

## **PAC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 3, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by President John Carter at 6:30 PM at Touchmark at the Ranch, Mingus Mountain Forum room.

One new member and two guests were attending and approximately 28 members were in attendance.

The club general meeting minutes for March 2019 were accepted as published on the web site.

No treasury report was available for presentation.

A member suggested that the club's minutes should NOT include financial information. Decision was tabled and referred to the board for discussion.

A raffle will be held at the next meeting for a pair of 25x100 binoculars that were on display. Tickets are \$2 each or 6 for \$10.

President Carter announced that an 8inch Dobsonian was donated to the club. Member Greg Lutes currently has it and will be bringing to star parties.

President Carter announced that Dr. Patel is making available a 5 inch Takahashi Refractor with Takahashi mount and elevating pier, an 8 foot fully automatic dome, and an SBIG camera with filter for club use. He will pay to have the ground prepared and electrical installed. President Carter is offering to have it installed on his property (Paulden). There may be other members with a suitable site. Access to the equipment may be completely controlled by Dr Patel, but suspect that our members can reserve time on the equipment. It is primarily for his personal use. He is interested in making it a permanent observatory for the club. Total cost of the equipment is over \$100,000. We will discuss this in more detail at the board meeting.

President Carter announced there is a need for two volunteers to take over two club coordinator positions. That of Third Thursday Coordinator and for Outreach Star Party Coordinator. Contact the president if you wish more information.

Corinne Shaw spoke about upcoming club field trips. The Apollo crater training site trip is Saturday April 27th. Sign up and further details were passed around. Planning a field trip to Lowell Observatory on Sunday October 27<sup>th</sup>. Up to 15 members will be given 90 minutes total of viewing time on the scope. Cost is \$500 to be split by the number signing up. Decision will be made in the next couple months.

Jack Szelka spoke on an upcoming field trip to Los Angeles September 23rd. Main purpose will be a visit to Mt. Wilson observatory. Up to 20 members will be allowed at a split cost of \$1,050. Decision needed by June meeting. Other places of interest to visit in the LA area are: Griffith Observatory & Planetarium, LeBrea tar pit and Page Museum, Palomar Observatory, Capistrano, Oceanside Telescope.

Marilyn Unruh announced the next Metasig will be at The Palace, downtown Prescott, Wednesday April 10th at 5PM. Signup sheet passed around. Marilyn led the annual April Fools Jokes round with many side splitting jokes told.

## **Break**

## **Presentation**

President Carter played a portion of a 3+ hour video entitled Living Universe: Full Space Science Documentary 2018. It can be found on YouTube.

## **Announcements.**

Upcoming Star Parties: Highland Center April 6th , Camp Wamatochick April 26th, Camp Wamatochick May 3rd, Pronghorn Park May 11th.

Ruthie Hewitt of the Prescott Public Library is asking for a PAC club member to speak about “the atmosphere on other planets and their ability to sustain life.” This would be during their summer reading program for adults “A Universe of Stories.”

Green Bank West Virginia Observatory is having a Star Party this year. More information on their website: <http://greenbankstarquest.org/>

The April 18th Third Thursday presentation is by Dr. Grundy from Lowell Observatory. It will be an update on the New Horizon Spacecraft mission.

## **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

Prepared by: Dennis Eaton, PAC Secretary