

West Jersey Astronomical Society

Meeting Minutes for: November 2, 2018

Web Address: <http://wasociety.us>

Location: Virtua Moorestown

Members in attendance: 11

Visitors: 0

Officers present:

President: Roger Cowley

Vice President: Steve Kutoroff

Secretary: Paul Bender

Formal Meeting

Lots of member catching up.

Roger C officially opened the meeting at 7:54 PM.

Bud had to use Joe's HDMI cable, since Virtua's cable not functional (seems to have a bad wall plug).

Wade booked Virtua for December 15 for the Holiday Party, starts @ 6:00 PM.

Roger brought up question of switching one or both meetings to Thursday nights. Many members don't care. **Roger** will email members to get response in a week. Those present voted on switching one meeting per month: 10 yes, one abstain.

Hopefully good weather for the Public Star Watch on November 3.

Regarding the Holiday Party, for previous years, **Bernie K** used to bring lots of food; question of what was brought and how much consumed. **Paul B** read his notes from last year's party. **Paul** will send last year's list to **Wade**.

Val officially asked for officer nominations: For VP, **Ray Pape**, nominated and seconded. **Arnie R.** offered to take minutes if the elected secretary was away for a time in 2019.

Roger asked if anyone present had done astronomy since last meeting? **Dave N** looked for sunspot activity, but found nothing.

Alan reported he saw some report, thinks it was Nov 1, about Randy Shivak, thinks it was October 6. Alan not keeping integrative sum. **Bud** found Randy's site and image of large spectrohelioscope that Randy built. Randy had a beautiful H-alpha image of sunspot on his site.

Joe S reported he did see comet 46P/Wirtanen. Possibly will be a naked eye object in December 2018? Sent out his report recently on our group mail.

Bud put nice images of moon on screen. Aristarchus bright crater at ca 10 o'clock on full moon using Virtual Moon Atlas program.

Joe S. showed nice comet shot by MP Mobberley of England, taken remotely from Australia, using 0.43 m Dall Kirkham reflector @ 180 sec showing a bright coma.

Joe is using SkySafari on an iPad in the field. He talked about seeing Uranus and Neptune.

Alan D announced he is taking RASC 2019 calendar and handbook orders.

Joe tried looking for Venus on the morning of October 26, at inferior conjunction about 6 deg south of the Sun, but it was cloudy.

Alan noted that Mercury will transit sun in 1yr 1month.

Winter star party is back in Florida Keys in February 19 after being in Chiefland FL for 2018 due to hurricane damage in the Keys.

Wade announced the Astrophotography group will meet on Nov 20 and Dec 20.

Pres Roger C concluded the meeting at 9:39 PM.

Submitted by **Sec Paul B** on Nov 13, 2018.