

Oracle Dark Skies Committee
Minutes April 7, 2016

Attendees: Mike Weasner 520-289-3402, mweasner@mac.com; Evaline Auerbach 520-610-8742, evalineja@icloud.com; Wendy Ostrander, 520-896-2951; Philip Barish 386f-338-4036; pjbjulian@gmail.com; Jennifer Rinio, 520-896-2425, jrinio@azstateparks.gov; Chip Parfet 303-257-9475, cparfet@gmail.com (came late)

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written and sent to the members.

Treasurers report:

The balance brought forward was \$300.55. The brochures printed at OfficeMax. with discounts, and folded were \$246.37. Balance is \$54.18 (paypal = \$37.85; \$16.33 cash). See attached report.

- The next project will be purchasing more “no pollution” pins, including some designed for small lapel pins. Weasner distributed proposed designs and received comments.

Light pollution community report

Circle K west has 7 new light fixtures. The 8th fixture installation has been delayed.

Reports

- None

Upcoming Events

In planning: Auerbach reported:

- The Oracle Historical Society has stated interest in acknowledging the centennial of the donation from Mrs. Lavinia Steward which led to the building of and installing of the first telescope in the Steward Observatory, University of Arizona. The known donation date was October 18, 1916. and the Steward Observatory at the University of Arizona is celebrating that date.
- The Oracle Piano Society is working with Evaline Auerbach to create a Celestial Concert on December 28, 2016. A full report will be given at the May meeting.

Past Events at Oracle State Park involving ODSC

- March 5 - The Oracle Dark Sky Committee was represented by booths and presented a Star party with telescopes from the Park and from amateur astronomy group
- March 19 - An Arizona Trail Leadership Conference met was involved in a Trail project. That night, the ODSC set up a telescope for the group on the upper patio.

Upcoming:

- April 9 - For International Dark Sky week, Dr. John Barentine will present his book *The Lost Constellations*. <http://www.springer.com/us/book/9783319227948> These are constellations that were identified years ago, mostly by Europeans, but are “extinct” now. These constellations were made up mostly of stars that so faint that as light pollution increased around the globe they could no longer be seen. Now some of them can be “rediscovered” in dark sky areas. For this program, Barentine will talk at 6:30pm and all will go look through telescope at 8:00 pm. The Saddlebrook SkyGazers Club have been invited. Reservations are suggested.

The next regular meeting will be May 5, 2016 at the same place and time.

Signed,

Evaline J. Auerbach, Recorder

Signed,

Mike Weasner, Chair