

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN OBSERVATORY ASSOCIATION

MEETING AND STAR PARTY

October 2, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Vice President, Robert Grover; Secretary/Treasurer, Alva Hibbs; Director, Terri Verbecken

MEMBERS

Terry Taddeucci, Barbara Carpenter, Albert Marquez

VISITORS

Alex Rounds

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. at the Rio Grande County Courthouse Annex. The Vice President called the meeting to order. Minutes from the September 11, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Barbara proposed, Terry seconded, and the membership agreed that they be approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Al provided the QuickBooks financial report. The current balance is \$3,066.68. Terri proposed, Albert seconded, and the membership agreed that it be approved.

OLD BUSINESS

From the last meeting, the Board agreed that D&O (Directors and Officers) liability insurance would be prudent. Robert reported that reasonable cost insurance is available from Fireman's Fund Insurance if we join The Astronomical League. Since its membership is prorated for the year, Robert proposed we wait until after 10/15/21 to join since the charge would only be \$5.00 and club members only \$2.50 each if 95 percent chose to join. Robert earlier offered to be the main point-of-contact. Terri volunteered to be the required secondary point-of-contact.

Robert reported we could join the "Night Sky Network" if we have 15 paid members. Membership allows the public to find out about events we and other astronomy clubs are holding, to share these events with others, and to contact other astronomy clubs.

Al reported that he planned to use the Wix Website Development Company to host our website and the cost would be about \$16.00 per month.

NEW BUSINESS

Al proposed, Terri seconded, and the membership agreed to accept Nancy Schrader's BoD resignation due to declining health. Terri volunteered to purchase a card from the Association thanking her for her long time membership and support. Al reported that Nancy is assembling Association historic memorabilia, correspondence and photos that she will transfer to him shortly.

Al proposed, Robert seconded, and the members agreed to accept long time member Barbara Carpenter's

membership on the BoD. In that regard, Barbara volunteered to coordinate refreshments and/or entrees for any future meetings and potlucks.

Terri proposed and the membership agreed that we should have a “Cosmic Calendar” for the meetings and local publicity to introduce visitors what they will be viewing. We should also have guest speakers whenever they can be arranged. She proposed that contacting other organization like the South Fork “Silver Threads” would increase interest and attendance. In that regard, she proposed and the membership agreed that she set up a Facebook Account for us. Al will provide her the Association email distribution lists.

She also proposed and the membership agreed that she set up and advertise a public viewing of the Draconids meteor showers sometime during the 10/7/21 to 10/10/21 event. She will try to find a suitable dark sky and parking location.

FUTURE EVENTS

The Board agreed that during the winter months meetings should be no oftener and every other month. Saturday, 12/4/21 is proposed. A likely icy trail will preclude any star parties.

Terri and Albert will meet with Robert on 10/7/21, 2:00 pm at the observatory to obtain “certification” training to safely operate the observatory. Al will provide keys for them afterwards.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Board agreed to adjourn. The observatory was not opened due to inclement weather.

Alva Hibbs, Secretary/Treasurer