Minutes of the H.A.S. Board Meeting, December 12, 2012

Attendees:

Voting Members	• Bill Pellerin, Vice President, GuideStar Editor • Doug McCormick, Secretary • Warren Murdoch, Treasurer	• Mike Edstrom, Director At Large • John Haynes, Director At Large • Bob Roger, Observatory Chair
Other Members	• Steve Fast, Membership Chair • Don Selle, Field Trip & Observing Chair • Alan Wilkerson, Observatory Committee	• Brian Cudnik, Program Chair • Renee Gedaly, Incoming Secretary

Note: Motions voted upon by the board are in bold type.

A Quorum was established, and Bill Pellerin called the December 2012 meeting of the Houston Astronomical Society Board of Directors to order at 7:30 p.m. on December 12, 2012. Doug McCormick took the minutes. The meeting was held at the HEB community meeting room near the intersection of Bunker Hill and I-10.

Officer Reports

Secretary Report – Doug McCormick

- The board approved the minutes from the October 10, 2012 board meeting.
- Doug reviewed the election for 2013 club leadership positions. The following members were elected for 2013:
    - President, Bill Pellerin
    - Vice President, Mike Edstrom
    - Secretary, Rene Gedaly
    - Treasurer, Don Selle
    - Board, Greg Barolak
    - Board, Mark Holdsworth
    - Board, Mike Rao
    - Board, John Haynes
    - Board, Brian Cudnik
    - Audit, Scott Mitchell
    - Education, Debbie Moran
    - Field Trip/Observing , Steve Fast
    - Novice, Debbie Moran
    - Observatory, Bob Rogers
    - Program, Brian Cudnik
    - Publicity, Mike Rao
    - Telescope, John Haynes
    - Welcoming, Open

Treasurer's report – Warren Murdoch

- Warren reported account status as follows:
  - Savings - $22,066
  - Checking - $11,227
  - All major bills for 2013 have been paid.
- Budget for 2013
  - Budgeted revenue is based on 388 members, which is 80% of our total current membership of 422.
  - The board agreed to budget $300 for the Texas 45 Observing Program proposed by Rene Gedaly.
  - **Mike Edstrom moved that we approve the budget as amended during the meeting. John Haynes seconded the motion, and the budget was approved unanimously**.

Committee Reports:

Observatory Committee – Bob Rogers

- The private observatory program will be presented to the membership at the January 2013 meeting.
- **Bob Rogers moved that we approve the site Internet Policy as amended. Mike Edstrom seconded, and the policy was approved unanimously**.
- Bob Rogers reviewed the items requested by the Observatory Committee for a total of $2337:
  - RV Electrical expansion
  - Auger implement for tractor
  - Finishing mower deck for tractor
  - **Bob Rogers made a motion to purchase these items, splitting the cost evenly between the observatory carryover from 2012 and the HAS general fund. John Haynes seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously**.
- Rene Gedaly presented the proposed Texas 45 Observing Program designed to promote use of the dark site.

Telescope Committee – John Haynes

- John related that we had a new 10" Dob donated to our inventory.

Program Committee – Brian Cudnik

- Brian related the slate of speakers lined up through June.

Membership – Steve Fast

- Steve related that 114 members have renewed with 291 to go.
- Don Selle will present recommendations to the board on recognition of donors at the January Meeting.
- We're still working on enabling donations via PayPal on the website.

Old Business

Café Press – Mike Rao

- We need to follow up with Mike on Café Press.

Urban Observing

- We need to find a new owner of this process.

New Business

Leadership Shirts for 2013

- Bill Pellerin will coordinate leadership shirts for 2013 via the list server.

Night Sky Network vs. Greater Houston Astronomical Coalition site for HAS outreach

- Bill Pellerin will discuss this with Alan Rossiter.

General Meeting dates for 2013

- The board recommended we have the membership vote on whether to move the July meeting to July 12 to avoid the July 4th holiday weekend.
- Bill Pellerin will contact UH to see if we can discover any other potential conflicts with university activities such as final exams, graduation, etc.

Fundraising Targets

- The board discussed putting a couple of items we need on our website as "targets" for donations.
- This would involve identifying the items, getting the website set up, and ensuring earmarked donations continue to be appropriately tracked.
- The board agreed to pursue this in 2013.

Next Meeting– Bill Pellerin

- The next board meeting is scheduled for February 13 at the HEB Community Meeting Room at I-10 and Bunker Hill.

Bill Pellerin adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.