

KAA March 27, 2009 business meeting summary

- 1) The Observatory remaining work items are the removal of the marked trees, installation of the new roof support brackets, applying a second coat of preservative to the sill plates and roof supports and staining the entrance door a second coat, and fix the driveway potholes and remove stones.
- 2) Jim Fox to contact Gail Zacharia at the library to see if she could join us for dinner within the next two weeks to celebrate a successful "Visions of the Universe" program.
- 3) The 35mm observatory construction pictures from Phil will be transferred to J-peg via Jim's scanner.
- 4) Jim Fox's reviewed a request to link to a new web site and the request was denied.
- 5) A work session has been scheduled for Saturday May 2 to address the remaining work issues in item 1, with particular focus on doing the driveway work. The start time will be decided at our April business meeting. Junie has backhoe equipment that he will bring to fill in the potholes and remove the stones necessary to smooth out the driveway.
- 6) Discussed determining and correcting the 12.5" telescope frame or eyepiece holder so that when the eyepiece holder is moved to various positions it still aligns with the finder scope. This condition will be investigated within the next month.
- 7) The new LED illuminated reticle 9x50 finder scope for the 12.5" telescope will be installed when the weather gets warmer, hopefully April.
- 8) We are still looking for a push lawn mower.
- 9) Jim Fox will conduct a presentation on the 12th to 15th hour of the sky after our April 17th business meeting.
- 10) Tom Geheran will conduct a presentation on building a telescope after the May 29th business meeting.
- 11) Due to several conflicts the 100 hours of spontaneous sidewalk observing requested in a Sky and Telescope article of astronomy clubs from April 2nd to the 5th will not be observed by us during this time period, but we plan to do this program sometime this summer when everyone has more time available.
- 12) The New Hampshire International Dark Sky association lighting regulations submittal to the N.H Congress was passed in the House of Representatives and has been sent to the Senate for approval.
- 13) There was a request to generate more information to be presented on our web site about the club purpose and it's history, which is in the process of being generated.
- 14) After the business meeting Junie conducted a very informative lecture and work session on collimating the secondary mirror of you telescope. This is a very detailed and tricky operation to understand and perform depending on your telescopes spider adjustment capability. Once the telescopes secondary mirror is collimated then the primary mirror can be centered. Without your telescope properly collimated and aligned viewing will be quite compromised. Due to the degree of difficulty in understanding this procedure and its vital importance to achieving optimal viewing, this topic should be repeated later this year.