am.
- 10) The lighting initiative for the club has been put on hold. The reason is a newly formed very active NH IDA group, with plenty of manpower, is pursuing dark sky legislation at the state level that may include town ordinances, which may be a duplication of our work. Once we know exactly what their objectives are, we'll then determine whether we need to pursue local legislation or not.
- 11) Our dark-sky initiative in the town of Dummerston, VT has led to the testing of new full cut-off and semi cut-off street light fixtures with metal halide lamps to replace the existing non cut-off fixtures with mercury vapor lamps. The test has been completed. Unfortunately, the metal halide light was too sharp and penetrating for such a rural setting where the streets are narrow and the houses are close to the road. In addition, with the large distance between the two test lights there was a large dark area on the road compared to the non cut-off fixtures. A meeting with the town officials, residents and Power Company will be held the end of September to address what other lighting options are available.
- 12) On Saturday July 26<sup>th</sup> club members and non-members enjoyed a very nice time and dinner at the Elm City Restaurant and Brewery in Keene.
- 13) Observing took place after our business meeting under a very clear and steady sky. Keith brought and setup his new computer driven 9 1/4" Celestron telescope with CCD camera capability. He will be bringing it to future observing sessions so we can all get a chance for viewing and to see it in operation.