

KAA May 6, 2011 business meeting summary

- 1) The business items that need to be specifically addressed at the June meeting are: 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11 and 14.
- 2) The Observatory work session is scheduled for May 21st from 9am to noon. The items to be tackled are: Please let me know if you are planning to come so I can contact you if any change occurs or weather issues arise.
 - a. Finish removing last 50% of bottom 8" of wall particle board.
 - b. a new coat of Chreolite on base plates and roof support members.
 - c. Check out mower and mow where necessary.
- 3) Things to be addressed at our July work session are:
 - a. Install stone at bases of roof support posts.
 - b. Jim to procure stones.
 - c. Finish removing saplings along west side of observatory.
 - d. Junie will fabricate and install new roof retainer brackets ASAP
- 4) The Six Dobsonian telescope bases and side supports are in Junie's possession. Some assembly issues, per Junie, have arisen on the prototype. Until they are corrected the date for assembling all of the bases is on hold.
- 5) Contact new tenants across entrance to observatory and explain who and what we are, and to let them know their welcome to join us at our observing sessions. We need their email and phone number to keep them in the loop. This is to also help with the lights should we do outside the observatory observing.
- 6) Obsession telescope issues:
 - a. Determine if a ramp for the Obsession telescope is necessary to get it in and out of the observatory when taking it on the road or just breaking it down and reassembling it at the location is on hold until the optics issues are resolved and the cart handle configuration is modified.
 - b. One other issue with the 15" Obsession is its carrying cart. The handles are only 6" off the floor and need to be modified so the telescope can be lifted and moved while in a standing position rather than in a bent over position. Junie is looking into a new handle arrangement.
 - c. Findings from earlier inspection. The primary mirror was collimated. During the collimating process we found the secondary mirror assembly very loose. We changed out the main washer that improved its stability, but the fine adjustment nuts were too difficult to adjust so new ones will need to be purchased and installed. Until this assembly is fixed and working properly the star test is on hold. Once the star test is done Junie will determine if a finder scope purchase for this telescope would be beneficial.
- 7) Investigate buying and installing a 2" focuser and new mounting plate for 12 1/2" telescope. Should order focuser first and then match mounting plate to it. Junie brought two focusers to the February meeting, but time did not permit us to discuss the details of them. Both of them will require mounting plate modifications. To achieve making the new mounting flange Junie indicated the dimensional information required of the existing focuser, which will be obtained for submittal at the May meeting. This info was obtained at Saturday's observing session.

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- 8) The club 40th observatory anniversary barbecue/cookout will be held at Jim and Phinie's July 23rd starting at 5pm. All those that plan attending, please let me know by July 5th so we can make food plans at our July 8th meeting. Observing will take place at Sullivan after the party.
- 9) Jim Faux spoke to Gail at Keene Public Library about a room for our meeting sessions. Rooms are free during the week from 9am to 6pm. From 6pm to 8:45pm the charge is \$20 Monday thru Thursday. Friday's 6pm to 8:45pm is \$10 plus a \$10 charge for cleanup. Jim to contact Nancy Vincent for more clarification on the Friday night costs. Maybe we could do the cleanup so that that \$10 cost could be waived. We are looking for a room to setting up our laptop computers, projector and screen to conduct our astronomy presentations. Jim Faux to check with the Keene Recreational department as a possible meeting location.
- 10) Jim Fox will re-connect with the Dublin School and Jonathan Weiss.
- 11) We had a very successful and enjoyable dinner along with great conversation at Papagallos. We want to thank the Brooks' for joining us and look forward to doing it again next spring.
- 12) Junie do you still want to be listed on the NH astronomical Society web page? If so then your email address needs to be changed.
- 13) The June 3rd business meeting and observing will be held at Junie's at 7pm. Anyone needing directions to his house please let me know. No presentations will be conducted thru the summer months of June, July, and August.
- 14) The Astronomical League dues have been paid and the membership list emailed to them.
- 15) Jim Goggin a former member has request if he could bring his students to the observatory sometime in June for an observing session. I'm to contact Tim and make observing arrangements.
- 16) NASA has announced the availability of a poster show exhibit called **From Earth to the Solar System (FETTSS)**. There are over 90 images available for download. FETTU has been exhibited all over the world in shopping malls, metro stations, parks, airports, and other unique locations, reaching millions of people in such locales as New York City, Reykjavik, Alexandria, Shanghai, and Lima that are of with the Keene Public Library. Gail at the library is interested but we need to find funding for printing the posters and building frames to display the pictures. We should discuss venues and other activities that might be part of the exhibit, ie guest speakers, etc.
- 17) Review the process to confirm the monthly observing session and who will be going.