

Call to order: 7:04 PM

Roll Call

Members present: Laurence Mohr, Kevin Santulis, Jurgen Patau, Martin Mika, Charles Cowles, Dan Hyslop, Christine Zeltner

Also present: John Rummel

Review and Approval of the Agenda

Agenda item 4. d. Update from YRS Upgrade Committee moved from President's Business to Such Other Matters

Kevin moved to approve the meeting agenda as amended, Jurgen seconded and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

President's Business

- a. John Rummel, chair of Historical Committee, inquired about permanent storage for MAS documents. For the time being documents will be kept at UW Space Place, but there is some question about what will happen after director Jim Lattis retires. Keeping the documents at the YRS clubhouse is an option with an airtight case and desiccant due to mold and humidity issues.

John would also like a permanent online repository. His documents are roughly 1.2 GB. We have a choice of platforms, including Google Docs, where it currently resides, Dropbox or Box. Challenges are maintaining permissions and administrative responsibilities with succession of board members.

John has compiled a history book with several copies already distributed and would like to know if he should print more. Printing is cheaper in quantity, but not exceedingly so. Consensus that there should be online access to the document, either as a pdf, wiki or .html. The book is being added to the collections of the Madison Public Library and Wisconsin Historical Society.

- b. The Maple Tree Restaurant where we planned to hold the next banquet burned. Most restaurants charge hefty room fees. A general consensus to return to Benvenutos, even if it is smaller than we wish. The value is good and we expect lower attendance for the first year back. Suggestion of having it in April to maximize board attendance.
- c. The December Solstice telescope clinic will occur at the scheduled December monthly meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Kevin moved to approve the minutes as submitted of the 24 March, 17 May, 19 May and 21 May meetings, Charles seconded and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Jurgen updated the board about our current financials and membership. Currently we have 24 members who haven't renewed for the 2022-23 year, which may represent a reversion to our pre-pandemic numbers.

Observatory Director's Report

- a. A small, but productive workday was held at YRS. The club needs a plan for getting the AKO working again: There are mechanical issues with the rollers. Picnic tables also need to be stained. Members are using the new Dobsonian telescope and there's demand for a small astrophotography rig, which we may revisit after the YRS improvements.
- b. Christine wants address of YRS and emergency contact information posted prominently around YRS. Alexei Strelchenko remains at large. We may change the door code again in the spring.

New Business

The board discussed the possibility of granting a lifetime honorary membership to William A. Linton for his support of the Oscar Mayer Observatory. Unfortunately the bylaws prevent the board from unilaterally granting a lifetime membership. Workarounds include asking him to pay to join the club and then having a general membership vote or inventing a new title. A better option would be to change the bylaws. We had an extensive discussion of updating our bylaws and having them rewritten or reviewed by our attorney.

Old Business

- a. Star party etiquette rules are still under consideration
- b. The last holdup to getting a quote for the YRS improvements is deciding on a location for the electrical receptacles on the pads. The current plan is for the boxes to be mounted on unistrut embedded into the concrete. The board agrees that placement should be consistent across all pads, but disagrees on the best particular location. The electrical work is expected to take about two weeks, and scaling back the number of powered pads is likely to provide only minimal savings.

Next Meeting

The board will meet again once we have estimates for the YRS improvements and the legal review of our bylaws.

Dan moved to adjourn, Kevin seconded and the motion passed by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 PM

Minutes recorded and submitted by Dan Hyslop, secretary