

**Minutes of SARA Board Meeting  
20 June 2005, Green Bank WV**

Members present: Charles Osborne, President; Tom Crowley, Treasurer; Hal Braschwitz, Secretary; Directors, John Manonne, Bruce Randall, Paul Shuch and Kerry Smith. Absent were Vice President, Jeff Lichtman ; and Directors Scott Lansdale and Gordon Meldrum. Invited guests included previously nominated candidates Jim Brown and David Fields. Numerous other individuals were in attendance as well.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM by the president Charles Osborne.

Treasurer, Tom Crowley presented the annual financial report.

Income = \$7,543.00

Expenditures

2004 Conference = \$2,772.00

Journal = \$1,750.00

CDs/stickers = \$ 422.00

Miscellaneous = \$ 93.00

Total = \$5,037.00

Annual Gross Surplus = \$2,506.00

Tom Crowley also reported that we currently have a cash balance of about \$17,000.00 in our treasury. He suggested that we consider some outreach programs to assist various amateur radio astronomy endeavors to reduce this balance. He suggested that we keep a cash balance of about 10,000 dollars as a contingency reserve fund.

Charles Osborne moved with a second by Kerry Smith that we appropriate 750 dollars for a student grant program. The program is to be administered by two people appointed by the President including one Director and one non Board member. This committee is to present an annual report of the results to the SARA membership. The motion was passed.

Charles Osborne reported that the following candidates were nominated by the general membership for election at the General Membership meeting tomorrow:

Vice President Paul Shuch

Secretary Hal Braschwitz

Directors (3) Gordon Meldrum, David Fields, Jim Brown

Director at Large (1) Wanda Diaz, Hamdi Mani, Peter Reise

A discussion of the 2006 Conference was then held. It will be our 25th Anniversary and a special keynote speaker was proposed. The Conference Director will meet with the NRAO executives to determine the maximum size our meeting.

We then discussed seed money for project development. Paul Shuch made a motion with a second by Kerry Smith that we create a committee to study project development including commercialization along with including open source recommendations to the Board of Directors as soon as possible. The motion passed.

The President Charles Osborne then appointed Jim Van Prooyen and Matt Ettus to this committee.

Paul Shuch made a motion that we amend Article 7, Section 3 of our By-Laws to read "Elections of Directors and Officers will be accomplished by the President placing an initial call for nominations in RADIO ASTRONOMY no less than ninety (90) days prior to the regular schedule meeting. Two (2) nominations from different members will be required to nominate a member for office. No less than thirty (30) days prior to this meeting ( in a newsletter issued prior to the meeting ) , the President will place a notice of the results in RADIO ASTRONOMY, along with a ballot for the members to use to vote for the nominee of their choice. This ballot will be forwarded to the Secretary for collection and counting at the regular meeting."

This motion was passed unanimously and the By-Laws change will be taken to the General Membership meeting for ratification.

A discussion of various Regional meeting possibilities was held with the conclusion to consider them at the upcoming General Membership meeting.

The President, Charles Osborne, will be in charge of peer review for articles in the Journal.

A committee will be created to assist the Vice President in producing the Annual Conference.

Paul Shuch gave a report on the web site. He also moved with a second by Charles Osborne that we make a 50 dollar contribution to Al Waller for our use of his web facilities. The motion passed.

We then held a discussion of our international presence in the amateur radio astronomy field. John Manonne will chair a committee to enhance our position with the international community.

The creation of a Director Emeritus position for our founder Jeff Lichtman was then considered. Paul Shuch then moved with a second by Tom Crowley that Article VII , Section 2.1 be created to state "In addition to its eight elected Directors SARA creates the voting position of 'Director Emeritus' to which the organization appoints its founder Jeffrey Lichtman, for life."

This motion passed unanimously.

Paul Shuch then made a motion with a second by Tom Crowley that in Article VIII a section 8 be created stating "Directors and Officers are precluded from holding more than one office at a time."

This motion passed unanimously and these two By-Laws changes will be presented to the upcoming General Membership meeting for ratification.

Paul Shuch moved with a second by Tom Crowley that SARA invite SETI League members to attend the next SARA conference pending facilities availability. The motion passed with 5 Aye vote and 2 Abstentions.

Hal Braschwitz made a motion that the By-Laws include a requirement that Officers and Directors not have a commercial interest in sales to the radio astronomy market to avoid any possible conflict of interest. The motion died for want of a second.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 PM.

Hal Braschwitz, Secretary