

KAA February 28, 2014 business meeting summary

On-going Business

- 1) The business items that need to be specifically addressed at the February 28th meeting at KSC are: 6 thru 15, and all of the new business items.
- 2) **The next Observatory work session is scheduled for Saturday June 7th from 9am to noon. The work to be tackled is items C, and E .**
 - a. Apply Chreocoat on base plates and roof support members.
 - b. Install stone at bases of roof support posts. Jim to procure stones.
 - c. **Remove the brush and saplings from the dirt pile at the south end of observatory.**
 - d. Junie will fabricate and install new roof retainer brackets when he can.
 - e. **Replace portions of existing roll off roof track deteriorating wood beams. (Spring 2014)**
 - f. Scrape and paint outside of observatory. On hold pending obtaining new siding.
- 3) The Six Dobsonian telescope bases and side supports are in Junie's possession. Assembly of these bases for the 6" telescope tubes is on hold until the mounting brackets are fabricated.
- 4) The 15" Obsession telescope still needs to be mounted on the ground to determine if the vibration that occurs under high magnification in the observatory is a function of the floor movement or from the telescope. .
- 5) It was determined that the Observatory siding should be up graded to vinyl. Our only option seems to be to purchase new siding because our other possible options have evaporated. This is not an eminent problem. It will need to be done in stages due to the \$750 cost.
 - o One side per year – minimize cost
 - o Vinyl side the square walls of the observatory only; scrape/prime/paint the A-of-the-roof.
- 6) The Solar telescope in our possession is what is known as a "Rusty Coronado" to correct the rust problem will cost a minimum of \$200 does not seem worthwhile. This is not a permanent fix as the coatings on the lenses degrade within 5yrs do to use from the ultra violet light. We decide to not pursue that repair through Coronado, but Junie is going to pursue through vendors to see if Coronado will ship the vendor the lens for a fraction of the lens cost and we do the replacement.
- 7) Bob has rescheduled an observing sessions at the Stoddard elementary school for 3rd through 5th grades for Monday April 7th at 8pm with rain dates of Tuesday the 8 th, thru Friday the 11 th There will be a short introduction of what we'll be observe in the spring sky.
- 8) A topic Jim Faux would like us to explore and have a presentation on next year is variable stars.
- 9) A spring travel event (April or May) to the Christa McAuliffe planetarium in concord for solar viewing is in the works and anyone interested in attending, please let me know. The planetarium is open 12mo of the year Thursday thru Sunday from 1pm to 4pm for solar viewing. The cost of the viewing is \$10.
- 10) Bob is to call Tonia and Sigrid about them conducting an astronomy class for their students using our tool kits from the NSN. Tonia will be teaching science in the spring and will contact us when the astronomy session starts. Both teachers are working on incorporating the tool kits into their astronomy program.

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Completed Items

- 1) The Keene Public Library has completed four of its astronomy programs, with one left on March 6th.
- 2) The July work dates have been corrected to the 5th or 6th.

New Business

- 1) Jim and Phinie suggested we go through all of the astronomy tool kits and come up with a “show and tell” session for the library when the library has the children’s program. We will need a good size layout area to review all the stuff and two suggestions were the YSC or the Colony Mill.
- 2) KAA would like to welcome our newest members Angel Rosario and Claudio Veliz.
- 3) A new tool kit called “ Supernova-Outreach was received from NSN and we reviewed the tool kit prior to the meeting.
- 4) The astronomy presentation at the Keene Library March 6th at 6:30pm is “Explore the Marvel Moon”.