



Willingboro Astronomical Society

Meeting Minutes – February 7, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:46 pm by President Drew Maser

New guests

Dennis from Willingboro

Bill and Gloria from Willingboro

Introductions and events update

Major observing events

- Winter Star Party Florida Keys Feb 23 to March 2
- NEAF Suffern NY April 12 and 13
- A movie on what is up in the night skies for February was shown

Old Business

Proposed new WAS meeting schedule

- 1) A hand-out was provided to members, which showed the proposed meeting dates
- 2) Formal meeting will be moved to the week closest to the full moon
- 3) Informal meeting will be moved to the week closest to the new moon
- 4) If the weather is favorable, the informal meeting could be an observing session
 - a) Discussed if the observation session could be held at Coyle field
 - b) Would have to arrange for access to the field for these sessions
- 5) Alternative for an informal meeting is to host a group interest topic (eg collimation) and have a presenter.
- 6) The proposed new meeting schedule will be discussed and voted on in the formal April business meeting.

Star Parties

- 1) Tentative schedule for 2014 posted in website
- 2) Final schedule will be completed when the state confirms dates
- 3) Franklin Parker Preserve is scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend

- a) May drop the public observation night (usually Saturday)
- b) Weekend will be for camping and observations
- 4) Philly Science week April 25th
 - a) Discussed sponsoring hosting a star party at Cooper River Park and Leaf Academy
 - b) Have received minimal support for this activity in the past
 - c) Ray will proceed with getting the permits
- 5) Kresson School star party is March 28th
- 6) Timothy Cristian Academy (TCA)star party is April 11th

Speakers

Contact Drew if you have a topic / speaker for meetings

By Laws and Articles of Incorporation

By laws have not yet been approved by the IRS

New Business

- 1) May 16 NEAF show and tell and swap meet
- 2) Discussed having in a picnic at Camp Ockanickon, Medford NJ
- 3) Discussed Messier marathon on March 29th

Observations and General Discussion

- 1) Pic of Crescent moon (25hrs old) and Mercury
- 2) Pin hole camera (camera Obscura)
- 3) Optics – collimation – airy disk – telescope diffraction disks

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Submitted by Jim Foy, WAS Secretary.