

Meeting Minutes

Annual Meeting of the Southwest Region of the Astronomical League

Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 2:00pm

Attendance: (* means attendance recorded)

1. * David Moody – Chairman bicparker@mac.com
2. * Anne Adkins – Secretary limpiagirl@gmail.com
3. * Ed Flaspohler – Regional Representative EFLASPO@aol.com
4. * Dennis Wardell – Treasurer star_browser@hotmail.com
5. * Gary Carter – Vice Chairman gary.carter@fairviewtx.biz; tasdoublestars@gmail.com
6. * Becky Ramotowski – Member astrobeck@gmail.com
7. Allen Gilchrist – Past Treasurer

David Moody – Call to Order 2:03 pm

Agenda:

1. 2024 Election of officers (Chair and Vice Chair)
 - Gary Carter running for Chairman
 - Becky Ramotowski running for Vice Chairman
 - David Motion Anne First, Dennis Second, Vote by Acclimation
 - David, Motion to approve existing positions (RR, Sec, Treas), Becky First, Gary Second. Vote by AcclimationDavid – Pass the Gavel
2. Review Old Business
 - Review Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2023, Motion Dennis, Ed Second, Approved unanimously
 - Strategy for moving our bank account.
 1. Gary and Dennis will select a bank and open an account using Letter of Auth from Bill Dillon, A.L. Treasurer, A.L. Bylaws, and SWRAL Meeting Minutes.
 2. Gary to follow-up with the Texas Comptroller's office RE: A.L./SWRAL accounting rules.
 - Brainstorm on building a master contact list of SWRAL member societies. Cultivate relationships with the leadership teams (Will A.L. help?)
 1. Ed to follow-up with the A.L.
3. New Business
 - Annual report to be presented to the A.L. in July
 1. Highlighting Clubs' Accomplishments (Awards Earned, Junior Activities)
 2. Highlighting Regional Events (Two Solar Eclipses)
 - Brainstorm a calendar of regional and national activities and events to potentially attend as representatives of SWRAL.
 1. S.W.R.A.L. Outreach to new/smaller clubs (How do we help?) 29 A.L. clubs
 2. International Dark Sky Parks/Places – New A.L. Members?
 3. List of Clubs (webspaces list), some who may not be A.L. members
 4. National Event, July 17-20. Ed to attend in person, Gary to attend virtually.
 5. Star Parties? Other event venues? Club talks?
 6. 3RF? Transition in progress.
 7. Astronomy on Tap model? UT system?
 8. Engage Houston/Austin Club Members with SWRAL/Astro experience.
 - Set a meeting frequency and method (physical & virtual) to further develop our plans for 2024/2025
 1. Set a target date in the near future once Ed has explored the A.L. and other sources for contacting regional clubs.
 2. Quarterly meetings? Start with one, grow based upon participation.

3. Where should we hold meetings? Star Parties? Urban Areas? Other?

4.

Motion to Adjourn – Anne Adkins. Adjourned @3:31pm

After meeting notes: Promoting Astronomical League Memberships for individuals and Organizations?

- Homeschool groups?
- K-12 School Clubs/Organizations?

Letter of Authorization from Bill Dillon, Treasurer of the Astronomical League:

SWRAL Bank Account



William Dillon <wildil820@gmail.com>

To gary.carter@fairviewtx.biz
Cc president@astroleague.org

 You replied to this message on 2/7/2024 2:37 PM.



Wed 2/7/2024 1:41 PM

Gary,

This email authorizes SWRAL to open a bank account under the TIN of the Astronomical League. The TIN is 52-6054301.

If you require this authorization in a signed hard copy format, send me your address and I will do so.

William C. Dillon
Treasurer
Astronomical League