

Oracle Dark Skies Committee
Minutes September 1, 2016
La Hacienda Club, Saddlebrooke Ranch

Attendees: Mike Weasner 520-289-3402, mweasner@mac.com; Evaline Auerbach 520-610-8742, evalineja@icloud.com; Chip Parfet 303-257-9475, cparfet@gmail.com; Jennifer Rinio 520-896-2425.

The meeting was called to order at 6:46 pm. It was reported that at least one member could not attend due to the storm.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written and are available on the ODSC web site.

Treasurer's report: The committee doesn't have a treasurer currently, so Weasner is doing the report. See report attached. \$59.18 balance.

Upcoming Events this year

- **September 10:** Steward Observatory Centennial Event & Star party. @4:30 Tables: ODSC, IDA; @5:30- 7:00 pm. Dr. Tom Fleming of Steward Observatory presents "History of the Steward Observatory"; @7:00 - 9:00 sky viewing - Tucson Amateur Astronomers Association will provide telescopes. Press release to the *Miner*, Oro valley Paper and the *Arizona Daily Star*.
- **September 16:** A Workshop in Phoenix: the Celestial Adventures person is holding this as a part of research and wants input. Lands and Weasner are going. Update next month.
- **September 25:** Star Party with music. Heather Hardy. ODSC Table at 4:00.
- **November:** (Proposed) Art show at Triangle-L with Adam Block and Miwa Block. May be at Oracle Patio Cafe or another venue instead.
- **December 18.** Celestial Concert by the Oracle Piano Society. The concert is at 3:00; a program about the "Bethlehem Star" at 5:00. Dark Sky viewing will follow.

Report from Weasner:

- The Park could have Solar-related events as well as night - maybe Earth day with an afternoon solar event and a night star party. A resource would be Lunt Solar Systems which makes solar telescopes.
- Possible future programs could include the effect of light pollution on bats.
- The committee will receive an approval copy of the OSP IDSP annual report to be submitted to IDA at the end of the month.
- Marty Carlson from Lantana Consulting Group will be having a retreat in late October at El Rancho Robles. They would like to have a Star Party by the ODSC on October 26. ODSC Members are invited to participate.
- Weasner showed the Committee a "treat" - a floodlight being sold at Safeway which is 2700K, and not blue. (Phoenix leaning toward 2700K instead of the blue for their LED street lighting.)
- Weasner has been exploring where the ODSC can meet. Among the possibilities is Skygazers Club at Saddlebrooke.

Adjournment & future meetings

The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm. The next meeting is October 6, at Kannally Ranch House.

A discussion of SETI and Weasner's visit to the radio telescopes in NM followed the meeting.

Signed,

Evaline J. Auerbach, Recorder

Signed,

Mike Weasner, Chair

