

KAA MONTHLY MEETING

Minutes

September 20, 2019

Location: Keene State College, YSC

Present: Robert Taylor, Carol Littleton, David Hayward, Bruce Norlund, Edward Lotkowski and Jeanne Applegate.

Secretary's Report: Accepted as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Club balance: September \$1,699.22 - August: \$1699.22

Upcoming Events:

- *Stay tuned for* possible on-the-fly future club observing sessions. Notifications with details will be by email from Bob, Carol or Gabe.
- Observing scheduled at Sullivan Observatory for September 21th at 7:30pm, weather permitting.
- Our next club meeting is scheduled for October 18th at 7pm at Keene State College in the Young Student Center.
- Our October Observing is scheduled for Saturday the 19th at 7pm at the Sullivan observatory.
- International Moon Observing is scheduled for Saturday October 5th. Bob will contact Gail to see if library wants to schedule this event this year, and if so, KAA feels it should take place at library instead of Ashuelot Park in hopes to get more library member attendance.
- Transit of Mercury will take place Monday November 11th starting at 7:30am and finishing at 1pm. The plan is to do this transit observing at the Dublin School based on Erik Schmitt's schedule. KAA will provide additional telescopes if needed.
- At last nights meeting Carol mentioned the ISS would be going overhead at 8pm so we stopped the meeting and went outside and found this very bright object flying over head and informed several students what we were looking at and they were very pleased to have seen it.

Old Business:

- Astronomical League programs? Night Sky Networks? Other?
- Bob has installed the new 9 x 50 finder scope Orion sold us for only \$20.00. The list price is \$80.00. Total cost with shipping was \$45.00, which Bob said he would donate to the club.

Observatory work – Looking to finish vinyl siding on the 2 triangular gables. Finish removing brush on west wall. Work date is scheduled for Saturday October 19th for brush removal from 9am to noon. At this time Vinyl siding work is on hold.

- Carol brought in our new signboard and it looks really great. We want to give a big thank you to Carol for designing the art work for the sign and to David for doing the leg work on tracking down

the sign board we used. David is pursuing purchasing Lexan to cover the display art work. Once everything is completed we will post a picture of it.

- Please email Bob, Carol or Gabe if you have a presentation you would like to do or have a topic you would like us to present on the night sky, telescopes and etc.
- Submitted to the Astronomical League Jim Faux's name for consideration for the "2019 webmaster award". Jim has done such a spectacular job of designing and maintaining our terrific website we are all hoping he is selected for this honor. Jim and Phinie also donate yearly the cost of maintaining the website. **There has been no response from AL as yet.**
- Carol did a terrific presentation on the September constellations. She didn't skip a beat on her talk even though she left her constellation notes at home. Great Job Carol!! – Delphinus, Equuleus, Sagitta, and Vulpecula.
- Bob gave an interesting talk on the "Future world wide moon missions and the present legal space treaty". It will be interesting to see in the years to come if the moon resources are usable and if so without conflict. His talk will be emailed out for everyone to have a chance read it.

New Business:

- Carol to discuss the October constellations – Aquarius, Cepheus, Lacerta, and Pegasus.
- The Town of Sullivan just went through a new property assessment values and KAA's observatory is now valued at \$2,400 from its current value of \$1,200. At this time we do not what our taxes will be as they have not set a new tax rate yet. We'll know our new tax in December.
- The layout of our new business cards was finalized for printing. The Business cards will use the heading from the our membership card and the wording from our new sidewalk sign.
- October – Talk will discuss the "Van Allen Radiation Belt" and also watch a short video on this topic.
- What's up for October Videos
- Club viewing reports