

Minutes of the University Lowbrow Astronomers for the Year 2011

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- General Membership Meeting, January 21, 2011.
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Note: It is possible that additional minutes were printed in one of the newsletters, look at the month in question and the next few months. Minutes are most likely to be found the month after. So the December 2010 minutes would most likely be in the January 2011 newsletter, but could be in the December 2010 or February 2011 newsletters.

University Lowbrow Astronomers
Meeting Minutes from Friday, January 21, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 19:38 by President Charlie Nielsen.

Charlie introduced Jeff Masters, Ph.D.

Jeff Masters presented "The Future of Severe Weather".

Business section of meeting:

Mark Deprest made a motion to approve a \$300 honorarium for David Levy, our March guest speaker. The motion was seconded by David Snyder.

Motion was approved by unanimous "show of hands" vote.

A discussion was held about what format/subject David Levy's presentation would be of most interest to the club. A show of hands indicated that it should be a discussion of David's personal observing style and his history of comet discovery.

Meeting was adjourned at 21:50.

Minutes recorded by Mark Deprest, and typed (with minor editing) by Charlie Nielsen on January 23, 2011.

Meeting Minutes from Friday, January 21, 2011

January 21, 2011 Officer meeting minutes

Possible March speaker David Levy pending club approval of \$300 honorarium. David's presentation topic is to be decided by the club. In addition, Scott Roberts is donating to the club an eyepiece if we mention Explore Scientific during the presentation.

February presenter Mark Deprest "No Cost Astronomy".

Open meeting speaker slots June and August through December.

Arthur Suits possible June speaker follow up by Belinda.

Hugh Allen possible presentation followed up by Jason.

Liz is heading up the newly founded Ann Arbor IDA Chapter. The chapter will do introduction to club in the newsletter along with regular updates.

Treasury balance \$6945.08

Adjourned 19:03

Lowbrow Meeting Notes Sept. 16, 2011

Our speaker, via Skype, Bob Berman, gave an excellent talk on light and color in the universe.

President Charlie Nielsen made the following announcements and requests of the members for participation:

- We will be doing a presentation to the Chelsea Adult Learners sometime between next February and May
- The Downtown Branch of the Ann Arbor Public Library will be hosting the film "The City Dark" on Tuesday October 11 at 6:30 PM. The film will be introduced and the discussion following the film led by the University Lowbrow Astronomers, so all should attend and support our members.
- "International Observe the Moon Night" is Saturday October 8 at the Leslie Science Center, 7-11 PM. Members with scopes are needed. This is basically our project, so please show up.
- The Ann Arbor District Library has gone ahead with the "Loan-a-Scope Program" and Lowbrow Clay Kessler is doing the modifications to the Starblast scopes necessary to make them usable to beginners.

Jack Brisbin is continuing to monitor the temperature and humidity in the Observatory. The goal is to gather at least 12 months of data and then develop some recommendations to control moisture in the building.

The 17.5" mirror is ready to coat. The Officers recommended that the scope should be built first and the club charged the ATM Committee to come up with a new budget for scope construction.

The club discussed putting an annual limit of \$600 for speaker honorariums with the proviso that the club could authorize additional funds on a case by case basis. The proposal was tabled pending a report on club expenses and cash flow by the Treasurer.

Mark Deprest announced he is stepping down as Newsletter Editor. Mark has done a fine job for the past five years.

Jim Forrester offered himself in nomination as Newsletter Editor. Jim subsequently announced his resignation as Open House Coordinator. Don Foey suggested sharing out coordinating the Open Houses with members signing up for specific months or individual dates. Jim will produce next year's schedule before the end of 2011.

Observatory Director Mike Radwick reported John Manney trained and ready to solo on the McMath telescope. The building needs maintenance, especially the masonry on the outside southeast corner. Mike will be calling an Observatory Committee meeting over the winter months.

Webmaster Dave Snyder reported the Young Astronomer Website project was making progress and further committee meetings were planned. Saturday Morning Physics started October 1. Astronomy at the Beach was rained on the Friday night but had a clear Saturday evening with 1180 in attendance.

Mike Kurylo told the club he had a CAD program for telescope design that could be used if the club wanted to build a scope from the ground up as opposed to purchasing a kit. He also informed us of Maker-Works, a shop and meeting space near the Ann Arbor Airport that has all the CNC machining and woodworkign equipment for rent on site necessary to complete a telescope project. Mike suggested holding a club meeting at Maker-Works that would include a tour of the facilities.

Respectfully submitted October 5, 2011,

Jim Forrester