

KAA February 17, 2012 business meeting summary

- 1) The business items that need to be specifically addressed at the March meeting are: 9, 10, 13 & 14.
- 2) The next Observatory work session is scheduled for next May. The items to be tackled are:
 - a. Finish removing last 25% of bottom 8" of wall particleboard.
 - b. Apply Chreocoat on base plates and roof support members.
 - c. Mow field.
 - d. Install stone at bases of roof support posts. Jim to procure stones.
 - e. Finish removing saplings along west side of observatory.
 - f. Junie will fabricate and install new roof retainer brackets ASAP.
 - g. Procure and install new cables for opening and closing the observatory roof.
 - h. Replace existing roll off roof tracks.
 - i. **Install new PVC handles on existing Obsession cart handles.**
- 3) 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.
- 4) Obsession telescope issue:
 - a. One 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. **The new handles will be of 1" PVC conduit, which has been purchased and will be installed at our first work session.**
- 5) Jim Fox will re-connect with the Dublin School and Jonathan Weiss. **Jim contacted Jonathan who has been extremely busy teaching math and science and has not had much time for the observatory. He will contact Jim when he can about observing at Dublin.**
- 6) Bob Taylor will be KAA's listed contact on the NH astronomical Society web page, in place of Junie. **NHAS has eliminated this feature from their web site so no action required.**
- 7) The Keene Public Library has received the loaner telescope from the NHAS. We delivered the telescope to the library the first week in January. The library is in the process of developing a loan program and has asked us to talk to the Library board about the telescope and review the loan procedures. The next staff meeting is Friday February 17th. **Jim Fox attended the meeting and discussed the operation of the telescope and the loan program and explained what KAA's roll is in the program. The library will start the loan program March 2nd.**
- 8) The next astronomy presentation at the Keene Library is Thursday February 23rd. KAA will setup telescopes for viewing after the presentations around the library, weather permitting.
- 9) KAA has decided to do a 30 min. astronomy filming for Jodi Turner's **In Your Back Yard** program on channel 8 **Tuesday May 8th. Our second meeting will take place Wednesday March 7th at 6pm at Jim and Phinie's. All those interested in attending, please let the Faux's know by the 6th or me.**
- 10) FETTSS – The Keene Public Library has issued a letter to approx. 40 organizations requesting funding for the exhibit. To date the response has been very light. We feel a follow up call to the letter is needed. We would volunteer making the cold calls if the library does not have the time. To do this we would need the library list of companies and phone contacts. The most efficient calling is for our members to review the list determine who may have a relationship with a particular company and assign them that contact. The other issue is being able to generate a quality picture, as the file size we have been issued has to be enlarged significantly, which reduces the quality of the picture. Jim Faux is pursuing this issue with NASA. **To date all phases of this project are on hold. Next step is a meeting with Gail after March 1st.**

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- 11) KAA has made a decision about contributing to the Monadnock Nature Almanac, and that is they can reference our web site for our events. Our review of their site indicated that they already had significant astronomy postings and did not need our input. **Jim Fox to contact MNA about our decision.**
- 12) Observing is scheduled for Saturday March 3rd for 5:45pm at the Otter Brook Dam to see Mercury and many other objects. Mercury is only visible for 40min after dark.
- 13) Our 3rd annual spring dinner at Papagallos will take place in April, but the Friday date has not been set yet. All those interested in attending the dinner, please let me know. Jim Fox to email the Brooke's regarding best dates for them.
- 14) KAA has decided to join the Night Sky Network of the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, which will get us listed on their web site and eligible to receive all their astronomy news. Jim Faux will set up a separate E-mail account for this transaction.