

The Central Appalachian Astronomy Club (CAAC) held its regular meeting on August 25, 2012, at the Good Hope Observatory, in Jane Lew West Virginia, with 19 in attendance.

CAAC president, Joe Gonzalez, convened the meeting.

Minutes from the July meeting were distributed and amended to correct the date of next year's Star Quest event. As corrected, they were accepted on a motion by Roy Jaworski, seconded by John Taylor.

Treasurer Jeri Booher presented the financial report, which was accepted on a motion by Roy, seconded by Tonya Daft.

Star Quest:

In response to Joe's email, Seth Shostak responded that he could not speak at Star Quest 10 because of a conflict. Joe told Seth that we have not heard from Frank Drake. Seth will talk with him,

Roy advised that he has been in touch with Dave Eicher, editor of *Astronomy* magazine. He will be with us Friday and Saturday and will be an evening keynote speaker.

Joe advised that a couple of the Rocket Boys contacted him and are interested in returning.

Old Business:

We need to pursue the Dominion \$5,000 grant immediately. John Taylor is writing on the \$10,000 grant application due in March. Previous grant applications are available on the Dominion website.

S-Big Autoguider ordered in March is not in yet per Astronomics.

New Business:

Joe received an email from Cynthia Garcia, Fairmont Catholic, inviting us to present at their Math, Science, and Technology Day, Thursday, October 11th. We will discuss further at September meeting.

There are reports of budget cuts within the National Science Foundation. It has been recommended that funding for Green Bank NRAO be cut in five years. NRAO is working on a fact sheet for the general public. Those present were encouraged to sign a petition available on the internet at Change.org. Each club (CAAC, KVAS, and WVU) is encouraged to write a letter to public officials regarding the loss of such a facility as well as to the economic impact to the area. A motion was made by John Taylor, seconded by Tonya that a letter be submitted by CAAC and that individuals were also urged to write.

Jeri and Tonya have created the documentation for the Star Quest Scholarship.

It was suggested that minutes be made available on the CAAC website. Connie will contact Deven Matlick about posting them.

Miscellaneous:

Next meeting will be September 15th at 6:30 at the observatory.

The motion to adjourn was made by Janice King,, seconded by Roy.