

**Attendees:** Mike Weasner, Evaline Auerbach, Stan Bembenek, Charlotte Poole, Mary Helen Vasquez, Waldo Vasquez.

For convenience, the meetings will be announced on the committee webpage. This can be mentioned whenever the publicity goes out about needing more volunteers.

Weasner is helping with the Red Rock State Park application to be an International Dark Sky Park. He attended the kickoff meeting on the March 3rd by teleconference.

Circle K – the “never ending saga”: Weasner reported that the manager was going to be contacting the contractor soon about fixing the lights. As of now, Circle K corporate is installing LEDs, so the adjustment of the lights might happen soon. The Good news: these lights will point just down. BUT bad news: they might not be blue light filtered. The prediction is for “some time this spring.”

IDA (International Dark-Sky Association) has offered to provide amber LEDs for the park. They are a wildlife friendly, special light that IDA has purchased. IDA are the only ones selling them. As of this meeting, one has been installed here. The Park will put them in the parking lot at Kannally Ranch House. Then the red lights will go to the Group Use Area. The Park is buying them and will have them for the 21st.

The Pinal County Board of Supervisors acknowledged the Designation by passing a resolution. Kent Taylor of Pinal County Parks and Open Spaces wants to come to an ODSC meeting after 3/21/15 to start developing incentives for dark skies in the County. A meeting in April would accommodate that: details to be decided at March 19th meeting.

Weasner received an Invitation to participate in the Kearny Pioneer Days parade. He declined because the committee doesn't have a sign for a vehicle.

Weasner spoke at the San Pedro River Alliance to about 50 people who want to form an International Dark Sky Reserve.

Weasner attended a local meeting which had been called regarding the change of zoning laws to allow 5-acre marijuana growing plots outside. The meeting was pitched to be against these in Oracle. Mike attended to express concern about lighting. Everybody there was against such plots. Weasner discovered while there that the maps the leaders were showing as definite plots were not a done deal.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Saturday March 6,** at OSP: “Adventures with the Moon.” A talk by Park volunteer Dick Boyer will take place at 7:30 to 8:30. They have asked for a couple of telescopes to be set up. Weasner will be there to set up the telescopes at 7:00. Auerbach volunteered to be one hand as well.

**Thursday, March 12** :REI Company will be holding their annual meeting at OSP. It is private, so representatives of ODSC will not be at the tables, but will talk to the group about ODSC and set up telescopes if the weather makes viewing possible. Anna was going to help but is ill, so Auerbach will help.

**Saturday March 21:** "Dancing with the Stars" dedication event.

- Supervisor Rios may not be able to attend, so is trying to see if Sup. Smith from Saddlebrooke can stand in. Someone will read the resolution on the 21st and make available a signed copy.
- Invitations to the event went out from Phoenix, Arizona State Parks, to the 27 supporters for which Weasner had supplied the addresses. Four came back as undeliverable, but corrections were made and sent back out.
- Sue Black, new Arizona State Parks Director, will most likely be at the event.
- U. S. Representative Kirkpatrick of District One has declined.
- Ranger Rinio will order the battery pack for the Vixen telescope to have it here.
- Booths at the Multi-Use Area from 1 - 6 pm. will include: Mt Lemmon Sky Center, AZ Trail Assoc, IDA, ODSC, FOSP, LSPWA, CCA, Nature Conservancy?, Starizona?
- Oracle Patio Cafe is confirmed to have food for sale from 1 - 3 pm. Announcements will say that attendees can bring their own picnic.
- One band will play from 1-3pm at GUA and a different band at 5-7pm.
- Weasner will be at OSP from 11:00.

**To be done:**

- Weasner passed around sample **name tags** for ODSC volunteers. After one was selected, he said he will contact Committee Members to see who needs one for the 21st. Auerbach will print them.
- Mugs for participants, awardees - it's a dead issue.
- **Certificate** samples were examined and the suggested changes will be sent to Phoenix tomorrow.
- **Awards:**
  - IDA will give the award to the park & the special award to the ODSC.
  - Weasner will give certificates to the those of the 27 supporters who were invited. They have not been told that they will receive an award.
  - Mike will announce the telescope donors: Three manufacturers and Mary Huebner.
  - The Gate Sign announcing that the park is an International Dark Sky Park may be available for showing.
- The Park **website** didn't have details about the event as of meeting time.
- When the **schedule** is official, Weasner will send out a schedule for committee members.
- **PR** is going out later because Rinio needs the names of groups who are bringing telescopes — Saddlebrooke ,etc.
- **Paper programs** to be handed out? Weasner will consult Rinio.
- Bembenek said that **shuttles** would be available: a six-person buggy and a State Parks van for transporting people who can't walk it from parking.
- Volunteers will park at the maintenance area.

**Other business:**

The three poster boards have been printed at a cost of \$117.20, coming from Weasner's account. With only \$96.80 cents in the Committee's PayPal from two volunteer events, Weasner will submit the bill when there is enough to pay for it. (With three more events soon, that shouldn't be long.)

Partnering for fund-raising with the Friends of Oracle State Park was brought up.

The next meeting will be March 19th to see if all is set for the 21st and to arrange future meetings.

Signed,

Evaline J. Auerbach, Recorder

Signed,

Mike Weasner, Chair