



Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Date: Dec 8, 2018

Location: WISC TV Conf Rm

Call to Order: 9:09AM

Members Present: President Laurence Mohr, Jeff Shokler, Edwin Proctor, Jurgen Patau, Martin Mika, Dan Hyslop, Mike Van Susteren.

Approval of the meeting agenda:

Ed suggested a discussion of officers' responsibilities as regards records of the society. With no further discussion the agenda was approved.

President Mohr pointed out the need to advocate for members of the Board as well as other officers for the next election of officers in May. Secretary Proctor stated he wishes to step aside as Secretary but is willing to remain on the Board. Board Member Hyslop stated he would be willing to take up the Secretary position.

Needs of record keeping. Question of the "Official" location of By-laws, observatory and maintenance rules and other societal paperwork. Also, the challenge of location and potential changing of clubhouse passwords. This issue was, by general agreement, moved to a later time.

President Mohr spoke of the opening of the Oscar Meyer Observatory.

President Mohr asked for approval of minutes of the April 7th and August 10th meetings.

Shokler moved to approve the minutes. Patau seconded the motion. The motion was passed by voice vote with no opposition.

Treasurer Report by Jurgen Patau

-We have had significant membership increase in the last several years and may need to find ways to spend the income from memberships.

Last year (Sept 30) we recorded 124 memberships. This year only 14 who did not respond or renew

At this time, we have 101 paid up members with 4 new members.

Jeff suggested that we refer to 'Memberships' rather than "Members" as family memberships may contain several individuals but are only one membership and suggested a Spring (or renewal time) survey of our members to ascertain the direction the members wish to take regarding activities of the Society.

It was suggested that we consider Pay Pal or other 'online' method of collecting dues.

MAS BOD Minutes December 2018

Jurgen presented a printout of a proposed Budget for 2019 and inquired if there is a 'better' way of presenting the budget or do we need a different format for the budget and new ideas for projects we could consider, especially relating to the YRS site.

- With the increase of members do we want to consider a fund raiser for capital projects?
- Are there other areas we could build our resources and capabilities while we have more capital?

-Discussion of the 'critter problem' relating to the moles that have returned to our yard. What possible steps we could take to ensure the yard is not a dangerous place for humans walking in the dark skies.

-Other possible needs include the need to upgrade the electrical feeds to the observing pads and outbuildings.

-We need to consider the expansion capabilities at YRS by grounds expansion or facilities improvement such as buying more land to protect our dark skies?

Motion by Ed Proctor to accept the Treasurer's report, Second by Jeff Shokler. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Motion to approve the 2019 budget by Proctor. Second by Shokler, Approved by voice vote.

Observatory Director Report.

Certain Observatory Director ideas were discussed during Treasurer discussion such as upgrades to the facilities at YRS including cement pads, electrical service, phone service and human services. These are 'future growth' projects with no direct action taken at this time.

Jurgen asked about Gmail account. Ed will take over the responsibilities of this account as Secretary and pass it on to future secretaries.

Moles- Mohr will get estimates for critter eradication before next year observing season.

Motion by Jurgen "to empower the President to spend up to \$500 for contracted pest/mole control at YRS." Second by Jeff. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion regarding cellular telephone at YRS. Do we have service. Several report that some service is better than others at YRS. No further action taken on this issue.

Report on the removal of the "DOB Shed" which is partially removed. Work will progress into next year to complete removal of the structure.

Laurence suggested we look for a contractor to remove the remainder. No further action will be taken.

Jurgen suggests we need to create a plan of development for the entire site and that we could begin by contacting Diggers Hotline to find underground cables.

MAS BOD Minutes December 2018

Insurance: There is a discrepancy in the street sign for fire protection and the Insurance policy address. Jurgen will work with Insurance Company to attempt to rectify that problem.

Discussion of creation of an ad-hoc sub-committee to study future growth of the club and YRS site. Laurence will act as coordinator of an ad hoc committee to study potential growth including electrical, parking, observing pads and interconnection of equipment with remote controls. He will also consider contacting Matt Mills to learn how he does the same thing.

Discussion of removal of the existing 'tool shed' or creation of a new storage facility closer to the club house.

Discussion regarding security at YRS including changing pad lock combinations. Dan Hyslop will look into security options at YRS.

Dan moved to accept YRS plans as outlined in president's report. Second by Jurgen, Passed by voice vote.

New Business

Banquet preparations are continuing.

President Mohr presented plans for the banquet .

Feb 23, 2019, Benvenutos. Speaker to be determined.

Public Outreach.

Moon over Monona (MON)

Discussion of options for MOM including adults only later night plans, Daylight observing events, non-observing displays and solar observing events.. No action taken beyond the suggestions.

Increasing Women in the Board and activities

discussion regarding how to include more women in society activities and offices

discussion regarding online 'social' media and its effect on MAS

no specific action taken.

Star Parties

Potential parties include but are not limited to:

Devils lake State park

Donald Park

The possibility of a club trip to the Nebraska Star Party

Potential Winter event at YRS for members and friends and other discussion regarding star parties at Monona Terrace.

MAS BOD Minutes December 2018

Web Site

Jeff reports the developments of the web including the completed switch to a different domain is in progress.

Will spend \$30 to get SSL Certificate. New site MadisonAstro

We will need to strip data from the old site but it is all under Dan's control.

Need to get a Google business account.

Possible change for board members communications.

The switch to a new website will call for more member participation in the creation of the website and content.

We need more graphics for new web site. Upcoming events and existing events. The changing role of the website in today's society.

Dan Re: update logo- He will work on new ideas.

Ed Officer responsibilities

What records are maintained and who has them and where they are.

Set up operating procedures

Ed spoke of the need for a written set of instructions and duties for officers and committees.

No action taken other than knowing we need to do. But we do need to quantify the roles. Next meeting —about March.

Motion to adjourn at 11:41

Submitted:

Edwin Proctor Secretary

Edited by Laurence Mohr on 08-Oct-2019