

Dudley Observatory Board of Trustees

Board Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2010

Present: Cherrice Traver, Doug Klein, Dan Wulff, Bob Ward, Heidi Newberg, Michael Kornstein, Janie Schwab, Vincent Amodeo, Francis Wilkin, Bryan Amedio

Missing: Joan Wagner, Alan French, Mark Marchand, Peter Persans

1. Vincent Amodeo called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 PM
2. Approval of minutes from last board meeting: Ward 1st; Janie 2nd
3. Report from Executive Director
 - Hired April Russell as Educator
 - Deb Ennis has continued to recruit volunteers; will resign 6/30/10
 - Bob asked about replacing Deb; Janie suggested interns and volunteers
 - Paul Contarino will end internship
 - Had more visitors (?)
 - DARK is moving slowly, but moving none-the-less
 - Bob: suggested alternate gift for Sam Waite
 - RSI Awards Night: Shelia Smith, RSI alumnus to speak
4. Report from Long Range Planning and Executive Committee
 - ESCOT: reestablished contact with Beth; keep going or part ways
 - Other possible uses for grant: visit potential sites; board development ideas
 - Heidi made recommendation for a fund-raising consultant
 - Doug made suggestion to hire grant writer;
 - EUREKA was suggested as a possibility
5. Report from Finance Committee
 - Janie explained the budget which included checks written, not cashed
 - \$7-8K yet to be spent by end of fiscal year; already spent \$65K
 - Will exceed budget by about \$2-3K
 - Endowment at \$1.6 million; up from \$1.3 million
 - Membership campaign yet to be held
 - Volunteer accountant
 - Adopt budget in July
 - RFP needs to go out
 - Lou: Janie to work with Bryan to work on proposed budget
 - Janie to ask Steve Lubbe (sp?) to work on draft of budget
6. Report from Nominating Committee
 - Executive and Nominating committee members present nominated Bryan Amedio to the position of Treasurer
 - Board approved Bryan as Treasurer
 - Erin Breslin resigned from the board citing personal and professional reasons
7. Report from Education Committee
 - Janie reported in Joan's absence:
 - Summer Institute preparation is running smoothly

8. Report from Events Committee

Francis: Try again to visit U Oneonta, hope for better weather

Freihofer's Walk: get 20 sign ups, get table for information

Francis had successful effort in arranging with Scotia Freedom Park

Dutch Apple Cruise is going ahead; need to look for sponsors

9. Report from Membership Committee

Bryan: membership letter needs to go out

Change ideas; capture recommendations; Janie's suggestions for letter:
modify to include Dudley's future plans – new observatory

Lou recommended "outside" fund raiser

10. Report from Site Committee

Bob presented questions to consider before special board meeting June 7

Heidi commented on use of endowment use for building

Francis commented on geological considerations

Janie's suggestion about panel of outside experts, will plan

Heidi to talk to Arizona ACE

11. Report from Collections Committee

Letter sent out to Union University schools; one reply from Gail Botta at Albany
Medical College