

Attendees: Mike Weasner (520-289-3402, mweasner@mac.com); Meg Rau (847-816-6730, megsinbox@yahoo.com); Ruth & Gary Warren (503-846-1801, gary.ruth@gmail.com); Richard Spitzer (520-825-3116, rspitzer@wbhsi.net); Tim Lawler (408-823-5439, timlawler12@att.net); Don Holder (219-688-9616; astro1z@yahoo.com); Chip Parfet (303-251-9475, cparfet@gmail.com); Vince Micallef (520-896-2425; vmicallef@azstateparks.gov); Chris Mobley (425-239-2938, chrismobleytelos@msn.com)

The previous meeting minutes were approved as sent out to members.

Treasurer Report: Acting Treasurer Mike Weasner gave the treasurer's report.

Donations = Totaled \$5 since the previous meeting.

Expenses = none

The Current balance for ODSC is \$640.18.

(See spreadsheet attached.)

ODSC T-shirts to sell was discussed once again. Local artist and ODSC member MaryHelen Vasquez and Weasner had worked on a preliminary design which was presented to the Committee at this meeting, as well as at the August meeting. The Committee members who were attendance at both meetings liked both designs presented, including the "children's version", which was painted by the young granddaughter of Vasquez. Both shirts should be available in all sizes. Weasner will contact the Oracle Zipline, who has T-shirt printing capability. Perhaps they would be willing to assist with the printing.

Community action (IDA requirement):

- Weasner helped Mary Helen Vasquez, ODSC member, draft a letter (with day/night photos) to the Arizona Water Company that has a light glaring into her house. The business has agreed to contact SCIP about the light. Nothing new to report at this meeting.
- Back in 2014 the Committee discussed awarding certificates to businesses and residents who upgrade lighting to be dark sky friendly. Weasner showed some examples from Texas. Everyone agreed this would be a good program to start in 2018.

Repair of the Park's Vixen telescope mount

Chris Mobley updated the members on his report of the mount. He is working with Vixen on the repair.

Telescope Donations:

- More telescopes have been donated: a small refractor and a 10" LX200 Classic with lots of accessories.
- Weasner will ask the Friends of Oracle State Park about raffling off some of its donated telescopes at their next meeting (12 September 2017).
- If approved, the telescopes to be offered will need to be checked out. Mobley agreed to assist.

Past Events:

None since the last meeting.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, 9 September, Kartchner Caverns State Park

This will be Kartchner's celebration of receiving the IDA "International Dark Sky Park" designation. Several dignitaries will be in attendance. Weasner will give a brief statement.

Saturday, September 23: Talk and Star Party at Oracle State Park

Weasner will give a presentation on his (successful) Total Solar Eclipse experience, 1730-1900. There will be a star party 1900-2100. TAAA will provide telescopes. The Saddlebrooke SkyGazers Club was also invited to provide telescopes by its members.

Saturday, October 14: Friends of Oracle State Park Membership Event and Star Party

Details to be announced.

Other business:

Weasner is still planning to conduct telescope training at the Park, possibly in October or November. It may occur during a regularly scheduled Park Ranger staff meeting.

Establishing an astronomical observatory at Oracle State Park is still being considered.

Funding sources are being investigated.

The Park's primitive campsite area is nearly completion.

The Park's 23 September star party will be promoted at the 23 September event at the Zipline Adventures.

Weasner has begun preparation of the Oracle State Park IDSP annual report to IDA. A draft will be circulated to members soon for review and "sanity/error checks". Park Ranger Rinio has provided updated data for the Park. The submittal letter from Park Manager Micallef is in work.

Next Meeting:

Saddlebrooke Ranch, La Hacienda Club, 5 October, 6:30pm

Signed,

Mike Weasner, Chair

